



June 25

GHOST:

## The Convicter

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### Introduction

We are in week three of our series, *Ghost*, and this week Pastor Jesse uses John 16:5-11 to show how Jesus explained to His disciples the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, is also our Convicter. Jesus already served our sentence for our sins, but God can't count that for us until we believe it. And, we can't believe it until the Holy Spirit convicts us - through His witness, interpretation and revelation - about our sin, unrighteousness and the judgment we deserve. We can't fully know God and the peace, security and relationship He offers to us in Jesus unless we allow the Holy Spirit to point out who we are, where we've been, what we've done - and how all of it points to our need for Jesus.

### Discussion

1. **Reread John 16:5-11.** Put these verses in your own words. In your group, take turns reading your paraphrases out loud. Discuss the similarities and differences. How each person interprets these passages affects how they see the Holy Spirit as their Convicter. Then, take five minutes to write a reflection on what you learned from this discussion about yourself and others in your group.
2. Share with your group a time when, through the Word, the Holy Spirit convicted you of a sin. How did that affect you and your walk with God and other believers?
3. Pray as a group for the Holy Spirit to witness, interpret and reveal to each of you anything that is sin or unrighteousness through your Bible reading and everyday lives this coming week.

### Think About It

Charles Stanley writes in his book *The Wonderful Spirit Filled Life*, "The Holy Spirit is a wonderful communicator. But He does not speak for the sake of passing along information. He speaks to get a response. He waits for us to become neutral enough to hear and eventually obey." Stanley explains a neutral heart is not passive or indifferent but "consumed with discovering what pleases the Holy Spirit rather than working to convince Him of the wisdom and brilliance of our plans." When we are faced with the Holy Spirit as our Convicter, we must be willing to listen to Him and obey.

### Do Something

1. If you are not in a regular rhythm of Bible reading, now is a great week to start. Pray before you open the Word for the Holy Spirit to reveal to you His message for you for that day.
2. Take one day this week and journal about your experiences with the Holy Spirit, the Convicter. This would be a great way to record your spiritual journey.
3. Summer is the time for family gatherings! Start the rhythm of praying for a few minutes before every gathering, that God's Spirit will use you to help draw people to Him.