Evangelism and the Holy Spirit (Part 2)

**The Holy Spirit gives help**

**Verse**: John 16:7-14

**Objective**: To highlight the role of the Holy Spirit in Evangelism.

**Possible video to include:** [alltogether.co.nz/firestarters](https://alltogether.co.nz/firestarters/) (try Sarahs, Delwyns story, or Jessicas story - ‘is anyone unwell?’)

**Introduction**: The Holy Spirit will help us if we will work with Him.

1. Through sharing about sin! Let’s unlock this passage together...

* In verse 8 we read clearly that the Holy Spirit wants to bring “…convict the world concerning sin…”
* Convict in the dictionary means “to prove or declare guilty of an offence or to impress with a sense of guilt.” Somewhere in our conversations with people, the topic of sin must come up. Sin is our problem and is the reason for our separation from God. How can people appreciate the good news without knowing its context? The bad news is that we are sinners - and the good news is understood as such when explained in this context. At the right time the Holy Spirit would have us to talk about sin and as we do, he is ready to move. He is ready to bring conviction!
* The topic of sin is relevant to all. Clearly in this passage we see that the Holy Spirit wants to convict the World! Every man, woman and child needs to understand that they stand before God as a sinner. There will no doubt be many opportunities to share about God’s great love towards us and that he wants to have a relationship with us, but clearly, the Holy Spirit is ready to speak to everyone about their sin problem. Not one person is without this problem. This cancer is claiming all, and everyone must know that they have this problem so they can embrace the answer. *“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God”* – Romans 3:32
* There is no sugar coating this topic. Part of the ‘Good News’ of the gospel is the sobering news of our sorry state before God. Our sins have separated us from God. Romans 6:23 According to verse 9 sin is not believing in Jesus Christ. Our unbelief has separated us from God.

2. Through explaining righteousness!

* Righteousness is about being morally right.
* God wants everyone to know that there is an old life to shun and a new morally right life to embrace.
* What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus Christ? What is this new life that God wants of us? 1 John 2:3-6;3:23,24

3. Through warning about judgement!

* There is a judgement day for all. Hebrews 9:27
* Jesus taught about a coming judgement day for all in Matthew 25:31-46
* The Holy Spirit is ready to convict everyone about a coming day of Judgement if we will engage with this topic at the right time.

**Application**: The Holy Spirit is ready to move if we will engage with these topics with those we are sharing with. The key though is knowing when to share about these issues and this introduces the topic of being led by the Holy Spirit in our evangelism, which is the focus of next week’s message. Suffice it to say, sharing about sin, righteous and judgement requires timing and sensitivity (it requires people skills). If we will courageously and wisely converse with others about these issues, The Holy Spirit will supernaturally move if we have done so under his leading. Reaching others for Christ must include at some time the addressing of these issues and as we do, He will convict.

**Conclusion**: The Holy Spirit has come to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgement. And he is called our helper! He helps us by bringing conviction. He will move if we will.

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Equipping Study

**Conversation starter:** Has anyone ever changed your thinking on something important *in a short space of time*? What led to the change, and what happened?

**Revision**: (15 mins)

* What did God do this week in answer to the prayers we prayed the last time we were together?
* Why was the Holy Spirit given to us according to John 16:7-15?
* Which point spoke most to you and why?

**Scripture**: (15mins)

Read John 16:7-15

* What do we learn about the Holy Spirit from these verses?
* Why are the three topics of sin, righteousness and judgement so important?

**Q & A:** What does conviction feel like?

**Testimony Time:** (15mins) Invite the people in the small group to share about a time when the Holy Spirit brought conviction of sin, righteousness of judgement in their life. How did it affect you and what happened in the end?

**Prayer**: (20mins) Pray for courage and wisdom to share the hard parts of the Gospel so that the Holy Spirit has room to move upon our witnessing endeavours. Pray for family and friends by name.

**Homework** [Very important] (5mins) Write down the Good News story in the shortest possible words and include the topics of sin, righteousness and judgement in it. Try to share these topics without Christian jargon and in a way that is sensitive and meaningful to you. Image a friend or family member reading it as you write. Keep it to no more than two minutes long to read. Bring it with you next week to share.