

Once the students have had a chance to read over the “claims,” they should then fill in the answers to the following based on their “claim”:

1. Supporting verses to the general Christian “claim.”
2. Counter argument (TJC view) and supporting verses.

After they have written down the answers, ask the students to illustrate their answers on paper so that as a class, they can create a booklet. They can include testimonies and graphics, and any other information to support their claims. Encourage the students to be creative. Instead of simply stating the claims and the supporting verses, students may use a question and answer format. Remember, the audience for this book is a friend or a newcomer to the J2 class. Give each team 5 minutes to present their pages when they are finished. Collect the pages and insert them into a binder. This project may also be made into a PowerPoint or video presentation. You may wish to ask a church board member to review the compiled material and ask it be on display for visitors.

R E F L E C T I O N & P R A Y E R



2 Timothy 1:13-14 tells us, “Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.” In the history of our church, we have been adamant about keeping the “pattern” prescribed by the Bible. We have been steadfast about proclaiming the truth about the Holy Spirit. As the torch is passed from generation to generation, may we continue the pattern through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Lesson 7

The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit (2)

Listed Scriptures

Ezek 36:26-27; Acts 2, 10; 1 Cor 14; 2 Cor 5:1-8; Rom 7; Rom 12:1-2

Lesson Aim

- 1) To conduct an in-depth study of our doctrine of the Holy Spirit
- 2) To motivate the students to pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit

Memory Verse

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”(Eph 5:18)

Bible Reading For This Week (for students and teachers)

Romans 4-8

Note to teachers: This quarter’s lessons do not contain the Bible Background section since they pertain more to the history of our church.

W A R M U P



Ask the students if they have ever been reluctant to bring people to church because they were afraid of their reaction to our prayer? How do we usually explain tongue speaking to new comers? What about the difference between the Holy Spirit and the fullness of the Holy Spirit? How can we tell the difference?



Part 1

The Effects of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. The Bible tells us that “God is Spirit” (Jn 4:24), “the Lord is the Spirit” (2 Cor 2:17), and promised through the prophets, “I will put my Spirit in you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them” (Ezek 36:27). It is important for us to pray for the Holy Spirit for several reasons.

First, the Holy Spirit justifies, or frees us from the penalty attached to sin. Many times, like the Israelites, we think that we can be justified by following the laws of God. But Romans 3:20 tells us that the law alone cannot justify. Only when we are sanctified through baptism and the Holy Spirit can we be justified (1 Cor 6:11; 1 Jn 1:16-8).

Second, the Holy Spirit gives us understanding. Psalm 119:105 tells us that the word of God is a guiding light. But many times, the word of God is too deep for us to comprehend (Isa 29:11-12). When this happens, the Holy Spirit will help us understand the word of God. Just as Jesus Christ opened the disciples’ understanding of scripture (Lk 24:44-49), the Holy Spirit is the spirit of truth that teaches us all things and reveals the truth of God to us (Jn 14:26; 16:12-13).

Third, the Holy Spirit sanctifies, or makes us holy. Before we are sanctified and freed by the Holy Spirit, we are bound by the law of sin and death (Rom 8:2). Therefore, the apostle Paul wrote, “For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live” (Rom 8:13). Galatians 5:16 also tells us, “Walk in the Spirit and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Fourth, the Holy Spirit convicts the world of guilt. Jesus Christ said to His disciples, “And when He (the Holy Spirit) has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment because the ruler of this world is judged” (Jn 16:8-11).

Fifth, the Holy Spirit testifies and glorifies the Lord Jesus. Before His crucifixion, the Lord Jesus promised His disciples, “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send

to you from the Father; the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father; He will testify of Me” (Jn 15:26). Jesus Christ also said in regard to the Holy Spirit, “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you” (Jn 16:14).

Last, the Holy Spirit guarantees our inheritance in heaven. The Holy Spirit bears witness that we are children and heirs of God (Rom 8:15-17; Gal 4:6-7; Eph 1:13-14). The Spirit also gives us an assurance of resurrection (2 Cor 5:1-5).



Part 2

The Holy Spirit and Tongues

“And suddenly, there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance”

This is how Acts 2:2-4 describes the descent of the Holy Spirit after the resurrection of Christ. From the passage, we can clearly see that tongue speaking is evidence of the Holy Spirit. Like the wind, the Holy Spirit is heard and felt, but not seen. As John 3:8 describes, “The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Therefore, the apostles used tongue speaking as evidence to determine who had received the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:44-46, 11:15).

Just as we demonstrate our closeness to someone by sharing a mother tongue, we show our intimacy with God when we speak to Him in a heavenly language. As 1 Corinthians 14:2 tells us, “He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.” Romans 8:26-27 also tells us that “the Spirit Himself makes intercessions for us with groanings that cannot be uttered...He who searches the hearts knows what mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.” Since the purpose of praying is to speak to God, we should take note to praise, giving thanks, ask and repent (Ps 147:1, 7, 51:1-14) when we are praying in tongue.

The other type of tongue speaking is preaching in tongues (1 Cor 14:1-5).

Prophesying or preaching in tongues is a special gift that only some may receive (1 Cor 12:10). Preaching in tongue occurs when the Holy Spirit moves a person to deliver or interpret a message in tongues in order to encourage or exhort the believers (1 Cor 14:3, 31). To avoid confusion, those who prophesy in spiritual tongue should speak one at a time (1 Cor 4:31). There should also be an interpreter of tongues (1 Cor 14:27) to ensure that everyone understands the message.



Part 3 *The Fullness of the Holy Spirit*

There is a difference between “receiving the Holy Spirit” and “having the fullness of the Holy Spirit.” To receive the Holy Spirit is to have God’s Spirit live within us. To be filled with the Holy Spirit is to fully submit to the Spirit of God and allow Him to guide our daily lives. Therefore, when we are “filled” with the Holy Spirit, we are filled with the faith and power of God to resist sin and bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The fullness of the Holy Spirit gives us success in holy work. Early workers who were filled with the Holy Spirit were filled with boldness, wisdom and power. For example, Stephen and all those chosen to serve the church were full of faith and wisdom (Acts 6:2-5). After receiving the fullness of the Holy Spirit, Peter was also transformed from a timid follower to a bold preacher (Lk 22:52-62; Acts 4:8-10).

The fullness of the Holy Spirit also helps us resist the temptation of sin. Receiving the Holy Spirit does not mean that we are exempt from the temptation of sin. A lot of times, we will want to do what is wrong, even when we know it’s not the right thing (Rom 7:14, 19). That is why the Lord sent us the Holy Spirit as our counselor. With the fullness of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to escape the clutches of sin (Rom 8:1-2). Like Jesus, will be able to resist the temptations of the devil (Lk 4:1, 13, 14). We will be able to resist the lust of the flesh (Gal 5:26) and live as living sacrifices of God (Rom 12:1-2).

When we are full of the Holy Spirit, we will bear its fruit in our lives (Gal 5:22-23). It is important for us to bear the fruit of the Spirit because it is our duty as disciples of Christ. Jesus Christ Himself also warned us that those who do not bear fruit will be cut off from the vine (Jn 15:2).

However, there are a few things we must do before we can receive the fullness of

the Holy Spirit. First, we should long for the Spirit of God as the deer pants for the water (Ps 42:1), for the Lord promises “living water” to those who believe in Him (Jn 7:37-39). Next, we need to repent of our sins, for the Lord declares, “Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you” (Prov 1:23). Most importantly, we need to obey the Holy Spirit. We should not quench the Spirit (1 Thess 5:9).



Part 4 *Common Questions and Answers Concerning the Holy Spirit*



A . “When does a believer receive the Holy Spirit?”

According to the Scriptures, a believer does not automatically receive the Holy Spirit the moment he or she believes the Lord Jesus Christ is their Savior. The people in Samaria had not received the Holy Spirit even though they had accepted the gospel and had been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 8:12-17).

In Acts 19:1-6, the very first thing Paul asked the disciples when he met them on the road was whether or not they had received the Holy Spirit when they believed. It was not until Paul laid hands on them that the Holy Spirit came upon them.

A person must believe in the word of truth, the gospel of salvation, in order to receive the Holy Spirit (Eph 1:13). A person cannot receive the Holy Spirit if he believes in a false gospel. Only those who believe, repent and are baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ will receive the Holy Spirit. Sometimes God gives the Holy Spirit to people before they are baptized to strengthen their conviction and move them to be converted.



B . “Do baptized believers who have not received the Holy Spirit belong to Christ?”

Those who have been baptized into Christ certainly belong to Christ (Gal 3:27-29). As far as God’s salvation is concerned, baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit are two sides of the same coin. The promise of the Holy Spirit is given to everyone who accepts God’s grace through baptism (Acts 2:38-39). Believers who have been baptized belong to Christ, and the promise of the Holy Spirit is already theirs. In time, they will receive the promise.



C. “Does being ‘born of the Spirit’ refer to receiving the Holy Spirit?”

Jesus Christ answered, “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). It is clear that being born of the Spirit is essential for salvation. From other parts of the Scripture, we also see that receiving the Holy Spirit is a requisite for salvation. For example, Titus 3:5 states that we are saved by the washing of rebirth and the renewal of the Holy Spirit; in Titus 3:6 it explains that this Holy Spirit has been poured out on us generously.

Similarly, Ephesians 1:13 says that believers have been marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit (i.e., received the promised Holy Spirit), who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance. So to be born of the Spirit does indeed refer to receiving the Holy Spirit, which is necessary for salvation.



D. “Should spiritual tongues be intelligible?”

The disciples did not actually speak in foreign languages. But God opened the ears of the Jews so that they heard the disciples speaking in their own languages (Acts 2:8,11). Ordinarily if several people speak in more than two languages at once, no one else can make out what is being said. On the day of Pentecost, however, 120 people all spoke in tongues. Jews from about 15 language groups were able to understand that they were speaking the wonderful works of God in their own tongues (Acts 2:8-11).

The tongues were not intelligible to everyone in the crowd. While the devout Jews understood the tongues, others thought the disciples had too much wine (Acts 2:13). If the disciples were indeed speaking foreign languages, why then did only the devout Jews understand what was being said? And why did the ungodly think the disciples were drunk?

God intended to save the devout Jews and so allowed them to understand the tongues. Consequently, many believed and were baptized into Christ (Acts 2:37-41). The mockers, on the other hand, could not understand.

C H E C K F O R U N D E R S T A N D I N G



1

Doesn't the Bible tell us that we are saved by grace? Why, then, do we need the Holy Spirit to save us? Back your answer with at least three Bible verses.

2

What does it mean to preach in tongue? How does the Bible describe this phenomenon? Where is it recorded? How is it different from praying in tongue?

3

What's the difference between receiving the Holy Spirit and being filled with the Holy Spirit? Why is it important to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

4

What do we need in order to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

L I F E A P P L I C A T I O N

Raindrops



Divide students into teams (preferably three). Each team will choose a different topic out of the following categories:

1. Six Important Effects of the Holy Spirit
2. Two Types of Speaking In Tongue
3. Three Benefits of the Fullness of the Holy Spirit

Each team will draw a cloud for each category and write the category on the cloud. Details will be raindrops coming from the clouds. Please make sure the raindrops are large enough to contain legible writing. Instructions for raindrops are as follows:

Effects Team:

Construct six separate raindrops for each of the important effects of the Holy Spirit. Include supporting verses on each one.

Types Team:

Construct six raindrops: 2 describing the types, 2 describing the reference verses, and 2 containing examples.

Benefits Team:

Construct six raindrops: 3 describing benefits with reference verses and 3 containing life application examples for each benefit.

Allow each team 5 minutes to present. Each team (including Effects Team) must show their raindrops are important to our doctrine of the Holy Spirit and how they help “moisturize” our daily lives. Decorate classroom as desired.

R E F L E C T I O N & P R A Y E R



Praying with the Holy Spirit is not only critical in doing church work; it is essential to our livelihood as Christians. An elder once compared reading the Bible to eating solid food and praying in spirit to drinking water. Of course it is not good to neglect either. However, while we may only become weak and feeble without food for an extended period of time, we can easily faint or die if we stop drinking water. Therefore, we must make the conscious effort to retreat to the garden of prayer often and drink from the living fountain of God. Only when we root ourselves near the source and drink our fill of the Holy Spirit will we be able to “take root downward, and bear fruit upward” (Isa 37:31).

Lesson 8

The Doctrine of the Sabbath (1)

Listed Scriptures

Gen 2:1-3; Ex 16:23-32; 20:8-11; Isa 56:1-7; Jer 17: 24-27; Mk 1:21; 6:1

Lesson Aim

- 1) To explore Christian beliefs regarding Sunday worship
- 2) To uphold the validity of Sabbath worship

Memory Verse

“Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters.” (1 Cor 7:19)

Bible Reading For This Week (for students and teachers)

Romans 9-13

Note to teachers: This quarter’s lessons do not contain the Bible Background section since they pertain more to the history of our church.

W A R M U P



Ask the students if they have ever missed a birthday party, a homecoming game or sports practice because of church. Have they ever had to explain to others why they go to church on Saturday instead of Sunday? In the lesson today, we will explore the arguments for Sunday worship and why we insist on worshipping on the Sabbath.