



# DON'T LEAVE HOME WITHOUT HIM

Life & Ministry of Jesus • U10#3 1st-3rd Gr. • May 19, 2024

## Concept

The Holy Spirit empowers believers.

## Goal

Students will learn that they have the Holy Spirit with them at all times!  
They will learn about the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

## Passage

John 14:12, 16, 25-26; John 16:7; Acts 2:41-47

Key Verse: "... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

## Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies	Craft Supplies
<p><b>Activity Stations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 large magnets</li><li>• <i>You Can Change the World, Jill Johnstone</i></li><li>• <i>It's a Big, Big World Atlas</i></li><li>• <i>World map</i></li></ul> <p><b>Introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 squirt guns</li><li>• 2 blindfolds</li></ul> <p><b>Learning Activity #3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 paper grocery bags</li><li>• 3 toothbrushes</li><li>• 3 small tubes of toothpaste</li><li>• 3 pens</li><li>• 3 stuffed animals</li><li>• 3 Bibles</li><li>• 3 completed Holy Spirit Express cards</li></ul>	<p><b>Activity Stations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• People Groups Prayer Resources, 1/student</li></ul> <p><b>Learning Activity #2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Printed Holy Spirit Express card, 1 card/student</li><li>• Markers</li><li>• Scissors</li><li>• 10 pens</li></ul>

### \*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

# Background Information/Teacher Helps

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Since the time of Jesus' ascension, His work has continued through the intervention of the Holy Spirit. "Jesus' postresurrection instruction of his apostles was carried on through the Holy Spirit, and succeeding statements make it clear that what the apostles were to accomplish was likewise to be done through the Spirit (Acts 1:4-5,8)."[1] Jesus promised and insisted that they wait for the "helper" He would send to empower them (Acts 1:8). He had assured them that, because He was going to the Father, they would do greater things than He did (John 14:12).

Jesus had to leave earth and be glorified in heaven before the Holy Spirit would come (John 7:39). "The Holy Spirit is Christ's gift to the church (Jn. 14:16), and the distinctive mark of the New Covenant (Ezek. 36:27; 2 Cor. 3:8). According to Jesus, the gift of the Spirit makes possible a life of greater spiritual vitality than was available to Old Covenant believers (Jn. 14:12), including the disciples when they were in the physical presence of Christ (Jn. 16:7). In general, the Holy Spirit applies the "down payment" of the full benefits of Christ's redemptive work to believers (Eph. 1:14; 2 Cor. 5:5). That is, the Holy Spirit provides the present tangible evidence of the believers' future full salvation when they are glorified. He personally communicates the presence of Christ to believers and through them to the church and the world."[2]

The Holy Spirit empowered Christ throughout His ministry and was active in the teaching of the disciples through Jesus. After the Holy Spirit indwelt the believers at Pentecost Peter's first sermon yielded 3000 believers (Acts 2:41).

"... Jesus had been a teacher and leader, but his influence was that of external word and example. The Spirit, however, is able to affect one more intensely because, dwelling within, he can get to the very center of one's thinking and emotions. By indwelling believers, the Spirit can lead them into all truth, as Jesus promised."[3]

The Holy Spirit is a person of the Trinity, not a force or a part of God. He has intelligence (1 Cor. 2:10, 11), emotion (Eph. 4:30) and will (1 Cor 12:11), all the elements of personality. He also possesses divine attributes such as omniscience (1 Cor. 2:11, 12) and omnipresence (Ps. 139:7).

[1] NIV Study Bible, note on Acts 1:2, through the Holy Spirit, p. 1644.

[2] [www.xenos.org/classes/christiangrowth/cgw2lecturenotes.pdf](http://www.xenos.org/classes/christiangrowth/cgw2lecturenotes.pdf)

[3] Erickson, Millard J., Christian Theology, Baker, 1985, p. 875.

## Set Up

## Incorporation Lg. Group

## Introduction Lg. Group

**Before class:** Put the toothbrushes, toothpaste, hairbrushes, pens and stuffed animals in three of the grocery bags; put a Bible and a completed Holy Spirit Express card in the other three grocery bags for Small Group.

### Activity Stations:

- **I Can't Do It Myself**
  - **Instructions:** Place the magnets on the white board approximately 6½ feet off the floor (high enough that no student is able to reach it). Instruct the kids to take turns trying to pull it off the board without a chair or any assistance. List all the kids' names on the board as they try and note whether or not they are successful. Tell the kids that you will talk more about the results of this exercise later.
- **Where should we go, who should we tell?**
  - **Instructions:** Have students choose and read one of the provided sheets of people from unreached people groups. Find the countries of origin on the map. As students work, discuss the idea of Acts 1:8; the Holy Spirit helped the apostles begin the task of reaching the world for Christ and He still does today. Read about the needs of the people group. Prayer is one way to help reach the world for Christ.

### Game – Blindman Bacon [1]

**Instructions:** This variation of steal the bacon works best when played in a circle. Number off players in two teams of equal size—one player on each team having the same number. Place a loaded squirt gun in the center of the circle, and give each team a blindfold. When you call a number, the corresponding players put on their blindfolds. At a signal, both players attempt to locate the squirt gun as their teammates say directions. The player who finds the squirt gun tries to squirt the other player before that player can retreat behind her or his teammates—all this while both of them are still wearing their blindfolds. Players who score a hit against their opponents earn a point for their team. Players who escape a hit from the squirt gun earn the point for their team. When the kids get good at locating the squirt gun, mix them up by moving it after the blindfolds go on.

### Debrief

The blindfold in this game made it quite a challenge to find the squirt gun and the opponent and to hit the opponent. Sometimes life seems like we are blindfolded. We don't know where we're going or how we're going to get there. And on top of that, there are people all around us who are shouting instructions at us. But we don't have to go around dazed and confused. We have a helper who is always ready and available to give us direction and empower us to do God's will.

[1] Play It Again!, Wayne Rice, Mike Yaconelli, 1993, Youth Specialties, p. 76.

## Transition

We're going to watch a skit that illustrates the different ways people go about accomplishing the things they want to do. None of them are blindfolded, but depend only on themselves and the result is not what they want.

## Learning Activity#1 Lg. Group

### Drama

**"The Try-Out Zone – Missing Pieces," skit presented by the Drama Team**

## Transition

Let's go back to our classroom and talk about how God gives us help.

## Lesson Lg. Group

In our skit, Sir Lacksalot went out to slay the dragon, Drax, but forgot his sword. The sword was the thing he most needed to help him do the job. Captain Cologne couldn't go anywhere because he didn't have the sails for his ship. Those sails were the things most needed to help the boat move. Taylor Hudson and Co-pilot Andrews were on an important mission to take Bibles to the Russian people, but when they got there they were told they couldn't land, which meant the people wouldn't get the Bibles. What did Hudson and Andrews do differently from Lacksalot and Cologne? (They asked God to help.) God did help, didn't He? He opened the way for them to land.

Last week we talked about the "Ascension". Does anyone remember what that word means? It means "to go up." We learned that after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, He went up through the clouds into heaven. Before He left the earth to be with God, He told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the helper He had promised them. He said, "... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). This is our key verse this week. Find the book of Acts in your Bibles. Find chapter 1 verse 8 and repeat it with me. Jesus told the disciples they would receive the Holy Spirit, the helper who would give them power to be His witnesses to the world. So what is the Holy Spirit and what does it mean to be a witness?

Did any of you see "Star Wars"? In Star Wars Obi Wan Kanobi taught Luke Skywalker to use "the force." Darth Vader had "the force" also. "The force" helped Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker be more powerful. Do you think the Holy Spirit is "the force" that helped Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker? The Bible does say that the Holy Spirit is very powerful and will give us power to do God's work.

## Lesson Continued

However, the Bible also tells us that the Holy Spirit is NOT a force, but a person. Jesus called the Holy Spirit “he” and told the disciples that the Holy Spirit would help them remember all that Jesus had said to them (John 14:26). Jesus promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit would be with and in them (John 14:17). Jesus said, “... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to come and live in those who believe in Him. The Holy Spirit gives us power to be witnesses for Jesus.

So what does it mean to be a witness for Jesus? If you saw someone commit a crime, like stealing, you might be asked to be a witness. That means that you would tell exactly what you saw and believed to be true. Jesus told His disciples that they should tell other people exactly what they saw Him do and knew to be true about Him. He wants us to do the same thing. If you are a Christian, Jesus wants you to be a witness, to tell others about Him. And as you are a witness, you can count on the Holy Spirit to help you and to work in the hearts of those you tell about Jesus.

### Good News

But what if you are not a Christian? The truth is that we all make bad choices. We all sin. Because God is perfect and never sins, our sin keeps us from friendship with Him. But God loves us and wants to be our friend so much that He sent His perfect son, Jesus, to die on the cross to take the punishment we deserve for our sins. Jesus wants you to know that He came to earth to die for you. If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will. Right then the Holy Spirit will come to live inside you forever. The Holy Spirit will teach you about Jesus and give you the power to be His witness.

## Transition

The Holy Spirit wants to help you be His witnesses in the world. Now that we know to ask the Holy Spirit for help, let's make a craft to remind us that once we have accepted Jesus' death to count for us, He is with us always.

## Learning Activity# 2 Lg. Group

### Craft -- Holy Spirit Express Card

**Instructions:** Give each student a printed card. Cut out the card and decorate it. Discuss the verses the students. They can take the card with them to remind them that: (1) they can have forgiveness through Jesus if they haven't yet received it; or (2) as Christians they have the Holy Spirit to help them when they witness to others about Jesus.

## Transition

Let's get into small groups to talk about what we need to be witnesses.

## Learning Activity #3 Sm. Groups

Jesus said, "... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). (Open grocery bag #1.) I have a bag here with things that help me be ready for each day. I want to be a witness to others. Let's see what I have in my bag. (Pull out each item and show them one at a time.)

- Here is a toothbrush, toothpaste, a pen, and a bed buddy (stuffed animal). Will these things help me to be God's witness? These are things I do need and will use, but they will not give me power to be a witness for Jesus.

I have another bag here. (Open grocery bag #2.) Hmm. There are only two things in here, a Bible and this little card.

- Why do I need a Bible? (It tells me everything I need to know about Jesus) What does the Bible tell us about Jesus?
- What does this little card say? On one side it says... On the other side of the card it says... So what does each side mean?
- What are some ways the Holy Spirit gives us power to tell others about Jesus?
- How do you think He works in the hearts of our friends as we tell them about Jesus? When we know that the Holy Spirit is with us to help us, it is exciting to tell others about Jesus.

**Mission Prayer:** Talk about and pray for Oasis Giving campaign.

Let's pray now and thank God for sending Jesus. Pray for the Holy Spirit to help you be His witnesses wherever you go.