

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

John 16:1-15

Sunday, March 15, 2015

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What can keep us from stumbling?

The truths that Jesus has revealed can keep us from stumbling, but we need to keep believing them and acting on them no matter what happens. The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, works within us as Christians to teach us and remind us of what Jesus taught as recorded in the Bible. Our faith and trust in God and the Bible can keep us from stumbling, and we can pray for the Spirit of Jesus to help us moment-by-moment when we are tempted to disbelieve and do wrong.

2. What might you say to someone who said that they became a Christian because they wanted security and all of their daily needs and requests to be met by Jesus?

Perhaps remind them that they can find security, true and eternal security, only in Jesus Christ and by trusting in Him for everything. In this life, Christians can be persecuted and killed by those who do not know the Father or the Son. Jesus will meet all of our real needs, and our greatest needs are salvation from sin, the gift of the Holy Spirit, understanding the Bible, and receiving the gift eternal life through believing in Christ.

3. Why do some people ridicule and persecute Christians?

They do not know the Father or the Son.

4. Why was it an advantage or benefit for Jesus to go away?

So believers could be justly and mercifully forgiven for their sins; so believers could be cleansed from their sins; so they could be prepared for the Holy Spirit to come and live within them as their Advocate; so Jesus could pray for them from heaven; so Jesus could prepare a place for them in heaven; so Jesus could come again and take them to be with Him in heaven.

5. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do in the world?

“Prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:8).

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