

LESSON 6

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ.
2. To understand that the Holy Spirit is promised to God's people.
3. To understand the importance of the Holy Spirit in relation to our salvation.

MEMORY VERSE

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

(John 14:26)

PRAYER

We thank You, Lord, for guiding us safely through another week. Today, we are going to learn about the Holy Spirit that You have promised to us since thousands of years ago. We are so thankful that You have chosen us to receive the Holy Spirit, so that He can guide us in the way that we should go. The Holy Spirit is a precious gift that You have given to us, so please help us to understand and focus in class, so that we will be able to apply the teachings from the lesson to our lives.



Overview

1. Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

- o Who Is the Holy Spirit?
- o Prophecies concerning the Holy Spirit
 - In the Old Testament
 - In the New Testament
- o The Holy Spirit Descends
- o How Do I Pray for the Holy Spirit?

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—Holy Spirit

3. Life Application—Praying with the Right Attitude

4. Activity—"Holy Spirit" Comic Strip



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Thousands of years ago, God promised His chosen people that He will dwell with them. When Jesus Christ was on earth, He also prophesied this promise to His disciples. In John 14:26, He tells them that He will send a Helper to be with them after His departure from earth. The prophecy finally came true when the Holy Spirit came down at Pentecost, while the disciples were in Jerusalem. After the Holy Spirit descended, the disciples were able to receive power and perform great miracles. More importantly, though, the Holy Spirit continued to guide and abide with them in their daily lives. Today, we are blessed to have the Holy Spirit abiding within us and guiding us, so that we also will be able to enter the kingdom of heaven, for the Holy Spirit is the "stamp" or "seal" that will allow us to be with God.



Reaching Out to Your Students

Students at this age have a good understanding that to have the Holy Spirit is to speak in tongues and that they have to pray earnestly to receive it. They also know that receiving the Holy Spirit is a requirement to enter into heaven. These are all fundamental understandings of the Holy Spirit. At this age, though, it is crucial to instill in the students a deeper understanding of the workings of the Holy Spirit. First, we must provide the students a clear picture about the nature of the Holy Spirit, and then connect the Holy Spirit with the way to our salvation.

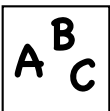


Opener

5 Minutes

If someone promised you that they would give your great grandchildren the power to fly, would you believe them? What if it was God that promised this to you?

God did not promise to give us the ability to fly, but rather, God promised to give us His precious Holy Spirit. Since God is the one that has given us this promise, this means that it is something that we can believe in and trust. Today, we are going to learn about the Holy Spirit and how God promised it to us thousands of years ago!



Vocabulary

prophecy: a prediction of the future, usually from God

intercede: to try to help settle an argument or disagreement between two or more persons or groups



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet to the students now. Ask them to follow along and complete the worksheet as you go over the lesson.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. (John 4:24)

In John 4:24, it tells us that God is Spirit, so the Holy Spirit is also Spirit. This means that it is something that we cannot see or hear but we can experience.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus Christ. (John 14:26)

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit that God will send in the name of Jesus Christ. In Paul's letter to the church in Philippi, Paul also encourages them, saying that the Spirit of Christ will deliver him from his difficulties (Phil 1:19).

Most of the time, we think of the Holy Spirit as a gift that we receive from God. However the Holy Spirit is actually living, and it also has a personality! Let us look at some examples.

1. The Holy Spirit has wisdom (1 Cor 2:10)

The Spirit is able to search the deep things of God, which means that it has knowledge about what to do, and it is also able to give us wisdom so that we are able to understand the character of God.

When Peter received the Holy Spirit, he gained great wisdom to be able to preach to a great multitude so that 3000 people came to be baptized. People were amazed at him because, even though he was only a lowly fisherman, Peter was able to have great power and wisdom in speaking. This was only possible through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 4:13)

2. The Holy Spirit has emotions (Eph 4:30)

The Holy Spirit can feel sad when a person does something that is sinful or behaves in a way that is not appropriate for a child of God. The Holy Spirit can also feel joyful, too. There are testimonies of people who felt great joy and peace when they received the Holy Spirit!

3. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us (Rom 8:27)

This means that the Holy Spirit prays for us and helps to strengthen us so that we can do what God wants us to do.

From these examples, we can see that the Holy Spirit is more than just a blessing; it is a living being! What is even more amazing about the Holy Spirit is that it has been promised to us since before all of us were even born! Let us look into the Bible to see.

Prophecies about the Holy Spirit

A. In the Old Testament

1. There will be miracles and signs when the Holy Spirit comes down (Joel 2:28-29)

From this verse, we can see that God has already promised to pour out His Spirit on us, and that when we receive it, there will be many different miracles that will happen. People will see visions and also experience great miracles. Today, we can see this come true in the church. Many members have seen visions given to them by God and also have been able to experience miraculous healings.

2. There will be abundance of blessings from the Lord (Isa 44:3)

Not only will God pour out His Holy Spirit, but God will also give us blessings! This means that through the Holy Spirit, we will also receive other blessings from God, such as being able to have peace and joy in our hearts when we are encountering trials!

3. We will be able to talk to God directly (Ezek 39:29)

When God has poured down the Holy Spirit, this also means that we will be able to talk to Him face to face. It is a blessing that we are able to stand before God and pray to Him directly!

B. According to Jesus Christ

1. The Holy Spirit is a gift we must ask for (Lk 11:13)

Jesus Christ talks about the Holy Spirit to His disciples. He compares the Holy Spirit to a gift from God; however, we have to ask for this gift. If we do not ask for the Holy Spirit, we will not get it. Therefore, it is so important for us to concentrate in prayer and ask God for the Holy Spirit.

2. Jesus Christ has promised that He will send a Helper to us that will abide with us. (John 14:16, 26)

This Helper is the Holy Spirit! This means that the Holy Spirit is able to be with us at all times and is able to help us in our time of need. The Holy Spirit can also help us to remember the things that God has taught to us!

3. Jesus Christ also promised that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes (Acts 1:8)

Jesus Christ instructs the disciples and tells them that they will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on them. This is not just any kind of power, but rather, it is the power to preach the gospel and be witnesses to who Jesus Christ is.

The Holy Spirit Descends

All of the prophecies in the Old Testament and the promises of Jesus Christ came true on the Day of Pentecost. As the Bible records in Acts 2, there were 120 disciples of Jesus Christ praying together for the Holy Spirit. As they were praying, all of sudden there was the sound of a mighty wind from heaven that filled the whole house. The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues! After this experience, Peter and the disciples of Jesus Christ knew that they had just received the Holy Spirit. After receiving the Holy Spirit, Peter was able to stand up and preach to thousands of people. As a result, there were 3,000 people that came to be baptized! From this passage, it indicates that we know a person has received the Holy Spirit when they speak in tongues.

How Do I Pray for the Holy Spirit?

Today, we can also pray for and receive the Holy Spirit! From Luke 11:13, we know that we have to ask to receive the Holy Spirit. However, what kind of attitude should we have when asking for the Holy Spirit? [Wait for students to answer.]

1. Have Faith and Be Earnest (Luke 11:8-13)

We have to keep knocking and being persistent when asking for the Holy Spirit. God has already promised the Holy Spirit to us, so we need to have faith and believe that Jesus Christ will really give us the Holy Spirit (Mk 11:24).

2. Be Humble and Repent

When asking for the Holy Spirit, we must have a heart of humility. God does not hear sinners, so before we ask for the Holy Spirit, we have to repent sincerely and ask God to forgive our sins (Jn 9:31). This is not saying that we have to be perfect to receive the Holy Spirit, but rather, that we need to have a heart that is humble and soft, so that God will be able to enter into it!



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is very important to our faith because it is key evidence that we are the true church and that we have the abidance of God within us. Through the Holy Spirit, we are able to receive power. It is our Helper in our walk of faith.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. Who is the Holy Spirit?** The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God.
- 2. What are some ways that we know that the Holy Spirit is not just an object or thing?** The Holy Spirit has wisdom, emotion, and is able to intercede for us.
- 3. How do we know if a person has received the Holy Spirit?** The person will speak in tongues.
- 4. What kind of attitude should we have when praying for the Holy Spirit?** Humble, earnest, believing, and repentant.



Life Application

10 Minutes

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #1 and read the letter from Peter aloud to the class.] Have students write a response to the letter. If students need help, they can use the cloze version of the letter. Next, have students read their responses.

Just like Peter, we can often become discouraged when we keep praying. However, it is important to remember that God has His plan for everyone. Just because God did not give Peter the Holy Spirit does not mean that God was not listening! We must continue to have faith and also to repent for any sins that we have committed, for God will give the Holy Spirit in His time.

On a separate sheet of paper, students will write their own prayer to God, as well as an encouragement to Peter which will remind him that God is listening and that we just have to keep on praying earnestly and with persistence. A cloze version has also been provided below for students that need help coming up with their own prayer.

Letter to Peter (Cloze Version)

Dear Peter,

You may be discouraged because it may seem like God is not listening, but it is important to remember _____ . God has promised to give us the Holy Spirit but He requires that _____ . Keep praying to God because He always listens. This time in prayer, maybe you can.

Sincerely,

Prayer (Cloze Version)

Dear God,

I praise and thank You for: _____ .
 I am praying to You about: _____ .
 Please let Your will be done!

Sincerely,



Activity

"Holy Spirit" Comic Strip

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To reinforce the teachings about the Holy Spirit through a comic strip.

Materials

- White paper
- Pencil
- Bible
- Crayons, colored pencils

Instructions

1. Cut a piece of paper in half lengthwise, and then tape the shorter ends together to make a sheet of paper that is 4 inches wide and 23 inches long.
2. Divide the strip into 8 sections. (They do not have to be all the same size but they can be)
3. Students will then create a comic strip that addresses the following prompt:

Draw a comic strip that will introduce who the Holy Spirit is to a friend. It should contain an explanation about who the Holy Spirit is and also three Bible verses that describe the Holy Spirit. Lastly, it should also include how to receive the Holy Spirit and what is evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit.

4. Have students color in the comic strip!

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. True
3. False
4. A
5. C
6. B
7. We have to be humble and earnest when praying for the Holy Spirit.
8. The Holy Spirit has emotions, wisdom, and it can also intercede for us.



THE PERSONALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

<p>1) 1 Corinthians 2:10</p> <p>The Holy Spirit has _____.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit is able to help us understand the word of God and also the will of God!</p>	<p>2) Romans 8:27</p> <p>The Holy Spirit _____ for us.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit is able to look into our hearts and see where our weaknesses are. Not only is He able to see our weaknesses, the Holy Spirit can pray for us and help us to grow stronger.</p>
<p>3) Ephesians 4:30</p> <p>The Holy Spirit has _____.</p> <p>Just like a person, the Holy Spirit is able to express emotions, such as joy or sadness.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Conclusion</p> <p>The Holy Spirit is _____!</p> <p>From these examples, we can see that the Holy Spirit is not just an object that God gives us, but a being!</p>

PRAYING with the RIGHT ATTITUDE

Instructions: Write a letter to Peter to encourage him to keep praying for the Holy Spirit. Think about the promises of God and use the Bible to show Peter the importance of being persistent in prayer.



Dear Elementary 2 Students,

I am ready to give up! Prayer does not work! I have been praying for the Holy Spirit every day, but God does not seem to be listening. In my prayers, I have been asking and asking, but now I am starting to feel like I am talking to myself. I have hit a wall! Please help me!

Sincerely,
Peter

Dear Peter,

Sincerely,

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (1Jn 5:14)

E2 Year 3 Book 3 Lesson 6—Who Is the Holy Spirit?

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. (John 14:26)

True or False

1. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. _____
2. The Holy Spirit has emotions. _____
3. In order to enter heaven, we only have to receive the Holy Spirit. _____

Multiple Choice

4. _____ : When did the Holy Spirit descend?
 - a. On the Day of Pentecost
 - b. When Jesus Christ ascended to heaven
 - c. When Jesus Christ was born
5. _____ : What is the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit?
 - a. Our bodies will shake and move.
 - b. We have love and joy in our hearts.
 - c. We speak in tongues.
6. _____ : To receive the Holy Spirit, we need to _____.
 - a. Practice speaking in tongues
 - b. Ask and pray earnestly
 - c. Just wait for God to give it us

Short Answer

7. What kind of attitude should we have when praying for the Holy Spirit?
8. How do we know that the Holy Spirit is not an object?