

LESSON 1



THE DAY OF PENTECOST

OBJECTIVES

1. To pray constantly for the Holy Spirit or the fullness of the Holy Spirit.
2. To submit our lives to the guiding hands of God by obeying His word.
3. To pray for godly wisdom and walk by the Spirit.

MEMORY VERSE

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

(Acts 1:8)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, God, for sending Your Spirit to guide us in our everyday lives.
2. We pray that you give us understanding so that we can know Your words and grow every day in Your wisdom and truth.
3. May You guide us in today's lesson and help us apply its teachings to our lives.



Overview

1. When Jesus goes to heaven, the Holy Spirit will come
2. The Holy Spirit comes on the Day of Pentecost
3. The Holy Spirit gives people power to witness
4. The Holy Spirit gives people power to bond together
5. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—the Holy Spirit
6. Life Application—Profile: The Holy Spirit
7. Activity—A Letter to God about His Spirit



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The baptism of the Holy Spirit refers to the descent and indwelling of God's Spirit, which usually occurs during prayer. The sign and evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit is the speaking of tongues. Everyone who receives the Holy Spirit prays to God with a spiritual tongue without having to be taught how to do so. In addition to speaking in tongues, there may also be body movement, warmth, and indescribable inner joy.

The Lord Jesus has promised this precious gift to anyone who believes and sincerely asks Him. Experience God personally by asking Him to forgive your sins and come into your hearts. Receiving the Holy Spirit can be a wonderful experience. The transforming power of the Holy Spirit delivers true believers from sinful and depraved lives. People who used to indulge in their evil desires are now set free from the control of sin.

God has promised, “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them” (Eze 36:26-27). God's Spirit can revive our souls and make us new beings that lead an active Christian life and possess the hope of eternal life.



Reaching Out to Your Students

“Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near” (Rev 1:3). In order for us to receive salvation, we must heed the words of God and act upon them. But God knows that this is not an easy task. Therefore, He has promised to give us a Helper, the Holy Spirit, to guide us in His wisdom in the end times (Jn 14:26). “But God has revealed [the wisdom of God] to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God” (1 Cor 2:7, 10). We cannot rely on our own power to be saved. We must constantly strive for the fullness of the Holy Spirit to help us pursue the wisdom of God and to be able to walk in the path of righteousness. It is important to help students understand that receiving the Holy Spirit is not simply a way to “get extra help,” but that it is an essential step to receiving salvation (Jn 3:5). Encourage them to pursue the kingdom of God by submitting their lives to His ways so that they can be motivated in the right way to continue praying for the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus Christ promised His disciples the coming of the Holy Spirit, they were unaware of its power until the Day of Pentecost. Similarly, the students that have not received the Holy Spirit may not realize the importance of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it is critical for teachers to provide constant encouragement. The students need to understand that the Holy Spirit is a guarantee from God of the inheritance of the kingdom of heaven. Without it, their salvation is incomplete. Invite pastors, brothers, or sisters to give testimonies on how receiving the Holy Spirit has helped them and changed their lives. If any of your students are having difficulty overcoming a problem, explain that the Holy Spirit can help them. God lives in everyone through the presence of the Holy Spirit. Also, set aside time regularly to pray together as a class, for with numbers comes strength. When your students receive this kind of help and guidance, they will be able to realize the importance of the Holy Spirit better and pray more fervently for it.



Opener

5 Minutes

Students, raise your hand if you have been praying for the Holy Spirit. Let me ask you a question: Why are you praying for the Holy Spirit? [Pause to allow students to think.] Is it because your R.E. teachers and your parents have told you to do it? If not, why do you want or need it? [Ask some of your students to share their answers.]



Vocabulary

Holy Spirit: the one true God; we use the pronoun “He” to refer to the Holy Spirit, and Jesus also used the same to refer to the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:26; 15:26; 16:8)



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

I. The Holy Spirit will come when Jesus goes to heaven

After Jesus rose from the dead, He spent forty days with His disciples. He met them at various times and in many places. Each time He met them, He explained part of His plan. Jesus had to prepare His disciples for His departure—He was going to return to heaven. Do you remember how Jesus returned to heaven? [Let students answer.] He was taken up to heaven and a cloud received Him! And He will return to earth one day. When? We don’t know. But what we do know is that when He comes

back, He will judge every one of us and decide whom He will take with Him to heaven: His true followers. Having said that, how do we know if we are on the right path to be one of them? How can we become His true followers who will inherit His kingdom? Let’s continue with the story, and we will discuss this as we go.

Jesus’ parting words instructed the disciples to remain in Jerusalem and wait for a very special event—the coming of the Holy Spirit! Jesus promised to send them the Holy Spirit who would be with them always after He departed

from them (Jn 14:16-17; 16:7). He would dwell with them, and with all those who believe in Jesus, to give them godly wisdom, correct them, and guide and strengthen them to walk in the ways of God. Soon after Jesus had said these things, He was taken up to heaven in the sight of His disciples.

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet for students to complete as you teach. Keep a copy of the Teacher Version to reference throughout the lesson.

II. The Holy Spirit comes on the Day of Pentecost

On the Day of Pentecost, about a hundred and twenty people were gathered in one place. Suddenly, from heaven above, there came a sound like a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the entire house where they were. Many of them felt a special movement and warmth as divided tongues, as of fire, rested on them. They were speaking in tongues! The Holy Spirit had come. They all received it, as Jesus had promised! Among the people in Jerusalem, there were some who didn't quite understand what was happening, and others even mocked them, saying that they were drunk.

III. The Holy Spirit gives them power to witness

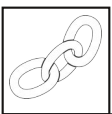
After such an amazing event, the apostles were greatly moved by the Holy Spirit and were now ready to preach the gospel with boldness. They knew that it was time for them to begin the work of the great commission—"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mk 16:15-16). Immediately, they began to preach! Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and confirmed to the crowd once again that Jesus, who is God Himself, had risen up

and poured out His Spirit to abide with them. After hearing Peter's sermon, around three thousand people were cut to the heart and wanted to be saved. Here, we can see that not only did the Holy Spirit give courage to the apostles to speak, He also opened the hearts of many people. They wanted to follow Jesus who brought them hope for salvation! They asked Peter and other apostles, "What shall we do?" And Peter answered, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Then, they were all baptized and determined to obey all that Jesus had taught the apostles. They continued in fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers together as one body of Christ.

IV. The Holy Spirit gives them power to bond together

The day that the Holy Spirit came marked the birth of the church. As the apostles continued to preach diligently about Jesus and His saving grace, more and more people came to believe in Christ and were baptized into His church. The Holy Spirit also gave the Christians power to love one another. They met together, cared for one another, and shared all that they had with everyone in the church. They enjoyed worshipping and praising God together. It is just like our church today!

In this lesson, we can see that the Holy Spirit is very powerful. He moved the apostles to speak of Jesus with boldness and pointed other people's hearts towards Him. Receiving the Holy Spirit was indeed an amazing experience with God. Earlier, I asked you a question: How do we know if we are on the right path to become one of His true followers and enter the kingdom of heaven? The answer is easy. If we are constantly filled with the Holy Spirit, we know that we are on the right path to receive salvation because with the Holy Spirit comes a godly person who understands and obeys the word of God. Let's discuss this further in the Life Application section.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

The Holy Spirit

The True Jesus Church believes that receiving the Holy Spirit is the guarantee of the heavenly inheritance (Eph 1:13-14). Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God" (Jn 3:5). He gave us the Holy Spirit so that we can have eternal life (Jn 4:14). In the Bible, the speaking of tongues is proof of receiving the Holy Spirit, as evidenced by the apostles' experience on the Day of Pentecost. Therefore, we also believe that speaking in tongues is the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit, which can be heard and seen.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. What were Jesus' last instructions to His disciples?** He instructed the disciples to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the Holy Spirit to come upon them.
- 2. What did the Holy Spirit sound like when He came?** A rushing mighty wind, which filled the entire house.
- 3. What did Peter say to those who believed that Jesus was God? What did they have to do in order to be saved?** "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."
- 4. What did people do to bond with one another after they had received the Holy Spirit?** They continued in fellowship, cared for one another, shared all that they had with one another, and worshipped and praised God together.



Life Application

10 Minutes

PROFILE: THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is a personal Counselor who is always there for you.

In the Old Testament, God sent His Spirit to help His chosen ones accomplish difficult tasks. For example, Samson was able to kill a lion with his bare hands when the Spirit of God came upon him (Jdg 14:6). However, the Spirit of God didn't dwell with those in the Old Testament. Rather, He only came to empower God's chosen ones when needed. After Jesus had returned to heaven, He promised to send us the Holy Spirit who will be there for us always (Mt 28:20). He will dwell within all who follow Him with a sincere heart. Today, we learned that, on the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon around three thousand who determined to follow Jesus. The apostles were empowered to preach the gospel in the name of our Lord Jesus. The people were edified to walk in God's ways. Signs and miracles followed them! These were all the works of the Holy Spirit. In fact, our church today is also the work of the Holy Spirit! Without Him, we'd be so lost. No one in this world alone has the power to lead us towards Jesus, who is in heaven waiting for us right now

Today, the Holy Spirit is a personal Counselor who will lead us all individually on the same path—the path to our heavenly home! We NEED it in our everyday lives. Even the Bible tells us that unless one is born of water (baptism) and the Spirit (Holy Spirit), he cannot enter the kingdom of God (Jn 3:5). So, how does the Holy Spirit direct us in our everyday lives? How reliable is He? Let us look into the Bible and see what it says!

1. The Holy Spirit gives you wisdom to fully understand God's word.

Let's turn to Isaiah 11:2. What is the Holy Spirit also called here? [Allow students to answer.]

- The Spirit of wisdom and understanding;
- The Spirit of counsel and might; and
- The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit moved many to receive Christ into their hearts. They were able to understand and accept everything that Peter told them concerning Jesus and His salvation because the Holy Spirit had given them wisdom. It was amazing! Today, in order for us to understand fully everything that God wants to reveal to us, we need the help of the Holy Spirit. He will humble us, take away all doubts, and allow the wisdom of God to dwell in our hearts. This is why we often ask the Holy Spirit to guide our worship so that everyone who hears the message of God can be edified.

God promised to send His Spirit to those who have a sincere heart to follow Him. Through His Spirit, He will give them wisdom to understand His words. Likewise, the Holy Spirit will not come upon those who are not eager to learn the ways of God because they will not treasure His help! Students, let us examine our hearts today. Do you have a burning desire for godly wisdom to understand God's words when you pray for the Holy Spirit?

2. The Holy Spirit guides and strengthens you to walk in God's ways.

Turn to Ezekiel 36:27. Let's read this verse together! "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them."

Jesus gave His Spirit to help us walk in His ways and keep His commandments. The Holy Spirit is also called the "Spirit of Wisdom," "Spirit of Truth," and "Spirit of Knowledge." He can help us discern between what is right and what is wrong; what is true and what is not; and what is wise and what is foolish. Today, many things around us can cause us to walk away from God. Satan is constantly working to distract us from the things of God. Without the help of the Holy Spirit, it will be very difficult for us to stay focused. He is always there to remind us of the wisdom of God and help us act upon it. When you think, "I don't want to listen to my parents!", then the Holy Spirit will move your heart to remember that God wants you to obey your parents and that He will reward you for choosing to obey Him rather than following your own will. When you face important decisions to make, difficulties to overcome, or situations you don't understand, the Holy Spirit will help you. He will move you to understand what is the best decision to make and the best way to solve a problem. He is a trustworthy Helper and Teacher from God!

Let me share a testimony with you:

Steve used to have a very successful business many years ago with his best friend William. He worked very hard for this business and put a lot of time and money into it. However, this business ended up going into bankruptcy because William had taken all the money out of it and run away. He never contacted Steve ever again. At that time, Steve was very angry with William. He didn't understand why his best friend had done such a horrible thing to him.

A few years later, Steve received an e-mail from William one day. William explained in his e-mail what had happened to him a few years ago and why he had taken all the money from their business. He seemed very apologetic and regretful. In his e-mail, William also mentioned that he was searching for God and that he was hoping that Steve could bring him to his church.

After reading William's email, Steve wasn't sure what to do. He had not forgiven William, even after all these years. Whenever he thought about his old business, Steve would still become angry. That day, Steve spent a lot of time in prayer. He prayed that God would teach him what to do and give him the power to do His will. During his prayers, Steve was reminded about how much God loves him, about how many things God has blessed him with, and about how many times God has forgiven him. Even though Steve was praying about what he should do with William, in his mind, he could only think about all these things God had done for him. Suddenly, Steve realized that the Holy Spirit was teaching him to do the same to William! The Holy Spirit knew that God wanted Steve to forgive William and bring him to Christ. When Steve understood what the Holy Spirit was guiding him to do, he continued to pray for the strength to be able to do the will of God. The longer he prayed, the more he felt empowered. At the end of the night, Steve was determined to walk in God's way. He was very much strengthened by the Holy Spirit. The next day, Steve called William and told him that he had forgiven him and that he wanted to bring him to church. William began to go to church with Steve and was later baptized into Christ. Steve and William became friends again and are now brothers-in-Christ!

Reflection Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit guide Steve to understand the will of God?

In Steve's prayers, the Holy Spirit moved Steve to think about how much God loves him and had forgiven him before. Steve then realized that God wanted him to do the same to William.

2. How did the Holy Spirit strengthen Steve to do the will of God?

The more Steve prayed, the more he felt empowered to walk in God's way. In the end, he was able to forgive William and bring him to Christ.

3. The Holy Spirit corrects you when you have done wrong.

1 John 2:27 says, "But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him." This verse refers to the anointing of the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised to send us. His Spirit will teach us all things and be with us always (Jn 14:16, 26). He is our Teacher who will only teach us what is true—that is, what is right in God's eyes. When we have done something against God's will, the Holy Spirit will help us know. He will prompt us to repent and to remember not to make the same mistake again. How is this possible? Does the Holy Spirit speak? To help you understand better, let me share a story with you.

Last Sunday, Lori's parents had to run some quick errands together in the afternoon, and they had told Lori to finish practicing piano while they were gone. However, as soon as they left the house, Lori left her room and started watching TV. She didn't think that her parents would ask her if she had finished practicing. That night, when they were having dinner together, Lori's mom suddenly asked Lori, "How did your piano practice go after we left today? Did you get to practice the other songs, too?" At that moment, Lori knew that she had to lie to her parents in order not to make them angry since they had asked her to finish practicing piano before watching TV. She said to her mom, "...Yes! I did. I practiced all the other songs too after you left. It went pretty well!" Lori was very quiet for the rest of the night. She felt very guilty about lying to her parents.

As usual, Lori prayed that night before going to bed. However, she felt something was wrong, as if God wasn't happy with her. Immediately, the Holy Spirit moved her to know that she had done something wrong that didn't please God—she lied! She had to repent before praying about anything else. In fact, Lori had been feeling guilty ever since dinner. The Holy Spirit reminded her that lying was a sin in God's eyes. Lori began to feel very sorry and she started praying to God for forgiveness.

After her prayer, Lori went to the living room to look for her mom. She told her the truth and apologized to her. She also told her mom that she felt very guilty after she lied and that she really regretted lying. Because of the Holy Spirit, Lori knew that she had sinned against God. She said, "I never want to lie again—it's such a terrible feeling to know that God is disappointed with me!"

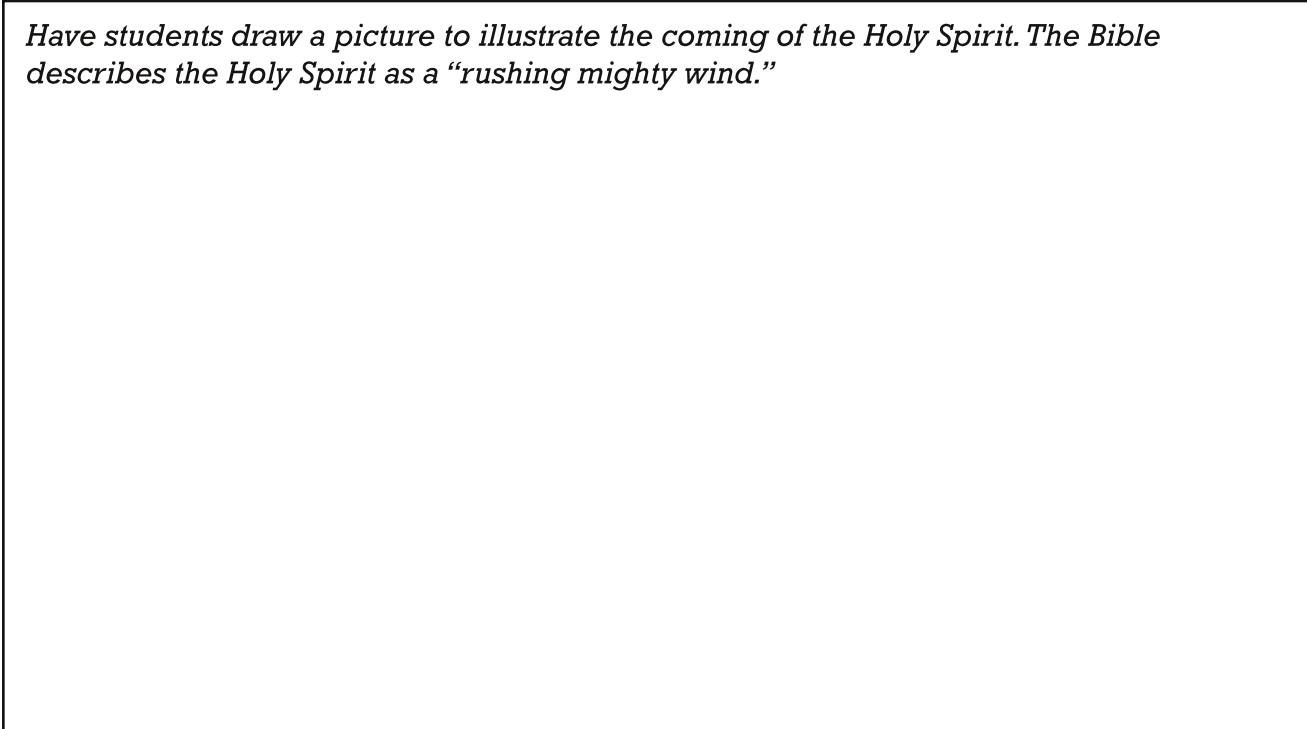
If Lori didn't have the Holy Spirit, she probably wouldn't feel bad at all about lying to her parents. In fact, when people don't have the Holy Spirit, they either don't know that they are sinning against God, or they just don't feel bad about it! No one is there to correct them and help them get back on the right path to walk in God's ways. Remember, any path that is not God's way cannot lead us to the kingdom of God. Without the Holy Spirit, we may not even know that we are on the wrong path when we make mistakes. Students, do you want to enter the kingdom of heaven? Do you always want to be on the right path? If your answers are "yes" to both questions, let's be more eager to pray for the Holy Spirit, starting from today!

HOMWORK ANSWER KEY

1. forty; heaven; Holy Spirit
2. Pentecost; 120; mighty wind; Holy Spirit
3. Peter; 3,000; baptized
4. A
5. C
6. A
7. Speak boldly about Jesus and preach the gospel
8. Love one another; share what they have with one another; meet together to worship and praise God in one accord; etc.
9. He can help us fully understand the words of God; guide and strengthen us to walk in God's ways; correct us when we have done something wrong in God's eyes; etc.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Have students draw a picture to illustrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Bible describes the Holy Spirit as a “rushing mighty wind.”



1. What are His names?

The Spirit of truth, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge, and the Spirit of the fear of the Lord.

2. What is His role?

A Helper, Teacher, Counselor, etc.

3. What does He do?

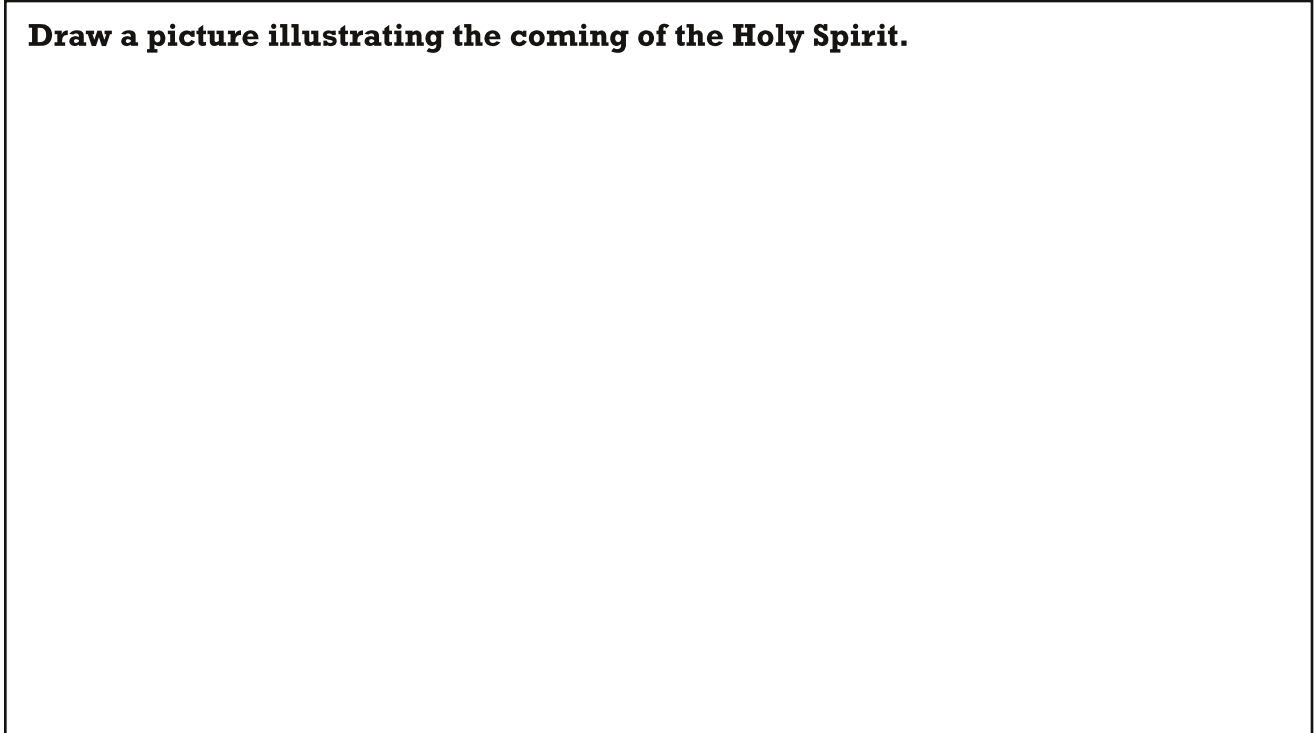
Gives us wisdom to understand God’s words fully, guides and strengthens us to walk in God’s ways, corrects us when we have done wrong, etc.

4. How can we receive the Holy Spirit?

Pray to God with a sincere heart, have a desire for godly wisdom, determine to pursue after the kingdom of God, etc.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Draw a picture illustrating the coming of the Holy Spirit.



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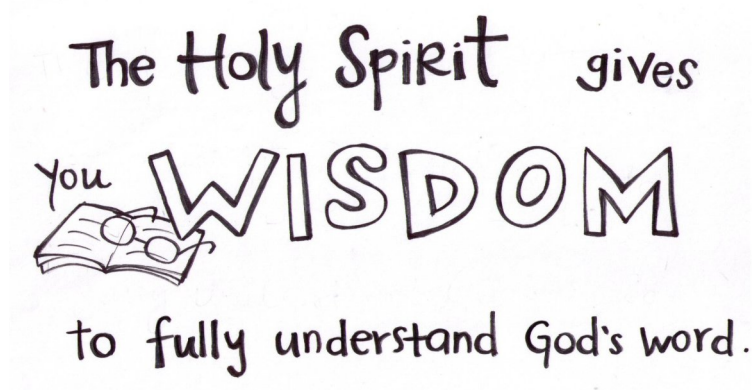
4. How can we receive the Holy Spirit?

PROFILE:

**THE
HOLY
SPIRIT**



1




Let's turn to Isaiah 11:2. What is the Holy Spirit also called here?

- The Spirit of _____ and _____;
- The Spirit of _____ and _____; and
- The Spirit of _____ and of the _____ of the _____.

Do you have a burning desire for godly wisdom to understand God's words when you pray for the Holy Spirit?

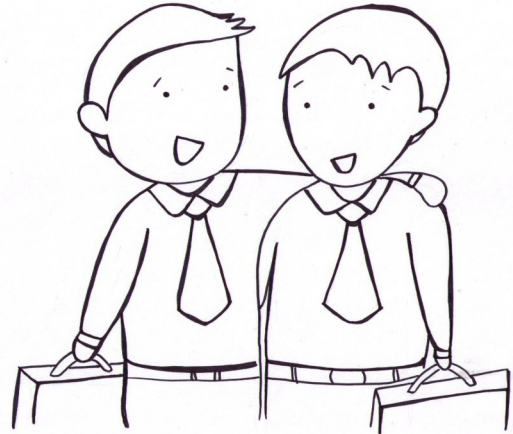
The Holy Spirit guides & strengthens



2

you to walk in God's ways.

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Reflection Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit guide Steve to understand the will of God?
2. How did the Holy Spirit strengthen Steve to do the will of God?

3

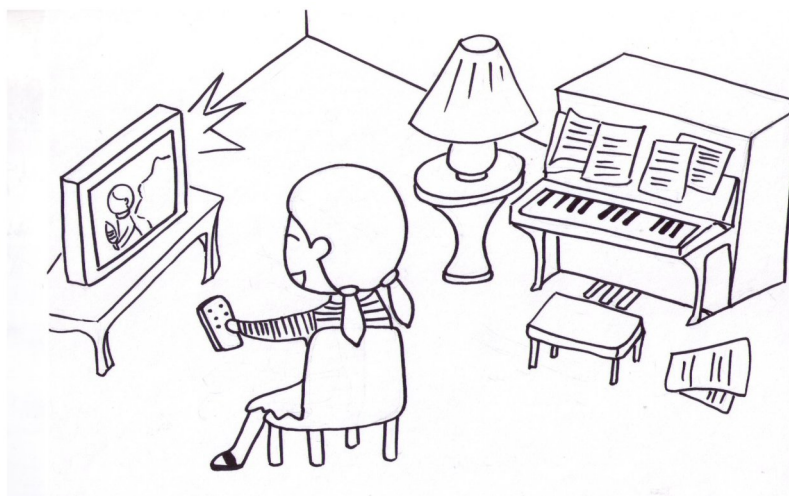
The Holy Spirit CORRECTS you

when you have done wrong.

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After her prayer, Lori went to the living room to look for her mom. She told her the truth and apologized to her. She also told her mom that she felt very guilty after she lied and that she really regretted lying. Because of the Holy Spirit, Lori knew that she had sinned against God. She said, "I never want to lie again—it's such a terrible feeling to know that God is disappointed with me!"



E2 Year 3 Book 1 Lesson 1—The Day of Pentecost

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (**Acts 1:8**)

Fill In the Blank

1. After Jesus resurrected, He stayed with His disciples for _____ days before ascending to _____. He instructed them to wait for a very special event—the coming of the _____.
2. On the Day of _____, around _____ people were gathered in one place. Suddenly, there came a sound from above like a rushing _____—it was the _____ that fell upon them!
3. After such an amazing event, _____ stood up with the other apostles and began to preach. On that day, the Holy Spirit moved about _____ people to get _____! They were all new souls added to the church of God.

Multiple Choice

4. _____: When those gathered started speaking in tongues, some thought that they were _____.
 - a. Drunk with wine
 - b. Lying that they had received the Holy Spirit
 - c. Demon-possessed
5. _____: Peter told the congregation that they must first _____ in order to be saved.
 - a. Offer all they have to God
 - b. Receive the Holy Spirit
 - c. Repent and be baptized
6. _____: The coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost marked the beginning of _____.
 - a. The church of God
 - b. Jesus' ministry
 - c. The history of the Bible

Short Answer

7. On the Day of Pentecost, what did the Holy Spirit empower the apostles to do?

8. What did the Holy Spirit empower the believers to do thereafter?

9. What can the Holy Spirit empower us to do today?