

THE SPIRIT CONVICTS

SEGMENT II

SYNOPSIS

“And when he comes he will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation: sin, because they do not believe in me” - John 16:8

Pope Francis has stated that we must stop “masquerading before God” in relation to our sin. We must take seriously the reality and nature of sin and the impact that sin has in our lives. It is not an exaggeration to say that our attitude towards sin has eternal consequence. Sin wounds and at times destroys our relationship with Christ. The Spirit of God convicts us of our sin not to condemn us but to convert us. In this segment we will see how the Spirit draws us closer to Christ by revealing to us our sin.

DISCUSSION

1. In the spiritual life, becoming more aware of our sin doesn't separate us from God, but rather it has the capacity to draw us closer to him. Also, in what seems to be a paradox, when we get closer to Christ we become more aware of our sin. The more light we have in our lives the more we are able to see into the darkness.

2. Sin does not keep us out of heaven: in fact, heaven is full of men and women who have sinned. An inability to recognize our sin and repent is what keeps us away from God. Discuss times when you have had an awareness of your sinfulness and more importantly an experience of God's mercy and forgiveness.

3. We live in a culture that is quickly losing any understanding of objective truth and everything is now relative. Discuss the impact this has had on you, your family, and parish.

REFLECTION

Come Holy Spirit.

Take ten minutes and pray that your mind and heart would be illuminated by the light of the Holy Spirit.

Ask for the Holy Spirit to show you one area of sin in your life that God wants to bring his mercy.

HE WILL
CONVICT
THE WORLD
JOHN 16:8

Pray for and experience help in overcoming that sin. Within the next week make a good confession and encounter Jesus there.



“WHEN GOD FORGIVES A SINNER WHO HUMBLY CONFESSES HIS SIN, THE DEVIL LOSES HIS DOMINION OVER THE HEART HE HAD TAKEN.”

- SAINT BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX -

KEY TEXTS

JOHN 16:7-8 *“But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes he will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation: sin, because they do not believe in me.”*

JOHN 8:44 *“...[the devil] is a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks in character, because he is a liar and the father of lies.”*