

**Redeem Church Life Group Discussion Guide (11- 05-17)**  
**The Helper - John 16**

*In your group this week you will be discussing Jesus preparation of His disciples to face hostility with the gift of the Helper. Remember that these truths weren't just for Jesus 12 but for us as well.*

**Read John 16:1-4 aloud in your group**

**Note:** The term used in **John 16:1** "**Falling Away** or **Stumbling**" is the greek word **skandalizó (skan-dal-id'-zo)**, where we get our english word "**scandal**".

**Skandalizó** means to cause to stumble, sin, or become indignant. To shock or offend. To set a snare. (figuratively) "to hinder right conduct or thought; to cause to stumble" – (literally) "to fall into a trap"

**Q?** What things did Jesus speak to them to keep them from falling away or stumbling? (**Hint:** John 15:18-27 contains these things.....)

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Put yourself in the shoes of a disciple hearing this directly from Jesus.

**Q?** How would hearing these things **in advance** keep you from falling away,

**Discuss:**

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**Q?** What kinds of animosity, hatred, persecution or discrimination do you see in our world toward true followers of Jesus? Have you experienced it 1st hand?

**Discuss:**

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**Read 1 John 3:12-13 aloud in your group**

**Q?** How does this passage help us understand why the world may hate, persecute or even want to kill us? What other motives or reasons can you think of? **Discuss:**

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Not only did Jesus prepare the disciples and us for the tough stuff by telling us in advance some of the hardships we may face if we choose to follow him, but he also promised to send the Helper who would be with us, empowering us to carry on.

**Read John 16:5-15 aloud in your group**

**Q?** Why did Jesus tell his disciples (including us) that it is to our advantage that he goes away & sends us the Holy Spirit? What advantage is Jesus speaking of?

**Discuss:**

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The Holy Spirit plays multiple roles in his “Helping” ministry.

**Q?** What is the part of His ministry as described in verses 8-11?

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**Q?** What does it mean and how does this part of the Spirit's ministry work in partnership with you and I as Jesus followers?

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**The Helper/Holy Spirit is also known as the “Spirit of truth”.**

**Q?** How does the Spirit “guide” us into truth? How can you be sure you are being led by the Spirit or something else? **Discuss:**

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Read **2 Thessalonians 2:6-7** aloud in your group. (**Note:** “*The retraining force*” is most likely the Holy Spirit.)

**Q?** How does the passage you just read impact your understanding of how significant your relationship with the Helper & ministry to others is?

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**Q?** Based on this discussion, what one thing stands out most to you personally when it comes to finding the wisdom and or courage to fulfill your calling of making Jesus known in a hostile world? **Explain:**

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**Close your group time by praying as the Holy Spirit leads.**