



“Convict and Guide”
Small Group Questions
Week of October 4, 2026

Icebreaker:

What’s your favorite courtroom movie or show?

Or share a rose (something nice that happened), a thorn (something that was a bummer), and a bud (something you are looking forward to) from this past week.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read John 16:1-15: Jesus tells the disciples that it is actually to their advantage that He goes away. Why would Jesus’ departure be an advantage to them?

What does this teach us about the Holy Spirit’s role?

2. Jesus says the Spirit will “convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment.” What do you think each of those three words means in this context?

Why does the world need to be confronted with each of them?

In what ways will the Spirit – acting as the advocate – prove the world to be wrong in their assumptions and accusations regarding Jesus and his followers?

3. What is the difference between the Holy Spirit bringing conviction and Christians trying to convince or pressure someone?

Why is that distinction important when we share our faith?

4. In what ways can the Holy Spirit use ordinary followers of Jesus to bring conviction to others?

Can you think of a time when someone's words, actions, or example caused you to think differently about Jesus or your relationship with God?

5. Jesus says the Spirit will “guide you into all the truth.” What does it look like practically for a Christian to be guided by the Holy Spirit?

How can we distinguish Spirit-led guidance from simply following our own feelings or desires?

6. Where do you most need the Spirit’s guidance right now?

Is there an area where you need greater clarity, wisdom, courage, or obedience?

7. How have you experienced this work of the Spirit – leading you into the truth and knowledge of Jesus?

What habits do you need in your life to continue to experience this kind of guidance from the Spirit?