

# 7



## THE HELPER

### The Holy Spirit

YEAR 2 – KINGDOM LIFE

UNIT 2: KNOWING GOD

## 1 | Teacher's Notes

### Scripture

John 6:63; John 14:16-17, 26; John 16:7, 12-14; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38

### Objectives

To explain that

- Today's lesson is about knowing God.
- After Jesus went to be with the Father, he promised the disciples he would send the Holy Spirit to be their Helper. The Holy Spirit would be with them and **in** them.
- The Holy Spirit is the 3<sup>rd</sup> person of the Trinity. He has the same nature and character as the Father and the Son.
- The Holy Spirit is the Giver of Life. He gave life to all living things in creation, and he also gives us new life in Jesus, so we can become more and more **like** Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit is our helper and teacher and gives us power to share the gospel with others.
- We receive the Holy Spirit through repentance, faith, and baptism. The Holy Spirit is always with us and in us.

### Memory Verse

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things." (John 14:26a – ESV)

### ACNA Catechism Connections

Today's lesson of The Helper is connected to the following Catechism questions:

Q72 What resulted from the ascension? Jesus ascended into heaven so that, through him, his Father might send us the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, Christians together are united to Christ, the living Head of his Body, the Church.

Q75 What does Jesus' heavenly ministry mean for your life today? I can rely on Jesus always to be present with me by the Holy Spirit as he promised, and I should always look to him for help as I seek to serve him.

Q84 Who is the Holy Spirit? God the Holy Spirit is the third Person in the one Being of the Holy Trinity, coequal and coeternal with God the Father and God the Son, and equally worthy of our honor and worship.

Q85 What principal names does the New Testament give to the Holy Spirit? Jesus names the Holy Spirit "Paraclete" ("the one alongside"), which signifies Comforter, Guide, Counselor, Advocate, and Helper. Other descriptions for the Holy Spirit are "Spirit of God," "Spirit of your Father," "Spirit of Christ," and "Spirit of truth."

Q86 What are the particular ministries of the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit imparts life to every living thing in creation, reveals God's Word to his people, and calls sinners to a new life of faith in the saving and life-giving work of Jesus. The Holy Spirit unites Christians to Jesus, indwelling them, convicting them of sin, giving them spiritual gifts, and bearing spiritual fruit in their lives.

Q87 How does the Holy Spirit strengthen you for life in Christ? The Holy Spirit bears witness that I am a child of God, stirs my heart continually to worship and to pray, and inspires me to holiness and good works in Christ.

Q88 How do you receive the Holy Spirit? The Scriptures teach that, by repenting and being baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ, I am forgiven my sins and I receive the Holy Spirit, who gives me new birth in Christ and frees me from the power of sin.

Q16 What does God desire to accomplish in your life in Christ? God desires to free me from captivity to sin and transform me into the image of Jesus Christ, by the power of his Holy Spirit.

Q34 How does the Holy Spirit use Holy Scripture in your life? Through Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit will teach, rebuke, correct, and train me in the righteousness that God desires. The prayerful study of Scripture forms me for life in Christ and the service of God and my neighbor.

**Suggested  
Materials,  
Props, and  
Costumes****Big story props:**

- Large Bible
- Kingdom Life storyboard (see photo)

**Lesson Props:** (see Props Document for instructions on how to make these)

- Holy Spirit symbol
- Word cards: "WITH" and "IN"
- Storyboard symbols: "GIVER OF LIFE" and "HELPER/TEACHER"
- Jesus peg doll with crown from previous lessons
- Bible verse cards, placed inside the Bible for the children to pull out and give to "Jesus" to read.

**Costumes:** Jesus (with blue sash)

**Memory Verse:** "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things." (John 14:26a – ESV)

(Found on the last page of this lesson plan) Print out and place in large Bible.

## 2 | Lesson Outline:

<b>Welcome</b>	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
<b>Greeting &amp; Collect for Purity</b>	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity ( <i>see Resource Section</i> )
<b>Prayer of Confession</b>	Say the Prayer of Confession ( <i>see Resource Section</i> ) Extinguish the candles
<b>Music</b>	My God is so Big Our God is a Great Big God Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God (Townend/Getty) Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me <b><i>Please check internet for lyrics and music.</i></b>
<b>Review of foundations</b>	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment. <b><i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i></b>
<b>Reading</b>	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
<b>Story Board Review</b>	Ask review questions relating to props from previous lessons on story board. <b><i>Story board review is found in Section 4</i></b>
<b>Props/Costumes</b>	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) <b>Big story props:</b> Large Bible, Kingdom Life storyboard
<b>Bible Story</b>	<b><i>Proceed with story and questions found in Section 4.</i></b>
<b>Related activities</b>	<b><i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i></b>
<b>Preparation for Communion &amp; leaving class</b>	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <b><i>See Resource Section.</i></b>

### 3 | Storyboard Progression



This is how the storyboard should look at the start of the lesson



The Holy Spirit is with us and in us.



This is how the Knowing God section should look at the end of the lesson. Leave all the symbols including Jesus peg doll on storyboard for next week.

## 4 | Story and Questions

**SETUP:** *Have the Kingdom Life storyboard set up as outlined in the first photo. Place the Jesus peg doll during the storyboard review. Attach the word cards "WITH" and "IN" side by side to the wall or flannelgraph next to the teacher (see photo above). Ask for a volunteer to be the voice of Jesus.*

**BIBLE:** *Hold up the Bible and say: 'Today's lesson is from the Bible, and it is about Knowing God.'*

**STORYBOARD REVIEW:** *(Point to storyboard as you say:)* We have been learning about who God is. God is a Trinity - three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God.

God has revealed himself in three ways. Can you remember what they are? *(Children respond)* God has revealed himself through **Creation** and also through the **Bible** (where we learn about God's mighty acts in history and about who God is), and most of all *(place Jesus peg doll on storyboard between the words "God" and "Son")* through **Jesus** who is God the Son, the 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the Trinity. Jesus is the image of the invisible God. When we look at Jesus, we can know what God is like.

### **STORY:**

**TEACHER:** Today we are going to learn more about the Holy Spirit.

Have you ever had to wait a long time for help with something? Maybe you had to wait a long time for the teacher to help you at school?

Wouldn't it be great if you had a helper that you wouldn't need to wait for, but who would always be there?

Before Jesus went to be with his Father in Heaven, *(point to Jesus peg doll)* he promised his disciples that he would send a helper who would always be with them.

Let's hear what Jesus said to his disciples.

Can someone pull out the top verse from inside this Bible and give it to Jesus to read?

**ACTION:** *Hold up the Bible and have a child pull the top verse out of the Bible and give it to "Jesus" to read.*

**JESUS:** "It is better for you that I go away, for then the Helper will come to you."

**TEACHER:** What a strange thing for Jesus to say! Could anything be better than having Jesus right there with you? Who is this Helper that Jesus is talking about? Who wants to pull out the next verse for Jesus to read?

**ACTION:** *Have a child pull the verse out of the Bible and give it to "Jesus" to read.*

**JESUS:** "The Father will send you a Helper to be with you forever - the Spirit of truth. You know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."

**TEACHER:** *(Hold Jesus peg doll up beside the "with" card on the flannelgraph or wall.)*

Jesus had been with the disciples here on earth, but when Jesus went to be with the Father in Heaven, the Father sent the Holy Spirit. *(Attach Holy Spirit symbol above the "with" and "in" cards on flannelgraph/wall as shown in picture.)*

The Holy Spirit would be with the disciples, AND he would be in them **forever**. That is why it would be better for them that Jesus went to be with the Father.

The image of a dove is often used to symbolize The Holy Spirit's purity and holiness.

Who is the Holy Spirit? He is God. He is the 3<sup>rd</sup> person of the Trinity.

Together with the Father and the Son *(place Jesus back on storyboard)*, the Holy Spirit is also *(point to the words on the board as you say them)* Creator, Almighty, Eternal, Holy and Love.

**Let's say it together: The Holy Spirit is Creator, Almighty, Eternal, Holy and Love.**

The Holy Spirit is also the **Giver of Life** *(place down "Giver of Life" symbol as shown.)* He gave life to all living things in creation, and he also gives us new life in Jesus, so that we can become more and more **like** Jesus.

How does the Holy Spirit come to live in us? We receive the Holy Spirit through repentance, faith in Jesus, and baptism. *(Point to three arrows going through cross on storyboard)*

The Holy Spirit is our Helper who is always with us and in us.

What does it mean that the Holy Spirit is our helper? Let's hear again what Jesus said in our memory verse today. Who wants to pull out this verse?

**ACTION:** Have a child pull the verse out of the Bible and give it to "Jesus" to read.

**JESUS:** "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will **teach** you all things."

**TEACHER:** He will **teach** us all things, especially as we read and study the Bible. The Holy Spirit is our **Helper** and our **Teacher**. (*Place "Helper/Teacher" as shown.*)

Here are five things the Holy Spirit wants to help us with and teach us. Let's hold up our hand.

**ACTION:** Have the children hold up their hand and go through the following points while putting up one finger each time. Say "Number one ..." etc.

**TEACHER:** Repeat after me:

1. He helps us to know and follow Jesus. (*Children echo*)
2. He helps us understand the Bible. (*Children echo*)
3. He helps us choose to do what is right. (*Children echo*)
4. He helps us to pray. (*Children echo*)
5. He gives us power. (*Children echo*)

**TEACHER:** What kind of power does the Holy Spirit give us? Let's pull out the last verse for Jesus to read.

**ACTION:** Have a child pull the verse out of the Bible and give it to "Jesus" to read.

**JESUS:** "You will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will tell other people about me from one end of the earth to the other."

**TEACHER:** And that is exactly what happened! On the day of Pentecost, the disciples received power and boldness from the Holy Spirit to tell people about Jesus. The Holy Spirit also gives **us** power and boldness to tell other people about Jesus.

Today we have learned that the Holy Spirit is the 3<sup>rd</sup> person of the Trinity. Together with the Father and the Son, he is God. The Holy Spirit is with us and in us forever. He is the Giver of Life, our Helper and our Teacher.

*(Point to symbols as you say)* **Let's say it together: The Holy Spirit is the Giver of Life, our Helper and our Teacher.**

When we have the Holy Spirit, we are never left alone, we have God with us always, just as he promised.

**Life Application Prayer:**

Thank you, Holy Spirit for giving us God's life. Thank you that you are with us and in us. Thank you for helping us and teaching us to know and follow Jesus. Thank you for helping us to understand the Bible and to pray. Thank you for helping us choose to do what is right and for giving us power to tell others about Jesus. Amen.

**SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:**

- **What does this lesson tell us about God?** (God is a Trinity – three in one. All three persons of the Trinity are: Creator, Almighty, Eternal, Holy and Love.)
- **Who is the Holy Spirit?** (He is the 3<sup>rd</sup> person of the Trinity. Together with the Father and the Son he is God. He is the Giver of Life. He is our Helper and our Teacher.)
- **Why did Jesus say it would be better that he go to be with the Father?** (So the Father could send the Holy Spirit to be in everyone who wants to follow Jesus. Jesus is with us and **in** us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us new life in Jesus and is our helper and teacher.)
- **What are 5 things the Holy Spirit wants to help us with and teach us?** (He helps us to know and follow Jesus, he helps us to understand the Bible, helps us choose to do what is right, helps us to pray, gives us power to tell others about Jesus.)
- **How do we receive the Holy Spirit?** (Through repentance, faith in Jesus, and baptism)
- **What image is often used to symbolize the holiness and purity of the Holy Spirit?** (The image of a dove)

## 5 | Response Activities

### **Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement**

- Have the children complete the activities in the Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement.

### **Optional activities**

- Have children draw around their hands on a piece of card. Have them write out or glue on the 5 different points in lesson, one on each finger. Glue the memory verse into the palm of the hand.
- Different learning stations, such as: a book table, modelling clay, colouring papers

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things."

(John 14:26)