"Follow The Leader" John 16:12-15

Introduction:

- 1. Let's Open Our Bibles Again:
 - To John 16 Where:
 - Jesus Has Been Telling His Disciples:
 - Who Would Come To Them:
 - After He Went From Them!
 - And That Person Was:
 - The Holy Spirit Of God!
 - The Comforter Who Would:
 - Keep Jesus' Ministry Going:
 - When He Was Gone!
- 2. The Last Time:
 - We Were Together:
 - Jesus Explained How:
 - The Spirit Would Continue His Work:
 - In This World!
 - As We Learned From 16:8:
 - He Would Keep:
 - Convicting & Convincing:
 - The World Of Sin & Of Righteousness & Of Judgment!
 - And This Is Important:
 - Because The World:
 - Gets Nothing Right:
 - About These Things!
 - And Neither Did You / Neither Did I:
 - Until The Holy Spirit Did His Convicting & Quickening Work:
 - In Our Own Hearts!
 - Praise God For The Ministry:
 - Of The Spirit:
 - In This World!
 - Because Without It:
 - No Sin Would Ever:
 - Be Restrained!
 - And No Sinner Could Ever:
 - Be Saved!
- 3. But Then In The Verses We Come To Next:
 - In 16:12-15 Jesus Focuses On:
 - How The Spirit Will Continue His Work:
 - In & Through:
 - His People & His Church!
 - And In These Four Verses:
 - We Can See 2 Of His Ministries:
 - Very Clearly!
 - First The Holy Spirit:
 - Will Guide Christians! And:
 - Second The Holy Spirit:
 - Will Glorify Christ!
 - Let's Read These Verses Together:
 - 16:12-15 Where Jesus Continues:
 - "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. / Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth!"
 - This Is His First Ministry!
 - He Will Guide Christians! How?
 - "For he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come!"

And Then - For His Second Ministry: - 16:14 - "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. / All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you!" So - In Both Of These Ministries: - Guiding Christians & Glorifying Christ: - The Holy Spirit Leads Us: - In The Path That Jesus Himself: - Led His Disciples!

- And So As Believers In & Followers Of Christ:
 - We Need To Follow The Holy Spirit:
 - And His Leadership:
 - In Our Lives!
 - In A Word We Need To:
 - Follow The Leader!
 - And In This:
 - Its Not A Game!
- Let's Look More Closely:
 - At These Two Ministries:
 - Of The Holy Spirit!
- * Again According To 16:12-13 His First Ministry Is:
- 2. To Guide Christians!

4.

- And Jesus Himself:
 - Tells Us About:
- The Need For His Guidance:
 - In 16:12a Where Jesus Told His 11 Disciples That:
 - "I Have Yet Many Things To Say Unto You, But Ye Cannot Bear Them Now!"
 - Now At First:
 - This May Sound Like A Contradiction:
 - To What Jesus Already Told His Disciples Back In 15:15 When He Said:
 - "All Things That I Have Heard Of My Father I Have Made Known Unto You!"
 - But In Truth:
 - Jesus *Did* Tell Them:
 - Everything That His Father, Who Is God The Father, Wanted Him To Tell Them:
 - Up Until That Time!
 - But Jesus As God The Son:
 - Also Knew Everything Else:
 - They Would Need:
 - Going Forward!
 - He Knew That There Were Still:
 - "Many Things" That:
 - He Could Say To Them!
 - But He Didn't!
 - Why Not?
 - First Of All Because It Was:
 - His Fathers Will:
 - Not To!
 - And Second Because It Was:
 - Jesus' Own Wisdom:
 - Of His Disciples' Weakness:
 - In That They Could Not "Bear Them Now!"
 - Once Again We See The Sensitivity:
 - Of Jesus As A Teacher:
 - Toward His Students / Disciples!
 - He Knew That They Were Still:
 - Men Of "Little Faith" And:
 - The Things He Already Taught Them Was Enough For Them!

- They Weren't Quite Ready:
 - To Graduate Into:
 - Another Class!
 - **IE:** Second Grade / Friend Moved Up / Wanted To Move Up With Him / Teacher Knew I Was Not Ready / I Could Not Bear It Yet!
- But That Time Would Come!
 - For Me & For The Disciples!
 - But They Still Had More Lessons To Learn That Very Night:
 - That Would Test Their Faith More Than Ever Before!
- But Jesus Also Know That:
 - Another Teacher Would Soon Take His Place!
 - Who Would Lead Them:
 - Into Even Greater Faith:
 - In Him!
- And This Is Still Our Need!
 - Even The Apostle Paul Understood:
 - This Need In The Corinthian Church:
 - When He Told Them "I Have Fed You With Milk, And Not With Meat: For Hitherto Ye Were Not Able To Bear It!" (1 Cor. 3:2)
 - And In The Same Way:
 - God Will Lead Us & Guide Us:
 - Through His Spirit:
 - In A Way That Is Sensitive To Our Own Weakness & Needs!
 - And So We Need To Be Patient:
 - As We Grow In The:
 - "Grace And Knowledge Of Our Lord And Savior Jesus Christ!" (2 Peter 3:18)
- But After Describing His Disciples' Need:
 - In 16:12 He Also Tells Us About:
- The Nature Of (The Holy Spirit's) Guidance:
 - In 16:13 Where He Adds:
 - "Howbeit When He, The Spirit Of Truth, Is Come, He Will Guide You Into All Truth!"
 - So Once Again Jesus Reintroduces:
 - Us To This "Spirit Of Truth!"
 - Who Is The Comforter, Who Will Come From Both Him & His Father!
 - Now One Thing We Find In This Verse:
 - That Is Confirmed By Other Verses In The New Testament:
 - Is That The Holy Spirit Is Not An "It" But A "He!"
 - He Is Not A Spiritual Force But A Divine Person! Even The Third Member Of The Godhead! The Trinity!
 - And So When You Realize That:
 - The "Spirit Of Truth" Bears The Nature Of God So Much Of What Jesus Says:
 - About Him Makes Even More Sense!
 - And So The First Ministry Of The Holy Spirit:
 - To His People According To This Verse Is:
 - To Guide Us "Into All Truth!"
 - To "Guide" Means:
 - Just What You Think It Means!
 - **IE:** Like A Guide Might Take You On A Tour Of Someplace Of Interest You've Never Been To!
 - So The Holy Spirit:
 - Takes The Lead:
 - To Bring Us Into & Teach Us About New "Vistas Of Truth!" (Morris)
 - And He's The Best Guide:
 - Because He Knows Something About:
 - The Place He Is Leading Us To!
 - "Truth!"
 - But As Pontius Pilate Would Ask Jesus:

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- In Just A Few Hours Time:
                 - The Ouestion Comes To Our Minds:
                          - "What Is Truth?"
        - What Is The "Truth" That:
                 - The "Spirit Of Truth" Will:
                          - Guide Us Into?
- Well - Jesus Himself Gives Us The Answer!
        - Remember Back In 14:6?
                 - Jesus Said To Thomas In The Upper Room: "I Am The Way, The Truth, And The
                 Life!"
        - And Then - In His Prayer To His Father In 17:17:
                 - He Will Say: "Thy Word Is Truth!"
- So - The Revelation Of Truth:
        - Is Found In Both:
                 - Jesus - Who Is:
                          - The Living Word! (1:1)
                 - And - The Written Word:
                          - Which Is The Bible!
- So - Jesus Promised That:
        - The Holy Spirit Would Lead & Guide Christians:
                 - More & More:
                          - Into The Truth:
                                  - Of Christ!
                          - Through The Truth:
                                  - Of His Word!
- But Notice Also That:
        - He Will Not Lead Us:
                 - Merely "To" The Truth - Or Even:
                          - "In" The Truth:
                                  - But - "Into All Truth!"
        - So That - The Truth:
                 - Of God Is All Around You!
                          - Like The Country & The Sky:
                                  - If You Were To Take A Hike!
        - The Holy Spirit:
                 - Will Bring You More & More Into:
                          - The Truth Of Christ Himself - So That You Can Truly:
                                  - "Abide In Him!" (15:4)
        - And - When This Happens:
                 - You Will Grow In Your:
                          - Faith In Christ!
                          - Fellowship With Christ!
                          - Faithfulness To Christ!
                          - And - Fruitfulness For Christ!
        - This Is Why The Apostle Paul Could Say:
                 - In Philippians 1:21 - "For To Me To Live Is Christ!"
                          - All Because - The Holy Spirit Kept Leading Paul:
                                  - Deeper & Deeper Into The Truth Of Christ!
                 - Where - Instead Of Getting Lost:
                          - As If He Was Following A Blind Guide Into The Woods:
                                  - In Christ - He Was Forever Found!
- But - How Does The Holy Spirit:
        - Accomplish His Ministry:
                 - Of Guiding Us "Into All Truth?"
        - Well - The 11 Disciples:
                 - To Whom Jesus Was Speaking:
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- Were A Special Case!

- And - This Promise Would Be Fulfilled:

- As The Holy Spirit:
 - Would Soon:
 - Instruct Them & Inspire Them About The Truth!
- In 14:26 Jesus Told His Disciples That:
 - The Holy Spirit Would:
 - "Bring All Things To (Their) Remembrance, Whatsoever (He) Said Unto (Them)!"
 - And The Gospel Of John Itself:
 - Is Evidence Of This Instruction!
- And Then The Holy Spirit:
 - Would Inspire & Move Them In Such A Way:
 - That The Words They Wrote:
 - Were The Very Words Of God!
- There Would Even Be Times:
 - According To 16:13 That:
 - The Holy Spirit Would "Shew (Them) Things To Come!"
 - Which Is Something Only God Can Do!

- And This Is How:
 - We Got Our Bibles:
 - Both Old & New Testaments!
 - And Why We Can Trust Them!
 - Because The Holy Spirit:
 - Would Fulfill His Ministry:
 - The Same Way:
 - Jesus Did!
 - As Jesus Also Said:
 - In 16:13 "Whatsoever He Shall Hear, That Shall He Speak!"
 - Isn't This What Jesus Did?
 - 12:49 "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak!"
 - The Whole Point Of This:
 - Is That When It Comes To:
 - The Words & Message Of:
 - The Holy Spirit & Jesus:
 - They Agree Completely:
 - With Each Other And:
 - With The Father!
 - Because These Three Are:
 - One! And Completely United:
 - In Every Way, Except In Their Persons:
 - As Father, Son, And Holy Ghost!
 - But Even Though The Spirit's Guidance:
 - Through Instruction & Inspiration:
 - Was Limited To:
 - The Writers Of The New Testament!
 - He Still Guides Us:
 - Through The Illumination:
 - Of God's Word!
 - He Opens The Eyes Of Our Heart:
 - Wider & Wider:
 - So That We Might "Behold Wondrous Things Out" Of His Law! (Psalm 119:18)
 - And So As The Holy Spirit:
 - Continues To Lead & Guide You:
 - Into The Truth:
 - Of Jesus Christ And All That:
 - The Gospel Means!
 - So That You Will Grow In:

- Your Comprehension & Understanding:
 - Of Christ!
- Your Confidence & Trust:
 - In Christ!
- Your Commitment & Dedication:
 - To Christ!
- So That You Might Say With Paul:
 - "To Me To Live Is Christ!"
 - Because Jesus Is Still "The Way, The Truth, And The Life" For You!
 - So Now You Need To:
 - Desire The Leading:
 - Of The Holy Spirit!
 - And Then Follow The Leading:
 - Of The Holy Spirit!
 - As He Leads You:
 - "Into The Truth" Of Jesus:
 - Through His Word:
 - Follow Him!
- * But Then We Come To The Second Ministry Of The Holy Spirit Which Is:
- 2. To Glorify Christ!
 - And We Find This In:
 - 16:14-15 Where Jesus Adds:
 - "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. / All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you!"
 - So One Of The Reasons Why:
 - Jesus Sent The Holy Spirit:
 - To Guide Us!
 - Is So That At The Same Time:
 - The Holy Spirit Might:
 - Glorify Jesus! And He Does So:
 - Through Exalting Him!
 - This Is What It Means:
 - To "Glorify!" Other Words To Describe It Are:
 - To Magnify & To Honor:
 - Someone Because Of How Great They Are!
 - And This Is What:
 - The Holy Spirit:
 - Wants To Do In His Service:
 - In The World & To The Church!
 - The Holy Spirit:
 - Loves Jesus! And It Pleases:
 - The Holy Spirit:
 - To Glorify Jesus!
 - And So Even As:
 - Jesus Always Sought To:
 - Glorify God The Father:
 - Through Everything:
 - He Said & Did!
 - So Now The Holy Spirit Wants:
 - To Glorify Jesus:
 - In Everything He Says & Does!
 - And All You Have To Do:
 - Is Read Through The New Testament:
 - And The Bible As A Whole:
 - To See That Its All About Jesus!
 - And So Through His Ministries:
 - Of Instruction & Inspiration:

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- To The Disciples!
                 - And Even Through His Ministry:
                          - Of Illumination To Us!
                 - He Keeps Shining His Light On Jesus:
                          - IE: Like A Big Spotlight!
                                   - And All That His Gospel Means:
                                           - To Those Who Believe In Him!
                 - So - As The Spirit Glorifies The Son:
                          - It Causes Us To:
                                   - See That Glory For Ourselves!
                                           - And Gives Us The Same Desire He Has! To Glorify Christ!
        - And - What Is It That Brings Jesus Glory?
                 - Jesus Tells Us - When He Adds To:
                          - "He Shall Glorify Me" - "For He Shall Receive Of Mine, And Shall Show It Unto You!"
                 - The Way & The Reason:
                          - The Holy Spirit Glorifies Jesus:
                                   - Is Because He Is A Faithful Witness Of Everything:
                                           - That He Received:
                                                    - From Jesus!
                                           - And That He Reports:
                                                    - From Jesus:
                                                    - To Us!
        - So - The Holy Spirit:
                 - Simply Passes On:
                          - The Truth That:
                                  - Jesus Gives Him!
                 - The Truth That:
                          - The Holy Spirit:
                                   - Then Puts His Own Stamp Of Approval On - As:
                                            - "The Spirit Of Truth!"
                 - And - This Brings Glory:
                          - To Jesus Christ!
                                  - But - This Is Not Where The Holy Spirit's Ministry Ends!
                                           - Instead - He Continues To Glorify Jesus:
- Through Extending It - To God The Father!
        - When Jesus Said That:
                 - The Holy Spirit Would Glorify Him:
                          - It Could Seem Like:
                                   - Jesus Was Just Seeking Glory:
                                           - For Himself!
        - But - That Would Be Completely:
                 - Out Of Character For Jesus!
                          - And So - He Explains Further In 16:15:
                                   - That - "All Things That The Father Hath Are Mine: Therefore Said I, That He
                                   Shall Take Of Mine, And Shall Shew It Unto You!"
        - All This Means Is That:
                 - The Truth That The Holy Spirit:
                          - Gets From Jesus - Is Not Only:
                                   - From Jesus!
                          - Its From God The Father:
                                  - As Well!
                 - And So - The Truth That The Holy Spirit:
                          - Gives For Jesus - Is Not Only:
                                  - For Jesus!
                          - Its For God The Father:
                                  - As Well!
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- Which Means That - What The Holy Spirit: - Does With The Truth:

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- Not Only Glorifies Jesus!
                          - It Also Glorifies:
                                   - God The Father!
        - And - This Was The Point:
                 - Of Jesus' Ministry All Along!
                          - Not For His Own Glory - But For:
                                   - His Fathers!
                 - So - When Jesus Is Glorified:
                          - God The Father Is Glorified:
                                   - Who, In Turn, Glorifies:
                                            - The Others As Well!
        - This Relationship Within The Trinity:
                 - Is A Glorious Thing!
                          - Because As Each Glorifies The Other:
                                   - All Are Well-Pleased!
- And Now We Know:
        - What Pleases & Glorifies God!
                 - It Is Being Faithful In Our Witness:
                          - Of The Truth!
                 - In Our Witness:
                          - Of Both The:
                                   - Living Word & The Written Word!
                          - Of Both:
                                   - Jesus & The Bible!
        - And - The Holy Spirit:
                 - Leads Us By His Own Example!
                          - We Ought To Follow Our Leader:
                                   - By Seeking To Glorify & Exalt & Magnify & Honor:
                                            - God - In Every Way We Can!
        - In 1 Corinthians 10:31:
                 - The Apostle Paul Reminds Us That:
                          - "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God!"
        - But - One Of The Primary Ways:
                 - To Glorify Him - Is To Do So:
                          - In The Way The Holy Spirit:
                                   - Glorifies Him!
                 - Through Faithfulness:
                          - To The Words:
                                   - Of Jesus & About Jesus!
You See - The Faithfulness Of The Holy Spirit:
        - He Is Faithful To:
                 - What He Receives:
                          - From The Lord!
                 - As Jesus Said:
                          - In 16:14 - "He Shall Receive Of Mine!"
        - But - He Is Also Faithful To:
                 - What He Reports:
                          - For The Lord!
                 - As Jesus Said:
                          - In 16:14 - "And Shall Shew It Unto You!"
- A Faithful Witness:
        - Is Never One Sided!
                 - A Faithful Witness Will Not Shun:
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- "To Declare – All The Counsel Of God!" (Acts 20:27)

Conclusion:

- Is Complete!

- Otherwise - The Message:

- Does Not Go Far Enough!
 - And It Cannot & Will Not:
 - Bring Glory To God!
- 2. So Follow The Leader:
 - That Jesus Sent:
 - To Guide You & To Glorify Him!
 - Follow Him:
 - As He Guides You:
 - More & More Into:
 - The Truth Of Jesus Christ & His Gospel!
 - He Guides You:
 - Into Sweeter Fellowship:
 - With Living Word:
 - Through The Written Word!
 - So Seek & Then Follow:
 - His Leading As You:
 - Look For Jesus All Throughout The Bible!
 - Because It Is The Holy Spirit:
 - Who Will Help You:
 - To "Abide" In Jesus Christ!
 - And Then Follow Him:
 - As He Glorifies Jesus:
 - Through His Faithful Witness:
 - About Him!
 - As He Glorifies Jesus:
 - Seek To Do The Same:
 - In All Of Your Life And:
 - With All Of Your Heart!
 - But Not In Your Own Strength!
 - Because It Is The Holy Spirit:
 - Who Will Help You:
 - To Live For Jesus Christ!
 - Never Stop Following Your Leader!

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