“Under Conviction”

John 16:8
The Work of God’s Spirit

He Convicts the Heart Concerning:

* **Sin** – the reality – *everyone* included!
* **Judgment** – the consequence / death & hell!
* **Righteousness** – the Way out – Jesus!
The “Prongs” of Conviction of Sin

“I have sinned” (Romans 3:23)
“The wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23)
“no immoral, impure or greedy person . . . has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God” (Ephesians 5:5).

“elencho,” which means “to convince someone of the truth; to reprove; to accuse, refute, or cross-examine a witness.”

Excuses evaporate (Romans 1:20b)
As In a Trial, A Conviction Means...

All evidence presented
No more disputing, excuses, reasons

There IS a **conviction** – now what?

“Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart and said..... ‘Brethren, what shall we do?’” (Acts 2:37).

“pierced” = "emotionally pierced through"; psychologically pricked, emotionally stunned
Sin’s Sinfulness is Exposed

Our perfect selfishness
Our perfect rebellion
Our perfect evil/wickedness
Our response to Satan’s promptings
Our contributions to division within the Body of Christ, the church, the Bride of Christ

“inasmuch as you have done it to the least of these My brothers…. You’ve done it to Me” (Matthew 25:40).
**Conviction of Sin is Like Driving Too Fast When...**

- do not know the speed limit
- your speedometer is not working
- and yet something tells you that you are driving too fast... **THE SPIRIT BEARING WITNESS**

- you then see a *speed limit sign* and your speedometer begins to work, so you find not only that you are *driving too fast*, but exactly *how fast* you are driving. The speed limit sign and the speedometer symbolize *the Word of God*. 
The Conviction of Judgment

There’s a day of account coming when I will be held responsible for my actions...

“Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41).
The Conviction of Righteousness

The Lord’s **holiness** – Isaiah 6
“I saw the Lord high and lifted up”

The **kindness** of the Lord – Romans 2:4

His **mercies** that are new every morning
(Lamentations 3:23)

The freedom of repentance, turning:
* away from sin (John 8)
* to God “follow Me” (John 14:6)
  “Come unto Me...” (Matthew 11:28)
Agents God Uses To Bring Conviction:

“Day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me”  
(Psalm 32:4)

The Word – sword (Hebrews 4:12)
Circumstances – (Romans 8:28)
Guilt (2 Corinthians 7:7-10)
People - Christians have the unmistakable
“Scent" of Christ (2 Corinthians 2:15-16)
His willing sacrifice (John 12:32)
The End Goal of Conviction: Salvation and His Character Restored!

“And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. 29 For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers” (Romans 8:28-29)
The Salvation Jesus Brings

**Eternal** life – it will not end! (John 3:16)

**Forgiveness** and **cleansing** (1 John 1:9)

**Sins tossed** into depths of the sea (Micah 7:19)

**Peace** “like a river in my soul” (John 4:14)

**Care-free** – come what may – it is well with my soul!

“If we live, it's to honor the Lord. And if we die, it's to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord” (Romans 14:8).