



**Connect Discussion Guide**  
**12/6/20 Message | Tyler Myers | John 16:1-33**

*We walk boldly in a troubled world when we are led humbly by the Holy Spirit.*

**Key Scriptures:**

*Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.*

- John 16:7

*When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.*

- John 16:13

*All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.*

- John 16:15–16

*Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.*

- John 16:20–22

*In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.*

- John 16:26–28

*Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”*

- John 16:31–33

**Message Highlights:**

- Jesus knows the world is broken, hurting, hard and troubling. He encourages us to trust in his promise, and to not allow our peace to be stolen away by trials.
- A season of suffering is a small price to pay for a deeper relationship with God.
- God’s silence doesn’t mean his absence, but rather a time for reflecting and maturing.
- Our effectiveness is directly related to reflectiveness.
- Important question: Are you GOING through covid or are you GROWING through covid?

- Our gospel, our Christmas, our joy, peace, love, hope & faith was built for a troubled world because our Savior chose humility as the way to change the world in bold ways.
- We walk boldly in a troubled world when we are led humbly by the Holy Spirit.

**Conversation Starter:**

- What is your favorite way to rest in Jesus' peace during the Christmas season?

**Discuss the Message:**

1. Read John 16:7. What do you think Jesus meant when he told his followers that it would be better for them if he went away? Who is the "Helper" that Jesus is referring to? How might Jesus' words here impact the way we respond when things are tough and we don't feel like he is there with us?
2. Which of Jesus' truths that he reveals to you in the good times do you need to remember in the hard times?
3. How has your past suffering led to breakthroughs with God?
4. How do you persevere when God seems silent in your life?
5. Compare and contrast moments from the past year where you were "going through COVID" versus "growing through COVID."
6. In what area of your life would you like to have greater peace?
7. Prayerful reflection is vital to a healthy relationship with God; what specific ways do you prefer to engage in quiet reflection?

**Pray:**

- *Heavenly Father, thank you for your promise of peace through Jesus. Please bring your peace in and through our lives, so that we might shine bright for you in a dark world. We want to experience the peace that Jesus promised so that others can also trust in his peace. May your peace, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus as we trust in you through your Holy Spirit. Amen.*