



Pastor PJ Berner • February 9, 2025

John 16:12-15 | The Voice of God: How to Hear the Holy Spirit

Discussion Questions

Community Groups meet throughout the week and play a crucial role in our response to the preaching of the word. These groups gather to discuss the following questions as we seek to apply the sermon in community with one another. Please visit compassntx.org to join a small group near you.

1. Read **John 16:13** and **John 17:17**. In what sense does the Holy Spirit guide us into “all truth?” Is there truth outside of the Bible? As a Christian, how should you engage with both biblical and extrabiblical truth? What are some helpful ways for us to triage competing truth claims when it comes to our evangelism (i.e., what would you classify as helpful or essential truth-claims when sharing the gospel with an unbeliever)?

2. Read **John 16:13**. According to the sermon, what two deficiencies does our desire for an audible voice from God reveal about us? If you feel that the Holy Spirit might be leading you in a specific direction or impressing a certain conviction upon you, what are some ways you might be discerning in how you process those feelings? What should we do if a friend were to come to us and say, “The Lord put it on my heart to tell you _____”?

3. Read **John 16:14-15**. According to this verse, what is the Holy Spirit’s role within the Trinity? What are some errors you have encountered in the broader church when it comes to understanding this role (e.g., the glory cloud at Bethel Church in Redding)? How can you honor the Spirit’s role within the Trinity and render him the worship he is due as God?

4. How would you answer a Charismatic brother or sister who accuses you of having a truncated or underdeveloped understanding of the Holy Spirit? If you encountered someone who suggested you are putting God in a box or limiting him with your view that prophecy has ceased, how would you respond? According to the sermon, how would you defend our position that God does still speak today?

Recommended Reading

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- *The Sufficiency of Scripture: Basic Issues and Points of Contention* - Noel Weeks
 - *The Epic Story of the Bible: How to Read and Understand God’s Word* - Greg Gilbert
 - *Taking God at His Word: Why the Bible is Knowable, Necessary, and Enough* - Kevin DeYoung
 - *Keep in Step with the Spirit: Finding Fullness in Our Walk with God* - J.I. Packer
 - *Strange Fire: The Danger of Offending the Holy Spirit with Counterfeit Worship* - John MacArthur

