

Holy Spirit

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Welcome! This website is designed to provide simple ways to teach your students about the Holy Spirit.

Why Study the Holy Spirit?

- Learning about the Holy Spirit will transform the prayers of our students
- We can encourage the students to watch for Holy Spirit "sightings"
- Students will learn to recognize the Holy Spirit as God's "Better" Gift
- Students will be on the alert for "Divine Appointments"
- Students will share their recent experiences with the Holy Spirit

Year-long objective: Each student will know how to pray a simple daily prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to live in him and guide him (see John 14:17). Example: "Dear Heavenly Father, I invite the Holy Spirit to live in me today. Please guide me moment-by-moment throughout the day." Once a month students will be invited to share personal stories of when the Holy Spirit was active in their lives recently.

On the page for each month, you will find rationale, essential question, monthly focus scripture, song, service activity, and prayer. We recommend that you post the essential question and focus scripture in the classroom where your students can be continually reminded of the month's theme. Then present one worship per week that focuses on the Holy Spirit. A key text and an object lesson are provided for each week.

It is our prayer that you find these resources to be useful in helping your students understand who the Holy Spirit is, allow Him to transform their prayers, acknowledge His leading in "Divine Appointments, and recognize His personal intervention in their lives!

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August

August (Overview) The Holy Spirit and Redemption

Rationale: We study the Holy Spirit so that we can guide our students to an understanding of the critical role the Holy Spirit plays in our redemption and salvation.

Essential Question: How can I describe the critical role the Holy Spirit plays in my redemption and salvation?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22, 23 NKJV

Song: *Baptize Us Anew*, SDA Hymnal #258

Service Activity: Visit an animal rescue to help clean/feed/take care of the animals. (Helping out an organization which is dedicated to saving innocent animals reminds us of our need for redemption).

Prayer for the Month: "Heavenly Father, I ask that you will help me understand how the Holy Spirit guides me into a saving relationship with Jesus."

Week 1: What does the Bible reveal about the Holy Spirit?

Key Texts: John 16:13 "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." NKJV

Romans 8:11 "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you." NKJV

John 14:16-17 "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."
NKJV

Object Lesson: (Three-ingredient Chocolate Ice Cream) These words from the Bible promise that the Holy Spirit will live in us. But how is it possible to have something inside you that you can't see? Let's try an experiment that might help us understand a little better. We are going to make some ice cream right now.

Prep 10 min

Total 10 min+ 4 hours freezing time

Ingredients

2 cups 35% cream
1 tbsp. chocolate milk powder (or fruit jelly)
300- mL sweetened condensed milk

Instructions

STIR cream with powder in a large bowl (or bowl of a stand mixer).

BEAT cream, using an electric mixer on medium, until soft peaks form, 2 to 4 min. Reduce speed to low and gradually beat in condensed milk until just combined.

Mixture should be smooth and fluffy.

SCRAPE mixture into a Tupperware container or 9x5-in. loaf pan. Cover with lid, or a piece of waxed paper if using loaf pan. Freeze until firm, about 4 hours. Scoop and serve!

ASK:

Where is the cream now? the powder? the milk?

Why do you think you can't see the individual ingredients?

How are the ingredients in the ice cream like or unlike how the Holy Spirit lives in each of us?

SAY:

Even though the separate ingredients aren't visible, we know they're still in your ice cream. It's the same for us. Once we get with Jesus, choosing to believe in and follow him, the Holy Spirit is within us. We will never be the same, just as the individual ingredients are not the same, but we'll be much, much more.

Week 2: What does the Spirit of Prophecy reveal about the Holy Spirit?

Key Text: "The Holy Spirit comes to the soul as a Comforter. By the transforming agency of His grace, *the image of God is reproduced in the disciple*; he becomes a new creature. Love takes the place of hatred, and the heart receives the divine similitude. This is what it means to live 'by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.' This is eating the Bread that comes down from heaven." Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, Page 391.

"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 NKJV

Object Lesson: Chocolate milk object lesson:

Supplies you'll need: Tall, clear glass, milk, chocolate syrup, teaspoon, tray

Preparation: Set everything on the tray right before class. Leave your milk refrigerated as long as possible. Pour the milk. This glass of milk is like you and I when we asked Jesus into our hearts. Jesus forgave us of our sins and made us clean. But the good stuff does not stop there! Jesus says He wouldn't just save us, but He would send the Holy Spirit to teach us and comfort us.

Read John 14:26 "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." NKJV

The chocolate syrup is like the Holy Spirit. He lives in us and swirls through our life, helping us learn, helping us remember the words of God and comforting us. The milk isn't plain anymore because we have poured the Holy Spirit in. (Pour small samples for students to drink or give everyone a chocolate milk box for snack.)

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September

September (Love) - The Members of the Trinity and Their Roles

Rationale: An examination of the Trinity guides the students to an understanding of the roles that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit play in a personal saving relationship.

Essential Question: How does each member of the trinity show His love for me through the role He plays in my salvation?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NKJV

Song (Monthly): *Holy, Holy, Holy SDA Hymnal #73*

Service Activity: Write a secret "I love you" letter to an elderly church member thanking him for his work in the church.

Prayers for the Month:

A. Theme Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit reveal to me what Each of You have done and are doing to save me and to prepare me to live with You in heaven and in the New Earth.

B. Fruit Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, show me and help me to be loving like Jesus.

Week 1: Three in One

Key Text: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19,20 NKJV

Object Lesson: "Eggcellent Eggxamination" Show an egg to the students. It has three parts in order to be complete – the yolk, the white, and the shell. All three are very different but all are very necessary.

Week 2: God, the Holy Spirit

Key Text: "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" Luke 11:11-13 NKJV

Object Lesson: Show pictures of two doors. One door has a doorknob and one door does not. The Holy Spirit is the doorknob that opens the door to allowing us to have a relationship with Jesus and the Father and allowing us to become more like Jesus.

Week 3: God, the Father

Key Text: "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Romans 5:5 NKJV

Object Lessons: God's Love: Cookie Comparison Buy a giant cookie and have it decorated with the words "God's Love" in icing. Buy a pack of regular-sized chocolate chip cookies. Take one out of the box. Before class, arrange the giant cookie and the single cookie on two separate platters. Keep the cookies covered and talk to kids about different kinds of love. Talk about how Susie loves Johnny, how kids love parents and how pet owners love their pets. Share about whom you love and how they make you feel.

Then show the two platters. Tell the students that the small cookie is the love we have for each other and all the kinds of love you have just talked about.

Show kids the giant cookie. Tell kids this is God's love. Explain to kids that God's love is deeper, bigger and better than any other kind of love you can receive. (Then eat the cookies.)

Alternate Object Lesson: God's Love: Little Shoes, Big Shoes For this object lesson you will need two pairs of shoes, one infant-sized and a large pair of mens' shoes. Hold up the small pair and show it to the group. Explain to kids parents help us learn to walk and guide us through the beginning of our life. We get lots of hugs and kisses because our parents shower us with love. However, as we get older our parents are not with us every minute of the day. Once we learn to walk, we become more independent. Eventually we do things for ourselves like make our bed, tie our shoes and go to school.

Hold up the second pair of shoes. Tell kids that many children are sad about becoming an adult. They still want kisses, hugs and lots of love from Mom and Dad. Explain to children that no matter how big they are, God loves them as their Father. We are never too big to sit in God's lap. Let kids know that they are never too old to experience God's love. He will always be with them, and His shoes are always bigger!

Week 4: God, the Son

Key Text: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16 NKJV

Object Lesson:

Bring a hardboiled egg to class and mark it up, draw on it, crack it up, and completely deface the outer shell. "This is how we can look without the Holy Spirit in our lives." Then remove the shell and display the pure, white egg underneath. "When the Holy Spirit comes He removes the ugly and makes us pure, like Jesus."

1.

2.

3.

4.

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October

October (Joy) – The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

Rationale: A review of narratives about the Holy Spirit's work in the Old Testament will help the students to understand His current work in their lives.

Essential Question: How can I apply the Holy Spirit's work in Old Testament narratives to His work in my life today?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." Genesis 1:1-2, NKJV

Song (Monthly): *The Joy of the Lord is my Strength*

Service Activity: Student present mini-sermons at church/Sabbath School (acting/dressing as Bible characters) giving first-hand testimonies about how the joy of the Lord was their personal strength.

Prayers for the Month:

- A. **Theme Prayer:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, please release in me the transforming power of the Holy Spirit so that I, too, will be Spirit-filled for Your honor and glory.

- B. **Fruit Prayer:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, show me and help me to be joyful like Jesus.

Week 1: Creation

Key Text: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." Genesis 1:1-2, NKJV

Object Lesson:

Aim: To help the children: to know that the earth contains many different things; to appreciate the variety in God's creation; and to thank Him for His great provisions for us.

Verse Illustrated: "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter". Proverbs 25:2, NKJV

Materials: Coal

Interest Getter: Show shiny black coal and ask the children if they know what it is. Demonstrate writing on paper with it, and dirty hands..

Lesson: Yes, this is coal. It is a black stone. Do you know what it is good for? Burning, that is right. It gives off heat. A lot of people used to burn it to heat their houses. It is still used as fuel in many factories and homes around the world. One big use for it is to make electricity. See how you can write with it? It is made of carbon and puts black color all over a person, but it easily washes off.

Do you know where it comes from? The earth! During the great flood of Noah's day; trees, plants, land and sea animals both big and small were buried in the ground. They were pressed down and squeezed together and sometimes mixed with a little water. The pressure caused some to turn into coal! It lays in the ground there, sort of in beds or layers. Some types that are very hard, are deep in the earth, and some that are softer, are buried near the top. Now, could you think of putting something like that in the ground?! But how do you know whether or not it is under the ground where you are?

Geologists, those people who study the earth, can examine the ground and tell where the coal might be buried, and where to dig to find it. It is not everywhere. God put clues around to help people know what to look for!

Application: Should we be surprised that God has this coal hidden, ready for us to find and use? No. He has made so many things in so many ways, we just need to know that He has wonderful things in the world around us, and learn how to use them in the best way. One problem with coal is that when it burns, it gives off carbon emissions so scientists are trying to figure out how to limit that. Maybe one day some of you will be the scientists who will learn where more coal is or discover a better way to use it. Certainly, most of us will benefit from it in one way or another.

Conclusion: God takes care of us so well! Let us thank Him for His provisions and let us learn to use them well!

Week 2: Joseph

Key Text: "And Pharaoh said to his servants, 'Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?' Genesis 41:38, NKJV

Object Lesson: Discussion on the evidence of the Holy Spirit in the life of Joseph.

<http://www.biblewise.com/preview/character/joseph/joseph>

provides a list of questions about the life of Joseph from Genesis Chapters 37-45. Choose questions that relate to the presence of the Holy Spirit Joseph's life.

Sample Questions from Genesis 37

Who stopped the brothers from killing Joseph?

What happened to Joseph after he was thrown in the pit?

Sample Questions from Genesis 39

What changes do you think took place in Joseph during this time?

What do you think made Joseph care enough to be so good?

Do you let God work in you?

What kind of faith did Joseph have?

Why do you think he didn't kill Joseph?

Did the prison sentence shake Joseph's faith?

Sample Questions from Genesis 40

What kind of a person was Joseph?

He is sold as a slave and becomes second in the household of Potiphar. He is thrown in prison and is put in charge of the prisoners. What does this tell us about Joseph?

Who did Joseph say was responsible for interpreting the dreams? (Gen. 40:8)

Why does it seem as though Joseph was denied justice?

Have you ever felt unjustly accused of doing something wrong?

- If so, how did you deal with it?
- Did you complain?
- Pray about it?
- Fight?

Sample Questions from Genesis 41 & 42

How does Joseph get out of prison?

Who did Joseph give credit for the interpretation of the dream? (Gen. 41:16)

How did the interpretation of that dream alter Joseph's life? (Gen. 41:38-52)

While in Egypt, Joseph moved from being a slave to second-in-command under Pharaoh. Who was responsible for his meteoric rise to power?

Who sent Joseph's brothers to Egypt? (Gen. 42:1-2)

Sample Questions from Genesis 43-45

Have you ever lost something or someone who you loved? How can you heal the pain?

How do you challenge a lie? How do you decide when to speak up and when to stay silent?

According to Joseph, why was he in Egypt? (Gen. 45:5-8)
What can we learn from Joseph's defeats and triumphs?

Week 3: Samson

Key Text: "And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done...He took some of it in his hands and went along, eating. When he came to his father and mother, he gave some to them, and they also ate. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey out of the carcass of the lion."
"And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done." "When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting against him."

Then the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him; and the ropes that were on his arms became like flax that is burned with fire, and his bonds broke loose from his hands." Judges 14:6, 9, Judges 15:14 NKJV

Object Lesson: Bible Text: Judges 16:15-21 -the story of Samson and Delilah.

MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED

A horse-shoe shaped magnet and keeper (a flat piece of iron that fits across the poles of the magnet) labelled "SIN" (obtainable from hobby or toy stores).

A few large nails.

Theme: Samson played with sin and lost his strength, and then lost his life as a result of his choices.

Do you know that magnets are like people? My magnet is strong and attracts anything made from iron. See, it can easily lift these large nails. It reminds us of how our lives change when Jesus comes into our hearts. He makes us clean inside so that we want to love and serve Him. This attracts other people to Jesus.

Samson had great strength, and when the Philistine enemies of Israel captured him on several occasions, he was able to overcome them easily. His strength came from God, and if he had been wise, he would have realized that God could only work through him while he lived a clean and pure life- a life that honored God every day.

However, there came a time when sin came into his life.

It's like what happens when this piece of iron labelled "SIN" is put over the ends of the magnet. Now the magnet has lost its strength and can't pick up the nails anymore!

Samson Loses His Strength:

One day Samson sinned by telling Delilah that his strength lay in keeping his hair long and uncut. She was delighted, and had a man shave off all his hair while he lay asleep. On waking Samson didn't know that the strength God had given him was gone. The Philistines jumped out of hiding and grabbed Samson and easily overpowered him. They blinded him and then bound him with bronze chains and made him their slave!

Just as my magnet is now powerless to do the things it once did, Samson could no longer do the great deeds he once did! It's the same with us today. We need to pray to Jesus each day and trust Him to lead, guide and strengthen us, so that we can keep sin out of our lives., and so that we will be able to serve God, and do great things for Him. However, if we allow sin to come into our lives, we will become too weak and powerless to serve God!

Have You Lost Your Strength?

Now, what about you? Have you asked Jesus to come into your heart and make you God's child? Do you serve and please Jesus every day? If you have sinned, why not tell Jesus what you have done, and ask Him to forgive you and make you clean inside. Then you will be like my magnet when we remove the "SIN" bar. Now it is free to attract and pick up nails again. In the same way, we need to serve Jesus and let His love attract other people to God through us.

What about your friends? Have they sinned and done wrong things? Have they asked Jesus to be their Savior and Friend? Why don't you share this lesson with them, and then ask if they would like to ask Jesus to live in their hearts today?

Don't be like powerless Samson. Remember you are God's child and Jesus wants you to be free from sin and full of the love, power and joy of the Holy Spirit.

Week 4: David

Key Text: "Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah." 1 Samuel 16:13 NKJV

Object Lesson: Pretty on the Inside

Preparation: For this object lesson you will need a cut geode, a rock that's been cut open to reveal a beautiful crystallized interior. (Available at most rock or tourist shops.)

The Message: Show children the "unattractive" side of the rock while concealing the beautiful interior. Ask the children if they think the rock is beautiful. Then show them the beautiful interior. To complete this children's Bible story read aloud 1 Samuel 16:7. "But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart!'" NKJV

Ask: How do people try to be beautiful on the outside? What does God want to see on our insides? How can we be beautiful on the inside?

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November

November (Peace) The Holy Spirit in the New Testament

Rationale: A review of narratives about the Holy Spirit's work in the New Testament will help the students to understand His current work in their lives.

Essential Question: How can I apply the Holy Spirit's work in New Testament narratives to His work in my life today?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "The Lord will give strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace." Psalm 29:11 NKJV

"The LORD gives strength to his people; the LORD blesses his people with peace."

Song (Monthly): *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Prayers for the Month:

Theme Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, create in me a supernatural boldness so that I can make a difference for you in my school, home and with my friends. B. Fruit Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, show me how to have peace like Jesus did in my life.

Service Activity: Purposely set aside time every school day for a special time of prayer. The main objective of this time would be to pray for peace in the classroom, home, church, local community, and world.

Week 1: Mary and Elizabeth

Key Text: "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.'" "And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit." Matthew 1:18-20, Luke 1:41 NKJV

Object Lesson:

The Watermelon: Take a watermelon and cut it in half. (Make sure it is NOT a seedless watermelon.) Present the profile of the watermelon to the class. Ask the students what are the different parts they see- seeds, flesh, rind. Explain that a watermelon is not complete without all of

these parts, and neither is the Trinity complete without God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This illustration could also be effective if using an apple - the skin, the fruit, the seeds, etc.

Week 2: The Disciples

Key Text: "But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you." Matthew 10:19-20 NKJV

Object Lesson:

Exercise or an Exercise Book: "Good morning girls and boys. Are you wide awake this morning? You sound a little tired this morning so why don't we all do some exercises? OK. Let's put our hands in the air and stretch. Wiggle your fingers and give them some exercise. Now, touch your toes. Run on the spot. Jump up and down. Wow, that's hard work. Let's sit down and get some rest. I find exercise to be hard work. Here is an idea that I thought of that might make getting in shape a little easier." (Hold up your fitness or exercise book.) "See this book children. It's a book that tells about all kinds of exercises that can help you get in shape." (Show some of the pictures.) "Now, here's my idea. Instead of doing all these hard exercises why don't I just get this exercise book and put it under my pillow at night when I go to bed." (Hold up the pillow and place the book underneath.) "That will be much easier than actually jogging, doing sit ups, etc. Do you think that is a good idea? Do you think that will help me get in shape? " (Interact with the children.) "No? It won't work? Why? That's right boys and girls. If I really want to get in shape it's not enough to put this book under my pillow or to simply think about doing exercises. I actually have to get out there and do the exercises if I want to get in shape or be an athlete."

Transition: "That's what it's like being a disciple of Jesus. Being a true follower of Jesus Christ. a disciple, is

not just about thinking good things. To be a disciple of Jesus we need to do the things that He wants us to do." (Perhaps give some examples.) "We can't get in shape by just thinking about exercise, and we can't be a disciple of Jesus by just thinking about it. We need to get out into the world and do what Jesus wants us to do. Then we will be a true disciple."

Week 3: The Missionaries

Key Text: "Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them." Acts 16:6, 7 NKJV

Object Lesson: Reflecting the Light

Materials Needed: A flashlight and a mirror.

Procedure: Briefly explain to the group that by using the mirror you can reflect the beam of light to various areas of the room. Give a quick demonstration, select a target point in the room, then use the mirror to direct the beam to that place (practice beforehand). Tell the family that even the darkest area of the room can be reached. It may take time and thought and effort to get around obstacles and figure out wish angle to use, but all areas can be used.

Liken this to missionary work. With Christ as our light source, we act as the mirror which reflects the love and truth he offers. We can reflect this to all of our Heavenly Father's children. There are so many who have lived in darkness all their lives.

To us they may appear unapproachable, impossible to reach. Yet we learn from this lesson that they too can receive the light. It may take time and effort as we search

for ways to reach them, but with diligence and faith we can be successful.

Week 4: The Apostles

Key Text: "And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied." Acts 19:6 NKJV

Object Lesson: Three-legged Race

Teaching Point: As students move in this race, explain that God operates as One God in three Persons. Each student team has as its goal to work in unity as they strive to move just as the persons of the Godhead work together in complete unity.

Supplies: Small pieces of cloth or rope, masking tape

Instructions: Mark a starting line and a finish line with the tape. Have kids separate into teams of two, and have them tie one's left leg to the other person's right leg with the cloth strips or rope. On the word "Go", have them race in a straight line to the finish line.

OPTION: In a smaller room have the teams race around an object like a cone or a chair and then race back to the starting line.

Goal: The two-person team that has the best unity is most likely to win the race. While working in perfect unity is extremely difficult for human beings, the team of the Godhead-- God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit work in perfect unity all of the time.

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December

December (Patience) The Holy Spirit in Present Day Narratives

Rationale: A review of narratives about the Holy Spirit's work in the present day will help the students to understand His current work in their lives.

Essential Question: How can I apply the Holy Spirit's work in present day narratives to His work in my life today?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions." Joel 2:28 NKJV

Song (Monthly): *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*, SDA Hymnal#469

Prayers for the Month:

A. Theme Pray: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, fill me with the Holy Spirit so that I can help others know Jesus as their Friend and Savior.

B. Fruit Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, show me and help me to be patient with others like Jesus.

Service Activity: Be purposeful in your own classroom about providing time for students to share compliments, positive things about each other. It is easy to be patient when we are focusing on positive characteristics.

Week 1: Ellen G. White

Key Text: "And it shall come to pass in the last days', says God, 'that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams, and on My manservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in these days' and they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath; blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'" Acts 2:17-21 NKJV

Object Lesson:

Teaching Point: We need to stay plugged in. The Holy Spirit isn't a one-time experience, but a necessary part of our daily lives.

Supplies: Radio

Scripture: "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Galatians 5:25 NKJV

Application: "Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with His Father, He told His disciples that they would do even greater things than He had done when He was on earth. Jesus did some pretty great things, didn't He?" Have kids call out some of the things Jesus did (healed the sick, turned water into wine, made the blind see, etc.). "Where were the disciples going to get the power to do such great things? The Holy Spirit is that power."

"I have this radio" (pretend to be listening to music). Ask the students if they like your music. Then realize that it needs to be plugged in. "Just like the radio we need to be plugged in to the Spirit."

Now have the radio play static. Ask the kids how it sounds. "We need to not only plug in to the Spirit, we need to tune in to the Spirit. Just like when I tune in to a radio station, I can hear clearly. We need to tune in to the Holy Spirit. We need to pray, listen, and act. God wants to use us, but first we need to plug in and tune in to Him. We 'tune in' through praying, and asking God to reveal Himself to us. We need to listen and obey when He give us directions. The quicker we obey, the more the Holy Spirit will be active in our lives."

Week 2: Local Church - Guest speaker or

Use this story written by Garry Sudds, Director of Education, Lake Union Conference

"Several years ago I was flying from Gentry, AK to Redlands, CA to interview a potential music teacher. When the plane landed for a stop in Reno, NV, a dentist and his office staff boarded the plane on route to a dental convention in Oakland, CA. Four members of the dental staff were beside themselves with joy, and open to sharing their exuberance with all passengers on the flight. I found it somewhat entertaining to quietly sit and listen to the party going on in the back of the plane.

Two days later, after conducting my interview, I boarded the plane for the return trip. I sat next to the window with a man twice my size filling the aisle seat. We jested with each other about how anyone would have to be desperate to try and squeeze in the middle seat between the two of us. When the time for departure arrived, my new-found friend on the aisle and I felt we were home free! We would have plenty of room to sprawl out on this two hour flight and that suited both of us just fine.

It was several minutes after the announced departure time when the captain was heard over the speaker with the announcement that the plane was waiting for one additional passenger. A couple of minutes later, to my surprise, one of the dental assistants I had encountered on the trip Redlands was standing in the aisle at the front of the plane. To my complete dismay our middle seat was the only one left on the flight.

This poor lady squeezed between my new friend - I'll call him 'Grizzly Adams,' to help you imagine his size. Then, as the plane left the boarding dock and started for the runway, the dental assistant pulled out a hanky and quietly wept. I knew she couldn't be pleased with her seating arrangement, but surely it couldn't be so bad she would cry about having to sit near me.

Not feeling comfortable with this situation, I leaned my head against the side of the plane and closed my eyes.

(This was before people wore hearing devices so they would not have to have to engage with fellow passengers they didn't want to talk with.)

It was then that I experienced another conversation that I had not anticipated. Quietly, the Holy Spirit prompted this thought in my mind... 'Talk to the lady!' and silently I said to the Holy Spirit... 'I don't want to talk with the lady!' ... The Spirit came back a second time, 'Talk with the lady' This happened three times... and the Holy Spirit won! (I was surprised at how persistent the Holy Spirit can be - if I'm willing to listen.)

With that, I turned to the lady and made a comment about her being on the same return flight that I was on. At my words, a flood of tears began to flow out of her eyes and down her cheeks. She told me how her aged father had been climbing a ladder when it slipped, and he was electrocuted immediately by some electrical wires.

(Now here is where God's leading truly amazed me.) For my morning devotional I had been reading a book on God's promises. It is my custom to keep hard copy books in my luggage and to only carry my laptop computer on the plane, but this time, I felt impressed to carry the book with me to my seat. I asked my new friend if she was a 'born again Christian' and she responded, 'Oh, yes, I was born and raised in the Baptist Church.' With that, God opened the door for a wonderful conversation with a fellow Christian sister about our loving Father and His desire to redeem and restore His children. As the plane was about to land, I prayed for my dental assistant friend and gave her the book we had been studying.

I walked away from that flight amazed at how the Holy Spirit desires to give us 'Divine Appointments' that we might become co-workers with Jesus in helping hurting people.

Best of all, when we follow through and DO His promptings, we experience the joy God intends for us to experience as His partners in ministry."

Key Text: "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come." John 16:13 NKJV

Week 3: Local Church -Guest Speaker

Key Text: "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 NKJV

Holy Spirit

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January

January (kindness) Symbols used to represent the Holy Spirit

Rationale: As students consider the different symbols used to represent the Holy Spirit, they can learn about the different attributes represented by each symbol.

Essential Question: How are the attributes of the Holy Spirit described by the symbols that represent Him?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you." NKJV Ephesians 4:32

Song (Monthly): *It Only Takes a Spark, to Get a Fire Going*

Prayers for the Month:

- A. Theme Prayer:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, show me what symbol of the Spirit I am most in need of applying to my life.
- B. Fruit Prayer:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, help me extend kindness like Jesus.

Service Activity: Spend a couple hours at a local grocery store passing out slips of paper with Bible verses and brand-new batteries for smoke alarms. Students can also help shoppers carry grocery items to vehicles.

Week 1: Wind – The Holy Spirit is Powerful and Quick

Key Text: "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."

"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting." John 3:8, Acts 2:1-2 NKJV

Object Lesson: Week 1 (Wind): Use a hair dryer or box fan object lesson for the first week of January. You can't see the wind blowing, but you can see the effects of the wind. You can't see the Holy Spirit, but you can see the effects of Him working in our life.

Week 2: Fire- The Holy Spirit Purifies

Key Text: "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." Acts 2:3, 4 NKJV

Object Lesson: Week 2 (Fire): Light a candle. Hold a pinwheel above the candle (far enough away so it doesn't catch on fire) and watch the heat/energy from the candle cause the pinwheel to spin. The Holy Spirit gave the disciples power.

Week 3: Water- The Holy Spirit Satisfies our Spiritual Thirst

Key Text: "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified." John 7:38, 39 NKJV

Object Lesson: "I'm STILL Thirsty"

Supplies: Three drinking glasses, one opaque pitcher with nothing in it, one opaque pitcher with muddy water in it, one opaque pitcher with clear water in it

These three glasses represent people who are empty. They are missing something in their lives and they know it. The Bible speaks of thirsting after righteousness and that phrase describes these "people". They know they need the Holy Spirit in their lives. The first "person" knows that he has a need, that he is thirsty. He hopes to be filled by this first pitcher. ("Pour" from the empty pitcher.) He cannot be filled if the source he turns to is also empty. He will continue to thirst. The second "person" knows that he has a need. He knows that he is thirsty. He hopes to be filled by this second pitcher. (Pour from the muddy-water pitcher.) Unfortunately for our thirsty "person", he is relying on secular, not spiritual, sources to fill him up, and while there is some water in this pitcher, it has become dirty and soiled. It is not the pure, clear water of the Holy Spirit that our "person" so desperately needs.

I am imagining at this point, that you can guess how this object lesson is going to end, and you are probably correct. Our third "person" knows that he has a need to be filled with the pure, clean water of the Holy Spirit. He does not look to empty pitchers in order to be filled. He does not go to pitchers that have become dirtied by sin and have some good and a lot of bad in them. Instead, he goes to the pitcher that can fill him with the clean, refreshing, satisfying water of the Holy Spirit. While the other two "people" are still thirsty, this third "person" is completely satisfied.

Week 4: Dove – The Holy Spirit is Gentle and Provides Comfort

Key Text: "And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." "When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him." Luke 3:22, Matthew 3:16 NKJV

Object Lesson:

Supplies: One bar of "Dove" brand soap.

This bar of soap has many uses. You can carve images out of a bar of soap, like a boat or a car. You can rub it on the edge of a door that is hard to open and the door will open more easily. If you take the paper cover off, the soap will make the room smell nice. And, of course, you can use it to kill germs and take a bath to make you clean on the outside.

But how do you clean yourself on the inside? How do you clean up ugly thoughts or mean words or hurtful actions? Can you use this soap?

No? Sure you can! This is dove soap. Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to live in our lives and make us clean inside. The Bible tells us the Holy Spirit is like a dove. Just like Dove soap cleans us on the outside, God's dove --the Holy Spirit -- makes us clean on the inside when we ask God to forgive us of our sin.

Every time you see a bar of soap, remember to ask God to help you have clean thoughts, kind words, and helpful actions. Let's clean up right now and ask God to use the dove, His Holy Spirit, to make us clean today.

Holy Spirit

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February

February (Goodness) – Occupations of the Holy Spirit

Rationale: A consideration of the Holy Spirit's occupations will reveal some of the ways in which He works in the lives of the students.

Essential Question: How can the Holy Spirit's various occupations be used in my religious experience?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works." Psalm 145:9 NKJV

Song (Monthly): *Open My Eyes* SDA Hymnal #326

Prayers for the Month:

A. Theme Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit I ask the Helper (Spirit) to create in me a deeper appreciation for Jesus and His teachings.

B. Fruit Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, reveal through my life the goodness of Jesus to others.

Service Activity: Pass out hand-made cards or mass-produced smiley faces that include Bible verses, words of encouragement, flowers, etc., to give to church members at church one Sabbath.

Week 1: (Continuation of January's Symbols of the Holy Spirit) Oil – The Holy Spirit Brings Healing

Key Text: "Then the kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Now five of them were wise, and five were foolish. Those who were foolish took their lamps and took no oil" with them, but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. But while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight a cry was heard: 'Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet Him.' Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell, and buy for yourselves.' And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us?' But he answered and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming." Matthew 25:1-13 NKJV

Object Lesson: Discussion Questions:

1. Why were five called foolish? What were their expectations?
2. Whom do they represent in the Christian community?
3. What do the oil and lamps represent?
4. How should we prepare ourselves for Christ's return?
5. What attitudes should we take on?
6. What happens if we are not prepared?

Week 2: Helps – The Holy Spirit helps and empowers people

Key Text: "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning's which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God.*" Romans 8:26, 27 NKJV

Object Lesson: Blindfolded Obstacle Course

Supplies: Obstacle course (chairs, boxes, desks, etc.) Blindfolds 8.5 x11 paper with different things children encounter for which they would need guidance.

Teaching Point: God gave his Holy Spirit so we don't have to face our obstacles in life alone. We need to walk in the Spirit every day.

Divide the students into 2 teams. Spin each student a couple of times before having him run through the obstacle course with a blindfold on. Then have one

person from each team stand at the opposite end of the course and give the blindfolded person directions on how to go through the course a second time. Continue until all students have had a turn to go through the obstacle course without a guide and with a guide.

Questions: How hard was it to go through the course the 1st time? Was it easier to have a person guiding you? Yes, that is how life is when we walk in the Spirit and allow Him to guide us.

Week 3: Teaches – The Holy Spirit teaches people the things they need to know.

Key Text: "For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." Luke 12:12 NKJV

Object Lesson:

[Try this Balloon Experiment to Show How God Helps Direct Our Spiritual Energy](#)

Our lives may appear to be busy but without God's direction, our lives are all but meaningless. Once we give our lives to God, it's as if He harnesses a great spiritual energy source to us. This Bible Science experiment with balloons helps explain this.

Applicable Scripture Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things in him who strengthens me."

Materials: Two chairs, Piece of twine-5 feet long, Drinking straw, Scissors, Scotch Tape, Large Balloon (as opposed to a water balloon)

1. Cut a 5-inch piece of straw, cutting off the accordion part that allows it to bend. The 5-inch piece should be completely straight

2. Loop it through the string
3. Tie the ends of the string around the two chairs
4. Pull them apart so the string is tight and the straw is straight.
5. Blow up the balloon and keep the end pinched
7. Have another person lay two or three pieces of tape across the straw and bring the balloon underneath of it, so that the balloon is now taped to the straw. The pinched end of the balloon should be facing one of the chairs.
8. Let the balloon go

Question and Answer: *What happens to the straw when you let go of the balloon?*

It should move along the string closer to the chair facing away from the balloon opening.

Explanation: This is an interesting way of seeing forward motion that doesn't involve wheels. Most things that we set in motion in our culture, such as cars, motorcycles, and even trains, use wheels to perpetuate momentum. However, some things need only air.

When you blew into the balloon, you created pressure, or you "harnessed" the air for a useful purpose. When you let go of the balloon, it emptied itself to relieve the pressure, and your straw moved along the string. Straws are very light. A heavier object requires more air pressure. One complicated use of air pressure involves rocket launches to start space travel. Enough air pressure can lift a very heavy rocket off the ground and help set it into orbit.

Understanding God Without the Holy Spirit in our lives, we are very much like that straw. We may look busy, but without God's direction, our lives are all but meaningless.

Once we give our lives to God, it's as if He harnesses a great spiritual energy source to us. The balloon is like the Holy Spirit. Without all that power, we would never be able to get where we're going! Just like a plain old straw can move with the help of harnessed air, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us! (Philippians 4:13)

Week 4: Convicts – The Holy Spirit lets people know when they are about to do something that is wrong or when they have done something wrong.

Key Text: "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." John 16:8 NKJV

Object Lesson: Put an apple, cut into wedges, into a paper bag. Put an onion, cut into wedges, into another paper bag. Ask the students to use their senses to determine which bag contains the apple and which contains the onion. For example, have them shut their eyes, pinch their noses and taste the two different wedges. They will not be able to tell which is which without the sense of taste and smell. The Holy Spirit will help us to discern the merits of different alternatives.

Holy Spirit

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March

March (Faithfulness) The Assistance of the Holy Spirit

Rationale: Students can learn that the Holy Spirit is willing and abundantly able to help them in the different situations they face now, and situations they will face in the future.

Essential Question: How can I use the Holy Spirit to help me with the trials and difficulties I face from day-to-day?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one." 2 Thessalonians 3:3 NKJV

Song (Monthly): *Great is Thy Faithfulness* SDA Hymnal #100

Prayers for the Month:

- A. Theme Prayer:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit remind me when I need guidance or when I'm hurting that I'm not alone and that the Spirit is ready to help me.
- B. Fruit Prayer:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, because You've been faithful to me, show me how to be faithful to You and others just like Jesus was faithful.

Service Activity: Find a service project (cards, cookies, fruit plates, etc.) to reach out to your community's fire and or police departments, demonstrating your school's appreciation for their service and faithfulness to your local area.

Week 1: (Continuation of February's Occupations of the Holy Spirit) Inspires -The Holy Spirit Gives Inspiration

Key Text: "For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." 2 Peter 1:21 NKJV

Object Lesson: Blindfold a student. Have another student stand by the door. Turn the blindfolded person around several times. Ask him to point to the door. Then have the blindfolded person put his hands at his sides. Now, have the other person softly say, "The door is over here. Have the blindfolded person point in the direction of the voice.

Liken this to the Holy Ghost. In this life sometimes we feel as though we have been blindfolded and spun around until we are no longer sure which way is which. That is when we must listen even more carefully to the still small voice of the Spirit. The Holy Ghost will always tell us which is the best and safest direction we can go.

Week 2: Heals – The Holy Spirit Helps us when we

Hurt

Key Text: "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." John 15:26 NKJV

Object Lesson: This morning I brought my Teddy Bear. A lot of children have a Teddy Bear or some other stuffed toy that they like to hold close when they are afraid, sick, or upset. Some people may have a favorite blanket called a "security blanket" that they like to snuggle up in when they need some comfort. Have you ever had a favorite cuddly toy or a security blanket? Did it ever help you to feel better when you were afraid or when you were sick?

Some of you may be embarrassed to admit that you have a security blanket or that you ever had one. Well, there is no reason to be embarrassed. Did you know that studies have shown that more than half of all children become attached to a Teddy Bear, a favorite blanket, or some other object that helps to comfort them whenever they are afraid, sick, or upset? Even scientific studies have proven what kids have known for a long time, that a Teddy Bear or a security blanket can give great comfort -- especially at bedtime, when you are sick, or when you are separated from your parents.

Jesus understood that we all need help in times of trouble. When He was here on earth, He was a source of help and comfort to His disciples. When He was preparing to return to heaven, He knew that there would be times when disciples would need help and comfort and that He would not be there to give it to them. He told the disciples that He would ask His Father to send them another Comforter who would stay with them forever.

That is exactly what He did. He asked the Father, and the Father sent the Holy Spirit. God's Holy Spirit is with us in times of trouble. He is there to comfort and to guide us.

I don't know about you, but I am glad that Jesus asked God to send His Holy Spirit to comfort me when I am afraid or sick. My Teddy Bear may get lost, my security blanket may become ragged and torn, but Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be with us forever.

We may outgrow our need for a Teddy Bear or a security blanket -- at least, we don't carry it around with us all the time -- but we never outgrow the need for the comfort and guidance of God's Holy Spirit, our real Comforter.

Week 3: Advises – The Holy Spirit Advises Us when we have Decisions and Choices to Make.

Key Text: "For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say." Luke 12:12 NKJV

Object Lesson: Hold up three lollipops, apples, or peppers- one red, one yellow, one green. When the Holy Spirit is talking to you and telling you not to do something, it is like a red light. When the Holy Spirit is talking to you and telling you to proceed with caution it is like a yellow light. When the Holy Spirit is telling you to follow His leading either to say something, or do something, or make a certain choice; that is like a green light. (Note: This object lesson can be further impressed upon the minds of the students by allowing them to eat the lollipops, apples, or peppers at lunch time.)

Week 4: Teaches – The Holy Spirit Teaches us how to be like Jesus.

Key Text: "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 NKJV

Object Lesson: Wrap a compass, a map, a flashlight, and a baby blanket in white tissue paper. Then put the items in a white gift box with a white bow. Let the students open the box and examine the objects inside of the box.

The compass represents how the Holy Spirit guides us, the map represents how the Holy Spirit directs our path, the flashlight represents how the Holy Spirit sheds light on choices we may have to make, and helps us choose what is right. The baby blanket represents the comfort provided by the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit

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April

April (Gentleness) Evidence of the Holy Spirit's Work

Rationale: As students recognize signs that the Holy Spirit is working in the lives of others, they will be encouraged to look for ways the Holy Spirit is working in their own lives.

Essential Question: How can I recognize the Holy Spirit's working in my own life?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry *them* in His bosom, *and* gently lead those who are with young". Isaiah 40:11 NKJV

Song (Monthly): *Create in me a Clean Heart, O God*

Prayers for the Month:

A. Theme Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I seek the power of the indwelling Spirit so that I can be a faithful witness for Jesus to others.

B. Fruit Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit fill me with the gentleness of Jesus especially when I'm tempted to be harsh and mean.

Service Activity: Students can plan a worship for younger age classrooms and/or a younger Sabbath School division. Interaction with younger kids can help teach gentleness with those around us.

Week 1: Fruit of the Spirit-Good fruit is evidence that the Holy Spirit is working in a person's life.

Key Text: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22, 23 NKJV

Object Lesson: Bring in 9 different types of fruit, each one representing one of the fruits of the Spirit. Share information with students about the specific nutritional values of each type of fruit. Have students share what makes each type of fruit different from the others. Explain that the fruits of the Spirit are similar in that they each have different characteristics. The various fruits look and taste different, in the same way that the fruits of the Spirit are different and manifest themselves in different ways. However, all the various fruits are nutritious and have positive effects on our health, in the same way that each fruit of the Spirit is individually important in our daily walk with Jesus.

Week 2: Being a Witness for Jesus – The Holy Spirit helps us be witnesses for Jesus

Key Text: "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 NKJV

Object Lesson: Billy's Three Friends

SUPPLIES: 2 clear glasses filled with water, 1 glass filled halfway with white vinegar and the rest of the way with water, 2 empty spoons, 1 spoon with four or five drops of green food coloring in it, 1 box of baking soda covered by a large sheet of paper with the word "Temptation" written on the front of it, a piece of cloth large enough to cover all of the materials.

STORY: These three glasses represent three boys. There was a boy named Billy. He had three friends who lived on the same street as he did. Billy got a new bicycle from his parents, and he was so excited about it that he wanted to show his friends right away. He started down the road and came to John's house. John was out in his yard tossing a baseball up in the air. Billy said, "Hey John, look at my new bike isn't it cool? My parents just bought it for me." John looked at the bike and something happened to him. Satan tempted him. (Take the spoon with the food coloring on it and very carefully dip it into the baking soda box without letting the food coloring spill. then take a spoonful of the baking soda and stir it into the water of the first glass. It should turn green.) Satan tempted John to get very envious. (Explain what this means. Explain what the saying means to get "green with envy".) John was so envious that that he said to Billy, "I don't care if you got a new bike. Why are you being such a showoff, just go away." John gave in to temptation.

Billy went on down the street and came to Mike's house. He didn't understand why John got so upset, but was still

really excited about his new bike. Mike was outside working on his bike. Billy once again showed Mike his new bike, but Mike was also tempted. (This time take the second spoon dip into the baking soda and stir into the second glass with part vinegar. This will cause the glass to bubble and over flow with foam and bubbles.) Explain that Mike gave into temptation, and he exploded. He got so mad that Billy thought that Mike was going to hit him. Billy got back on his bike and thought,

"What was that all about. I just wanted to show these guys my new bike. I wasn't trying to brag or anything, but they are just acting crazy.)

Then he saw Tim in his yard. He was a little hesitant to say anything, especially after the way John and Billy had reacted, but there was something different about Tim. Billy wasn't sure what the difference was. Tim went to church and had told Billy that he was a Christian. Maybe that had something to do with why Tim was different. Billy thought he would give it a try. He showed his new bike to Tim. Just like John and Billy, Tim was tempted. (Add baking soda to the remaining water glass. Explain that Tim was tempted to be envious and to get mad. (Each time put another spoon full of baking soda in the glass.) However, Tim had the Holy Spirit in his life and he knew that it wouldn't be right to have those attitudes. Instead he told Billy that it was great bike, and he was hoping that maybe he could get one like it sometime soon.

Tim was a real witness and a good friend to Billy that day. Before long Billy even went to church with Tim.

Which boy would you want to have as a friend? Now which boy would you like to resemble? John, who was envious of Billy's bike?

Mike who got so mad that he exploded in anger? Or Tim who even though he was tempted to be envious

and mad, had the right attitude because he had the Holy Spirit in his life?

Week 3: Receiving Spiritual Gifts -The Holy Spirit gives us gifts to help us be spiritually effective.

Key Text: "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:11,12 NKJV

Object Lesson: "Good Fruit, Bad Fruit" (Note: This object lesson is quite long. You might want to use it in two subsequent weeks, or only select portions of it to use in order to fit your allotted time frame.)

Supplies: 2 pieces of fruit (one rotted, one perfectly ripe), Bibles, apple patterns written out ahead of time with scenarios written on each (see below for suggestions), tape

(Hold up the two examples of fruit.) If you had the choice, which piece of fruit would you eat: The nasty, disgusting, rotting, smelly fruit or the perfectly ripe, delicious, sweet smelling fruit? Why? We can learn from these pieces of fruit that some fruit is bad and some is good. That might seem obvious to us, but God has a lot to say about bad fruit and good fruit in the Bible.

(Read Galatians 5:22, 23 together.) "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law." Galatians 5:22, 23 NKJV
Let's say that we have accepted Jesus as our Savior.

When we do, the Holy Spirit makes His home in our hearts. As we grow in Him, we are like a tree that keeps growing and producing fruit. (Hold up your arms as if they are branches and look at them.) Hmmm... We might not see any oranges or bananas hanging from these branches, and if we did, it would be really cool and handy to grow fruit on your arms, but I think there would be a problem.

However, we should see the fruit of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control growing in our lives. Now I'm not going to be perfect because I still have a sin nature, but every day you should see more of these fruits in me, and if the Holy Spirit lives in your heart, I should see these fruits in you.

These are examples of good fruit in our lives. Now let's talk about the bad. Maybe the Holy Spirit does not live in our hearts. Or maybe He does, but we are not following Him like we should. If that describes us, we're going to produce bad fruit.

The Bible says that bad fruit looks like these things: paying more attention to everything else but God (that's idolatry), hating people, not getting along, being dishonest, wanting what others have (jealousy), being angry, being selfish (only thinking of you!), fighting, complaining, arguing, and using your tongue for evil, just to name a few.

So let's try to figure out what fruit is good and what is not so good.

"Which Fruit Game": (Have two volunteers or leaders spread out their arms like branches. Place a sign on each human tree reading "Good Fruit" on one and "Not So

Good Fruit" on the other. Distribute apple patterns to each student with examples of good and bad fruit written

on them. Have students read his/her apple and tape it on the corresponding tree. If students are not confident readers, read for them.)

(Here are some suggestions that you can include:)

"Good Fruit":

Asking questions about God's Word because I don't understand. Trusting in God even when I am worried. Not getting upset with my little brother when he destroys my stuff for the fifteenth time. Deciding to help my mom clean the toilets Being gentle with my gerbil, Fuzzy, instead of tearing his fuzz off. Learning to thank God instead of complain. Helping the new girl make friends at school Loving Jesus and wanting to do what is right Singing to God with joy in my heart.

..Not So Good Fruit..:

Complaining to my parents about having to come to Church.

Picking fights with kids at school

Being usual grouchy me- DO NOT WAKE ME UP OR YOU WILL BE SORRY!!!!

Wanting someone else's stuff so much that I steal it

Demanding to have my own way

Playing video games instead of doing my homework

Talking back to my parents

MEI MEI MEI MEI MEI I am the most important person in the universe. Treat me that way! Watching that show that my parents don't like me watching.

We all could tell the difference between "Good Fruit" and

"Not So Good Fruit." You did a great job with that. But can anyone tell me what makes the fruit bad? (Invite varied responses: the tree itself, sin, Satan, not having strong roots, the soil, etc.) In Matthew 12:33-34, Jesus says, "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit." I love how it says that, "A tree will be recognized by its fruit." That means we will know what kind of tree it is by the fruit it has on it.

Hold up the two pieces of fruit again. In another part of Matthew it asks, "Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?" I might add, "Can you pick an orange from a Poison Ivy plant?" Umm.... No, of course you can't!

So....What kind of tree are you? Are you a good tree with healthy fruit? Or are you a bad tree with rotten fruit? Have you asked Jesus to forgive you of your sins and to be made right with Him? Or do you think that you can have good fruit on your own?

Remember that a tree is recognized by its fruit. You cannot live life without God and produce good fruit. You cannot be the "good" person that God desires on your own. You need the power of the Holy Spirit to work in you and through you. Only then, will you produce the kind of fruit that we call the Fruit of the Spirit! It is His work in you- nothing that you can do by yourself.

Let's work together to live our lives for God. As we grow in the knowledge of Jesus, the Holy Spirit will produce fruit in our lives. All we have to do is love Him! The Holy Spirit does the rest.

(Note: Week 4 removed for Spring Break observance.)

Holy Spirit

Resources

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MARCH APRIL **MAY** ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

May

May (Self-control) "In Conclusion"

Rationale: There are four aspects of the Holy Spirit that can help to clarify His importance to our students. These aspects are His willingness to withdraw when He is not wanted, His prominent part in "End Time" events, His significant role in assisting the Seventh-day Adventist Church to fulfill its mission, and His desire to be a part of each student's life.

Essential Question: How can the Holy Spirit assist me in getting ready for Jesus to come?

Focus Scripture (Monthly): "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age." Titus 2:11-12 NKJV

Song (Monthly): Father, I Adore You (Jesus, I Adore You, Spirit, I Adore You) May be sung as a round.

Prayers for the Month:

A. Theme Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit alert me to when I grieve or tune out the Spirit so I can be fully alive to and filled with the Spirit.

B. Fruit Prayer: Father, Son and Holy Spirit I seek the Spirit's control of my words, thoughts and actions.

Service Activity: Have students set a personal goal on something they'd like to do better (ex. regular music practice, regular reading, healthier eating, etc.) Have them monitor how they do, learning self-control to complete the goal.

Week 1: Grieving the Spirit - It is possible to grieve and tune out the Holy Spirit.

Key Text: "Do not quench the Spirit." "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." 1 Thessalonians 5:19, Ephesians 4:30 NKJV

Object Lesson: He is There -Just Listen to Him

Teaching Point: We need to open up the gift of the Holy Spirit in order to receive and understand the Holy Spirit to His fullest.

Supplies: 1 large box, 3 smaller boxes (to all fit in large box), wrapping paper

Scripture: "There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit." 1Corinthians 12:4 NKJV

Take the 3 small boxes:

1st box - Place a large piece of paper in the box that says "**The Power to Know**". On smaller pieces of paper write: Word of Knowledge: Luke 19:5, Word of Wisdom: Acts 11-13, Discernment of Spirits: Mark 1:23-28

2nd box - Place a large piece of paper that says "**The Power to Do**". On smaller pieces of paper write: Gifts of Healing: Acts 5:12-16, Miracles: John 2:1-11 & Acts 5:12-16, Faith: Genesis 6-8

3rd box - Place a large piece of paper that says "**The Power to Say**". On smaller pieces of paper write: Prophecy: Acts 11:27-30, Tongues: Acts 10:44-48, Interpretation of Tongues: 1Cor. 14:27-28

Wrap each box and place inside the larger box. Wrap large box with the other three boxes inside. Have the present sitting on the table during worship time. How many of you love getting presents? How many of you love giving presents? Today we are going to talk about a present that we get and share with others. That gift is the HOLY SPIRIT. Look at this present....This reminds us of the Holy Spirit. We can put the present on the shelf and say "Thank you for your Holy Spirit, what a lovely present". We can completely ignore the present. In time, we might even forget that it is sitting on the shelf. We might never unwrap the gift. On the other hand, we can open it up and see what He has inside for us. God says in 1 Corinthians. 12:4-11 that the Holy Spirit gives us gifts that are not only for us but also for those around us. Open the present and pull out one gift at a time. {Have a child come and unwrap the smaller gifts. As you unwrap the gifts pull out the papers and briefly go over each gift starting with large paper and then the small papers).

Prayer: Lord thank you for your gifts. Please help me to use the gifts and share them with others and never ignore the precious Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Week 2: End-time Events – The Holy Spirit has an active role in world events before Jesus comes.

Key Text: “But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, but Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed steadily into heaven and saw the glory of God, and he saw Jesus standing in the place of honor at God's right hand.” Acts 7:55 NKJV

Object Lesson: We Know All About it From the Symbol

Supplies: A Bible, wrappers of common, well known food items such as an Almond Joy candy bar, a water bottle, a can of Sprite, a box of Dove soap, a box of birthday candles, etc.

Have each of the items listed above out for the kids to see. Say "When you see this Almond Joy bar wrapper, what do you think is inside of it?" Have the kids describe in detail the chocolate, the coconut, and the almond, how it tastes, etc. Do the same with the other items. Remind them how they can know what is inside just by looking at the wrapper (the symbol) that represents all the things they described. "This is how we can know what the Holy Spirit is like too." Read Matthew 3:16. The Holy Spirit came down from Heaven like a dove. Have the kids describe a dove. Is it gentle or mean?

Is it beautiful or ugly? ... In the same way when we hear of a dove describing the Holy Spirit we can be reminded

that the Holy Spirit is gentle and not mean. The other items I have shown you are also representative of different symbols of the Holy Spirit.

It is important that we be familiar with the different symbols of the Holy Spirit. It is even more important that we be familiar with the different roles of the Holy Spirit. Before Jesus comes, the Holy Spirit will be very active, working in powerful ways through God's people to accomplish great things, and hasten our Lord's return.

Week 3: The Church's Mission – The Holy Spirit is busy helping the Seventh-day Adventist Church to fulfill its mission of preparing the people of the world for Jesus's return.

Key Text: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. Matthew 28:19, 20 NKJV

Object Lesson: Invite a church member and/or local person who has been a missionary or has been involved in a mission trip to come share his/her experience with the class. Have them show pictures and share how their involvement in missions has affected their life.

Week 4: A Personal Assistant- The Holy Spirit desires to help each person in the perfection of his character.

Key Text: "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning's which cannot be uttered." Romans 8:26 NKJV

Object Lesson: "A Crushing Experience" Let a student try to crush an empty beverage can. It can easily be accomplished with only one hand. Now have the same student attempt to crush a full beverage can with only one hand. It will be difficult if not impossible. Discuss the differences. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit we will not be crushed by Satan's attacks.

Holy Spirit

Resources

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MARCH APRIL MAY **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

Additional Resources

Bibliography

This partial bibliography includes sites that offer resources of Holy Spirit studies for children. Please be aware that most of the sites are not Seventh-day Adventist sites and must be critically screened for content.

<http://ministry-to-children.com/who-is-the-holy-spirit/> This site includes four lessons about the Holy Spirit

1. [The Holy Spirit Mystery](#): The series begins with an object lesson and discussion that reveals the limits of our understanding.
2. [Our Life. His Home](#): This talks about God's design that the Holy Spirit dwell inside our lives.
3. [Help Me Find Him](#): This will help kids understand the work of the Spirit in their lives.

4. The Good Fruit of the Holy Spirit: This final lesson deals with the fruit God produces in our lives. It asks children to think about the good & bad actions they choose.

<http://childrensministry.com/articles/preteen-bible-study-holy-spirit/> This site points the reader toward another site that offers the book, *13 Most Important Bible Lessons for Kids about God* which has a lesson on the Holy Spirit.

http://store.grouppublishing.com/OA_HTML/libeCCtpltmDsplitem=3161135§ion=13114&originCat=Children%27s+M/

<http://www.biblestudy.org/basicart/power-of-spirit-of-god-bible-lesson-for-children.htm/> This site presents several ideas about how to present the concept of the Holy Spirit to children. It also presents a comparison between popular action figures and the power of the Holy Spirit displayed in the lives of people who serve God.

<https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-8-study-holy-spirit> This website presents a Biblical study on the Holy Spirit as a Member of the Trinity.

http://www.foursquare.org/toolslitem/holy_spirit_discovery_f This site has a wealth of information with eight lessons on the Holy Spirit. The lessons have crafts, games, object lessons, activity pages, discussion questions, memory verse cards, and more.

[http://www.christianbook.com/?](http://www.christianbook.com/)

This website has several coloring books/puzzle books for children on the topic of the Holy Spirit.

http://www.sermons4kids.com/filled_with_the_holy_spirit.htm/

this site you will find a very understandable sermon for children explaining the Holy Spirit through the use of balloons.

<http://www.kidssundayschool.com/26/preschool/topical-index.php> Activities, lessons, coloring pages, stories, songs, crafts, games and other Christian resources to use in your grade school or preschool class are presented at this site.

<http://4kids.ag.org/library/holy-spirit/helping-kids-understand.pdf> You can find a Children's Ministry Help Sheet at this site.

<http://www.christianitycove.com/understanding-the-holy-spirit-ascension-lesson/5062/> Although this lesson is tied to the Feast of the Ascension, the 40th day after Easter, it has a illustration of the Holy Spirit using a 3-speed electric fan that could be used with children.

<http://domestic-church.com/CONTENT.DCC/19990901/ARTICLE/S/holyspirit.htm> This site has some interesting object lessons that can be used to teach the Trinity and the Holy Spirit to children.

<http://www.iccreligiouseducation.com/confirmation.cfm?subpage=226590>

This site teaches that there are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit in short, easy-to-understand lessons.

<http://www.aleteia.org/en/religion/news/how-can-i-explain-the-holy-spirit-to-a-child-45023> This site uses the illustration of a three-leaf clover to explain the trinity.

<http://centrikid.com/2013/09/30/teach-kids-about-the-holy-spirit/#.VVJ51f3wuwk>

Derek Calvert, Flight Systems Engineer, formerly with the International Space Station, shares his testimony about the Holy Spirit's working in his life.