SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN · LEADER'S SHEET · THURSDAY MAR 4

John **16** · week 16 of 21

Sorrow Turned into Joy · Answers and notes for Thursday

READ MONDAY – WEDNESDAY · MEET THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 4

Answers to every worksheet question, with the exact NASB key-word counts. Personal questions are marked "Personal."

THE WEEK

Monday	Read John 16 straight through, then again with a pen and mark it · Mon, Mar 1
Tuesday	Read the study notes; answer the Observe questions and count the key words · Tue, Mar 2
Wednesday	Interpret, Weigh the Teachers, the Word study and Apply · Wed, Mar 3
Thursday evening	Together: watch the John 16 part of the film, go through the worksheet, pray · Thu, Mar 4

KEY VERSE

> **JOHN 16:33 · NASB**
>
> *"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."*

The last words of the farewell before Jesus prays. He warns, promises the Spirit, speaks of "a little while," and ends with courage. For the first time since chapter 14, the disciples speak.

John 16 *Sorrow Turned into Joy*

KEY VERSE 16:33

Theme of the chapter. It is better for the disciples that Jesus goes away, because then the Helper comes to convict the world and guide them into all the truth about Christ. Their grief at the cross will be turned into a joy no one can take away. In the world they will have tribulation, but in Him they have peace, because He has overcome the world.

KEY WORD COUNTS (NASB)

little while	7	vv. 16 (×2), 17 (×2), 18, 19 (×2)
grief	2	vv. 20, 22
joy	4	vv. 20, 21, 22, 24
ask	3	vv. 23, 24, 26
Father	12	vv. 3, 10, 15, 17, 23, 25, 26, 27 (×2), 28 (×2), 32
world	8	vv. 8, 11, 20, 21, 28 (×2), 33 (×2)

JOHN 16:1–6 The Warning

1 OBSERVE *What does Jesus warn will happen to His disciples (16:2)? Why will people do it (16:3)?*

> They will be made outcasts from the synagogue, and "an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God" (16:2). "Because they have not known the Father or Me" (16:3).

JOHN 16:7–11 The Helper and the World

2 OBSERVE *Why does Jesus say it is to their advantage that He goes away (16:7)?*

> "If I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you" (16:7).

3 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Henry: Christ in the flesh was in one place; "his Spirit is every where, in all places, at all times." Sproul: "What sounds like an absolute disadvantage, Jesus promises will turn into an advantage." How is the Spirit's coming better than Jesus' bodily presence?*

> The Spirit lives in every believer in every place at once, and He comes because of the cross, resurrection and ascension (Acts 2:33).

4 OBSERVE *Of what three things will the Helper convict the world, and why each one (16:8–11)?*

> Sin, "because they do not believe in Me"; righteousness, "because I go to the Father"; judgment, "because the ruler of this world has been judged" (16:9–11).

5 INTERPRET *Guzik: "It is unbelief, the rejection of Jesus, which ultimately proves one to be guilty." Why is unbelief the sin the Spirit presses first?*

> Rejecting Jesus is the root sin and the one that keeps a man from the only remedy for all the others. Henry: the Spirit works "first to convince, and then to comfort."

JOHN 16:12–15 The Helper and the Disciples

6 OBSERVE *What will the Spirit of truth do for the disciples (16:13–14)?*

> "He will guide you into all the truth"; He will speak what He hears and "disclose to you what is to come" (16:13). "He will glorify Me" (16:14).

7 INTERPRET *How does this promise give us confidence in the New Testament? How do you test whether something is from the Spirit?*

> The Spirit guided the apostles who wrote it. The test is 16:14: "He will glorify Me." Spurgeon: "The Spirit never says one thing at one time and another thing at another."

JOHN 16:16–24 A Little While

8 OBSERVE *What does Jesus say about "a little while" (16:16), and what will the disciples and the world feel (16:20)?*

> "A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me" (16:16). "You will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy" (16:20).

9 INTERPRET *Guzik: "God's work was not to replace their sorrow with joy, but to turn sorrow into joy." How does the woman in labor (16:21) picture that?*

> The pain itself brings the child. The cross that caused their grief became the cause of their joy.

10 APPLY *What grief are you carrying that you need to bring to Jesus, trusting Him to turn it, not just remove it?*

> Personal. The study's truth: grief turned into joy.

11 OBSERVE *What will no one take away, and what does Jesus tell them to do (16:22, 24)?*

> "No one will take your joy away from you" (16:22). "Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full" (16:24).

JOHN 16:25–33 Plainly

12 OBSERVE *What does Jesus say about the Father's love in 16:27?*

> "The Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father" (16:27).

13 OBSERVE *The disciples say, "we believe" (16:30). What does Jesus answer (16:31–32)?*

> "Do you now believe? Behold, an hour is coming, and has already come, for you to be scattered, each to his own home, and to leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me" (16:31–32).

14 OBSERVE *What does Jesus promise in the world and in Himself, and why can they take courage (16:33)?*

> "In Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world" (16:33).

15 APPLY *Guzik: "Peace is offered to us, but tribulation is promised." What tribulation are you in now, and what does "I have overcome the world" mean for it?*

> Personal. Read 1 John 5:4.

WORD STUDY

16 WORD *elenchō (G1651), to expose, to prove guilty. The same verb is used in 3:20 and 8:46. Why is the Spirit's conviction a mercy?*

> It exposes the sin we would hide so that we can come to the Light and be forgiven.

17 WORD *nikaō (G3528), to conquer, to overcome. "I have overcome" (16:33) is perfect tense, spoken the night before the cross. Why is that striking?*

> He speaks of the victory as already won. His people overcome in Him (1 John 5:4).

ACTS 17:11

The Chosen check

> ACTS 17:11 · NASB
> *"...examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."*

WATCH THIS WEEK

Season 5, Episode 1, "Entry" (opening scene, 16:16–33)

Answers and notes for the Chosen check. Let the group find the differences in the text before you give them.

C1 OBSERVE

Which part of John 16 is staged, and which part is left out?

> 16:16–33 is staged. The Spirit convicting the world of sin, righteousness and judgment (16:7–15) is not.

C2 OBSERVE

Read 16:33. What does Jesus promise, and why does that matter more than how the scene is filmed?

> In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; He has overcome the world.

C3 INTERPRET

What did the episode add that John 16 does not say? Does the addition help you see the text, or does it change what the text means?

> Additions are not automatically wrong; they are not Scripture. The test is whether an addition changes what the text says about Jesus.

C4 APPLY

The Bereans received the word eagerly and examined the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Where are you most tempted to let a picture, a sermon or a feeling stand in for the text?

> Personal. Press for one concrete habit: reading the chapter before watching, and checking every scene against it.

The Chosen is a drama, not Scripture. God's Word is the truth; where the film differs, the Word wins.