



8

The Promised Helper Comes

Key Theme

- God is faithful to His promises.

Key Passages

- John 14:26; Acts 2:1–6; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:22–23

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe how Jesus's promise of the Holy Spirit was fulfilled.
- Explain the work of the Holy Spirit in believers.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will practice the memory verse by filling in the Memory Verse Review Sheet and reciting the verse to a friend.



Activity 1: The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes

Students will fill out The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

The Holy Spirit came to the disciples while they were waiting in Jerusalem. They were transformed and empowered by Him. Believers today receive the seal of the Holy Spirit when they are saved. The fruit of the Spirit is evidence that the believer is a new creation in Christ.



Activity 2: Truth Be Told Review Game

Students will review the lesson by playing the Truth Be Told Review Game.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print the Memory Verse Review Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Print and cut the Memory Verse Review Signs from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Tape the signs randomly around the room at students' eye level.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student
- Memory Verse Review Signs taped around the room
- Tape
- Pencils



THE PROMISED HELPER COMES CLASS NOTES

- Print one The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes for each student
- The Promised Helper Comes Answer Key
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.
- Print out the three Tree Illustrations

- Student Take Home Sheets
- Three Tree Illustrations



TRUTH BE TOLD REVIEW GAME

- Assemble the Truth Be Told Game Board Posters found in your curriculum kit.
- Print the Truth Be Told Game Components from the Resource DVD-ROM. Keep the Truth Be Told Question Answer Key for your use.
- Cut apart the Truth Be Told Number Cards. These will determine how many spaces to move. OR bring in dice or a game spinner to be used to move teams around the board.
- Cut apart the Truth Be Told Question Cards.
- Bring buttons or other small items to use as game pieces for each team and poster putty for adhering game pieces to the game board.

- Truth Be Told Game Board
- Truth Be Told Number Cards OR use dice or a game spinner
- Truth Be Told Question Cards
- Truth Be Told Question Answer Key
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team
- Poster putty



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME (OPTIONAL)

- This is an optional activity to use in some or all of the lessons to review the memory verse if time allows.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Optional: popcorn snack



Memory Verse

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages listed above with this background.

Before Jesus left this earth to go back to His Father, He left His apostles with one last command. That was to go and preach the gospel, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to observe all things that He commanded (Matthew 28:19–20).

Before His death, Jesus had promised the apostles that He would send the Helper, the promised Holy Spirit who would be with them forever (John 14:16). The Holy Spirit would help them remember the things that Jesus had said (John 14:26) and equip the apostles to record these things in the Bible and teach them to others. Jesus also said that the Helper would not come until He went away. Only after Jesus was gone, would the Helper begin His work of convicting the world of sin, revealing righteousness and judgment (John 16:7–11).

Jesus was now gone and the disciples were waiting to receive the promised Spirit. It was the day of Pentecost. The English word “Pentecost” is a transliteration of the Greek word *pentekostos*, which means “fifty.” The word Pentecost was used by Greek-speaking Jews to refer to a Jewish holiday known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, Weeks (*Shavuot* in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or “fifty days” from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday.

Shavuot (Pentecost), the second great feast in Israel’s yearly cycle of holy days, was originally a harvest festival (Exodus 23:16) but, in time, turned into a day to commemorate the giving of the Law on Mt. Sinai. This was a major holiday for the Jews. Men from many nations were in Jerusalem as all males were required to travel to the sanctuary to worship on this holiday.

The disciples were gathered in one place for their observance of this first Pentecost since Jesus had died. They suddenly heard a sound from heaven, it was like rushing wind, and it filled the house. This rushing wind was accompanied by what appeared to be tongues of fire that came to rest on each of them. As they marveled at these things, they were filled with the promised Holy Spirit. And then they began to speak with other tongues. Now because this was the major holiday of Pentecost, there were devout men there from many different nations. They heard the apostles speaking and were confused at what they heard because everyone heard them speak in his own language. It was an amazing and mar-

velous thing as they realized Jesus’s apostles, the Galileans, were speaking, and yet all of the men heard them in their own language (Acts 2:1–8).

The Holy Spirit had come to Jesus’s disciples, just as Jesus promised He would. And the Bible teaches that everyone who trusts in Jesus Christ through the Word of truth, the gospel of God’s salvation, will be sealed with the same Holy Spirit Jesus promised to His apostles. The Holy Spirit is a guarantee to believers of the promised inheritance—that is, the glory of eternity with God in heaven (Ephesians 1:13–14). Every believer in Jesus Christ has the Holy Spirit living in him (John 14:17).

The Holy Spirit not only lives with the believer but He works in a believer’s life. He does this by changing the character, the wants, and the desires of the one who was saved—He enables the believer to become the new creation in Christ promised in 2 Corinthians 5:17. And every true believer, being a new creation in Christ and indwelt by the Holy Spirit, will manifest the good fruit of the Spirit. This fruit includes love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23).

We must keep in mind that the Bible tells us this is the Spirit’s fruit. It is brought forth in our lives ONLY for those who trust in Jesus. We could not bear more of the Spirit’s fruit (or any fruit) to God’s glory without the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. In fact, this fruit is directed by God the Father. And in order to allow it to grow in our lives, we must abide in the true vine, Jesus Christ. For without Him we would bear no fruit at all (John 15:5–6).

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

The pouring out of God’s Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost was a momentous event. It had been prophesied by the prophet Joel that in the last days God would pour out His Spirit on all flesh (Joel 2:28–32). Peter quoted from this passage in Joel as he preached to the Jews gathered in Jerusalem on that day (Acts 2:16–21). The day of Pentecost, the birth of the church, was the beginning of the “last days,” which will end when Christ comes for His people.

The coming of the Spirit was necessary for the future ministry of Jesus’s disciples. Look at the final words of Jesus before He ascended to heaven in Acts 1:4–5:

And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from

Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Jesus promised that the power of the Holy Spirit would come upon them. They would be given the boldness to go out and be witnesses for Jesus in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth. After He had spoken these things, He ascended to His Father (Acts 1:8–9).

The future ministry of the disciples depended on them receiving the Holy Spirit and relying on His power. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit of truth, the Helper, would abide with them forever. This Spirit, who had dwelt WITH them, would now be IN them (John 14:16–17).

In the same way, all believers, at the moment of salvation, are baptized in the Spirit. When we believe, we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (Ephesians 1:13–14). This baptism of the Spirit is a one-time event. Paul told the Corinthians, “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit” (1 Corinthians 12:13). The New Testament does not command believers to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. It is not an experience we are to seek, but rather it is God’s action performed on the believer at the moment of regeneration. Believers are, however, commanded to be filled with the Spirit, which means to be controlled by the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18). To be filled with the Spirit involves confessing all known sin and dying to self. We yield ourselves fully to the Lord and depend on Him step by step as we walk in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16). As we walk in the Spirit, we will manifest the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22–23). This fruit will in turn show itself clearly as we live a life pleasing to God (Colossians 1:10), conformed to the image of Christ (Romans 8:29), and in right relationship with those around us (Colossians 3:16–4:1).

It is staggering to see God’s providence at work throughout the Bible. And Pentecost is no different. God had providentially ordained that it would be during Pentecost that the Holy Spirit would descend from heaven. And during this time there were men from many countries present. Acts 2 mentions Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, Libya, and Rome. This list of nations recorded in Acts reminds us of the list of nations in Genesis 10 at the Tower of Babel judgment. At Babel,

God confused the language and dispersed the people around the world as judgment for their foolish pride. Now, at Pentecost, by His grace, God reversed the confusion experienced at Babel with the miracle of speaking in tongues. Now people of all languages could understand! And God’s purpose that the gospel be spread to all nations was launched way beyond the borders of Jerusalem to many nations as the men in Jerusalem that day returned to their homes.

In fact, the Bible tells us that after Peter preached the gospel, those who were listening were “cut to the heart,” and 3,000 souls were baptized and added to the church (Acts 2:37–41). The Holy Spirit gave Peter the boldness to preach, and that same Holy Spirit brought conviction of sin and repentance. It must have been a glorious time as the apostles saw the fruit of their labors so quickly and so abundantly—all by the power of the Holy Spirit.

However, not all men responded positively to Peter’s preaching that day, in spite of the miracle of the languages. Even miracles will not convince mockers who do not want to submit their lives to the lordship of Christ. Throughout the Book of Acts, we read of powerful conversions, but also violent opposition to the preaching of the gospel. As Christians we can expect the same response. But our confidence must remain in the sovereign, holy God and in the message of Jesus Christ whose name will demand that every knee will bow before Him, and every tongue will confess Him as Lord to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9–11).

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Father, you sent the Holy Spirit just as Jesus promised to teach, help, warn, and guide. You alone can transform sinners into believers and new creations in Christ. You empower believers to live in obedience to your Word and to manifest the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in their lives. May your Holy Spirit stir in the hearts of my students to realize their sin and their need for a Savior. Give them a desire to live their life to God’s glory and seal them by your Spirit’s power as children of God for all eternity.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, have the students recite the verse together, to each other, or to you.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes

MATERIALS

- The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes for each student
- The Promised Helper Comes Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print the class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students fill in the blanks as you study the lesson.

The class notes are designed and written simply. Please encourage and help your students to read them as the class progresses. They are an excellent means to review important lesson principles.

We will match the shapes on the notes and complete each statement as we study the Bible today. Do not work ahead. We will finish these together.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we answer the questions, we will find out what happened when the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus had promised to send, came to the disciples in Jerusalem.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Refer to past Lesson Theme Posters. (Lesson 1) We have been studying the end of Jesus's life. In this lesson, we learned that after Jesus had eaten with His apostles, He was betrayed by one of them.

- ? Who betrayed Jesus? What was his name? *Judas.*

➤ Because of the age and ability of 1st and 2nd graders to read and comprehend, we have written these lessons for you to read the Scriptures to the students. However, please encourage your students to bring Bibles to class. And if you have strong readers, by all means have them participate by reading God's Word.

(Lesson 2) That's right. Judas led the chief priests to the garden where they arrested Jesus. But God was in control. And Jesus knew that the men who were accusing Him would have no power over Him unless God had given it to them. (Lesson 3) Then we learned that the very same night, Jesus's friend Peter denied that he even knew Jesus.

? What did Peter say when the girl kept asking if he knew Jesus? *No, I don't know Him.*

? (Lesson 4) Jesus finished the mission God had given Him when He died. How did Jesus die? *He was crucified on the Cross.*

? (Lesson 5) But did it end there? What happened to Jesus on the third day after He died? *He rose from the dead just as He said He would.*

? Yes! He is alive, even today! Jesus said He is the resurrection and the life. What does resurrection mean? *To rise from the dead.*

Right. Jesus did rise from the dead. And because He lives again, believers will also live with Him forever!

(Lesson 6) Then after His Resurrection, Jesus had one more command for His followers—the Great Commission. He wanted His disciples to go and make more disciples.

Where did He tell them to go? *To all nations.*

They were to go to all nations and tell the good news about Jesus and baptize those who believe. Then they were to teach them all the things Jesus had commanded them to do.

Now, it wouldn't be easy to spread the Word about Jesus. But Jesus had promised that when He left them to go back to His Father in heaven, He would leave someone with them. Jesus called Him the Helper.

? Do you know who this Helper is? *Allow discussion.*

This is what we'll find out today. Let me read John 14:26. This verse tells us a little more about the Helper. Listen carefully now! *Read John 14:26.*

John 14:26

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

? What is another name for the Helper? *John 14:26. The Holy Spirit.*

? And who would send the Helper—the Holy Spirit? *Re-read John 14:26. The Father.*

? What two things did Jesus say the Helper would do for the disciples? *John 14:26. Teach them and help them remember the things Jesus had taught them.*

Jesus also told them that the Holy Spirit would be with His followers forever. That means all those who believe in Jesus will have the Holy Spirit

➤ Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text.

with them. The Holy Spirit would teach the disciples and help them remember all that Jesus did and said.

Discover the Truth

Let's do a quick review on the class notes. I want you to match the shape on each question with the shape and the word at the bottom of the page. Then write the answer on the lines.

- ? Will someone read #1? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Holy. Have students match the shapes and complete #1.*
- ? And what about #2. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Helper. Have students complete #2.*
- ? And will someone read #3? Who will the Holy Spirit come to? *Assign a reader. All. Have students complete #3.*
- ? And now someone read #4? What will the Holy Spirit do? *Assign a reader. Remember. Have students complete #4.*

Jesus commanded His disciples to go out and preach the gospel to all nations. And He promised that He was not going to leave them alone. The Father would send the Holy Spirit to help them.



► Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson to point out the events you are discussing.

READ THE WORD

The disciples must have had a lot of questions like when would the Helper come? And how would He come? They didn't know. But God had a plan, of course!

The disciples saw Jesus die and then they spent time with Him after He rose again! Later, Jesus would go back up into heaven to live with God, His Father.

But before Jesus left them, He told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to come. And that is exactly what they did. They gathered together and waited.

Now, it was a special Jewish holiday called Pentecost, and many people were in Jerusalem for this holiday. Jews from many nations all over had come there to worship God.

Do you think the Holy Spirit would come? What do you suppose was going to happen? *Allow guesses.*

We are going to read about what happened on that day of Pentecost. We'll read Acts 2:1–2. Listen carefully. *Read Acts 2:1–2.*

Acts 2:1–2

EXAMINE THE WORD

I'm going to ask some questions about what happened so we don't miss anything!

► Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) emphasizing the answers to the questions.

Acts 2:3-4

Observe the Text

? OK. So we know it was the holiday called Pentecost. Where were Jesus's disciples? *Re-read Acts 2:1. They were all in one place.*

? They were together. What did they hear? *Re-read Acts 2:2. A sound.*

? Where did the sound come from? *Acts 2:2. Heaven.*

? What did it sound like? *Acts 2:2. A rushing, mighty wind.*

That's right! They heard a rushing wind, and it filled the whole house! Then they saw something.

Listen to this! This tells us what the apostles in the room saw! *Read Acts 2:3-4.*

? What did they see? *Acts 2:3. Something that looked like fire.*

? What did this fire do? *Re-read Acts 2:3. Came down on each of them.*

Wow! The disciples heard a rushing wind! And then something that looked like fire came down on them. The wind and the fire were signs that God had sent the Holy Spirit to them. And then the Bible says that the Holy Spirit caused those in the room to speak with other tongues!

Hmmm. What does that mean? Let's keep going and find the answers. Listen to Acts 2:5. *Read Acts 2:5.*

? There were lots of men in Jerusalem for the holiday. Where were these men from? *Men from every nation under heaven!*

All these men were from different nations. They all heard the disciples talking. And the Bible says they were confused.

? Why were they confused? Listen for the answer in the next verse. *Read Acts 2:6. Because they heard them speak in their own languages.*

Have you ever heard someone speaking in another language? Maybe in Spanish or Japanese or French? If you don't know that language, you can't understand them, right? And if they don't know your language, they can't understand you either!

But what was happening here in Jerusalem was amazing! The people from all these different nations understood their own language, not the language spoken by the disciples. But when the disciples began to speak, the people heard what they were saying in their own language! Everyone could understand what the disciples said about Jesus.

Discover the Truth

The Holy Spirit had come just as Jesus promised. There was a great wind, and something like fire came down on each of them. And when the disciples began speaking about God's amazing deeds, all the people heard

Acts 2:5

Acts 2:6

it in their own language. They all could understand what the disciples were saying!

Refer to the Lesson 6 Lesson Theme Poster. This was just the beginning. The Holy Spirit had come. And He would give the disciples courage and strength to obey the Great Commission. They could go and tell the truth to all nations about Jesus.

Let's go back to our class notes and fill in a few more.

- ? Will someone read #5? What did the disciples hear? *Assign a reader. Wind. Have students complete #5.*
- ? How about #6? What did the disciples see? *Assign a reader. Fire. Have students complete #6.*
- ? And #7? Will someone read that? *Assign a reader. Jesus. Have students complete #7.*



READ THE WORD

Refer to the Lesson Theme Poster. The Holy Spirit—the Helper—came just like Jesus promised. God the Father sent Him to the disciples on Pentecost. And although we won't hear wind or see fire, the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit will be with all who turn away from their sins and believe in Jesus.

Listen to Ephesians 1:13. It tells us something that the Holy Spirit does for all believers! *Read Ephesians 1:13.*

Ephesians 1:13

EXAMINE THE WORD

Let's think about this.

Observe the Text

- ? This verse starts out by saying "In Him you also trusted." Who is this talking about? Who do believers trust in? *Jesus.*
- ? What do believers hear before they trust in Jesus? *Re-read Ephesians 1:13. The word of truth. The gospel.*
- ? Yes. When people hear the word of truth—the good news about Jesus—and believe in Jesus, they are sealed with something. What is that? What does this verse say? What are believers sealed with? *Re-read Ephesians 1:13b. The Holy Spirit of promise.*

That's right! This is good news! Every person who turns away from his sin and turns to Jesus receives the Holy Spirit inside. That person is sealed with the Holy Spirit. It's kind of like when you stick name labels on your things so everyone knows that they belong to you. The Holy Spirit is like a label for believers that says they belong to Jesus.

Galatians 5:22–23

The Bible also says that when we believe in Jesus, we are made new on the inside. It says that we become new creations and all the old things are gone. The Holy Spirit changes believers for good. He helps them learn to love and obey God. The Holy Spirit helps us grow to become more like Jesus.

Listen to these verses from the book of Galatians 5:22–23, in the Bible. This tells us how the power of the Holy Spirit helps believers grow and change for good. Listen to this! *Read Galatians 5:22–23.*

- ? What is this verse talking about? *Galatians 5:22. The fruit of the Spirit.*
- ? What is the fruit of the Spirit? Repeat them after me. *Re-read Galatians 5:22–23 allowing students to repeat after you. Love, joy, peace, longsuffering (patience), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.*

Discover the Truth

Wow! If a person trusts Jesus and really believes in Him, then things begin to change in that person. This is what Jesus promised! The Holy Spirit changes the person's heart. Believers in Jesus become new creations inside by the power of the Holy Spirit. And the fruit of the Spirit begins to grow in them. The Holy Spirit will help those who love, trust, and believe in Jesus to change so they will want to please God, obey His commands, and love others.

➤ If time allows, do a quick review of each point on the class notes.

- ? Let's go back to our class notes now.
- ? Will someone read #8 for us please? When someone believes in Jesus, what happens? *Assign a reader. New. Have students complete #8.*
- ? And someone read #9. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Heart. Have students complete #9.*





Truth Be Told Review Game

MATERIALS

- Truth Be Told Game Board
- Truth Be Told Question Cards
- Truth Be Told Question Answer Key
- Truth Be Told Number Cards (or game spinner or dice)
- Buttons or other small items as game pieces for each team
- Poster putty

INSTRUCTIONS

Divide your class into teams. Teams will take turns drawing a Truth Be Told Question Card. Team members will take turns answering the questions. They will quickly determine an answer and give it. If they are correct, they will draw a Truth Be Told Number Card and move that number of spaces on the game board. As play proceeds, follow the directions on the game board. Alternate between teams as long as time permits.

We are going to review now by playing “Truth Be Told.” I’ll put you into teams. Teams will take turns picking a question card and answering the question. If the answer

is correct, you will draw a number card and move your game piece that many spaces. All directions on the board must be followed. Place used cards underneath the stacks.

Answers to the questions are provided on the Truth Be Told Question Answer Key on the Resource DVD-ROM.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

This game was a fun way to review our lesson about the Holy Spirit. *Congratulate the winning team.*

The Holy Spirit came to the disciples and changed their lives. They left that room with courage and started preaching the gospel to all those people in Jerusalem! The same Holy Spirit lives in all Christians. He changes all believers into new creations. And the Holy Spirit gives believers the fruit of the Spirit to grow. They can learn to obey God and live for Him each day.





Memory Verse Review Game (Optional)

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

If you find you have extra time, please consider reviewing the memory verse with your class.

MATERIALS

- Memory Verse Poster
- Popcorn snack (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

Divide students into two or more groups. Have them all squat down so they can stand up quickly. Each group will say a word in the memory verse. Have each group “pop” up as they say the next word, then squat back down. Repeat.

We’re going to see if we all remember the words to our memory verse. We’ll divide into groups. Now all of you squat down like this. *Show example of squatting down so you can pop up quickly, then back down.* We’re going to

pretend that we are popcorn getting ready to pop! The first group will start by saying the first word in our memory verse together while they all “pop” up then go back down quickly. Then the other group will say the next word in the verse and “pop” up. And we’ll keep going back and forth, popping like popcorn, until we are done with the verse. Okay, are you ready?

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

The gospel is the good news about Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the Cross, was buried, rose again, and was seen by many. He gives eternal life to all who trust in Him.

Jesus wants all of His disciples—all believers—to tell the gospel to everyone. And this verse reminds us to tell others about Jesus.



► You may want to have a popcorn snack during the Applying God’s Word review section.



Applying God’s Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Refer to Lesson Theme Poster. Jesus promised to send a Helper to His disciples. And He did! The disciples waited together in Jerusalem. Then with a loud sound like rushing wind and then fire, the Holy Spirit came to them. The Jews who had traveled to Jerusalem for the Pentecost holiday heard the disciples in their own languages telling of God’s amazing work! And this was just the beginning. The Holy Spirit gave the disciples courage and strength to go and preach the gospel to all nations.

And when we trust in Jesus, we are sealed with the same Holy Spirit who came to the disciples! His seal says we belong to Jesus. And He makes us new creations inside and gives us the help we need to grow.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

The disciples were believers in Jesus. They had faith in God. They wanted to obey all that Jesus commanded. But they needed help. On their own, they were weak and afraid. Jesus knew that. So, He planned all along to send the Holy Spirit to help them to go and do what He had told them to do.

It's the same with us. We need the Holy Spirit to help us live the way Jesus wants His followers to live. And as He works in our hearts, we will grow the fruit of the Spirit.

? Now that may sound kind of funny. Why are these things like love, peace, patience, and kindness, called fruit? *Allow discussion.*

I'm going to show you some pictures. But first I need three volunteers to come up here and hold them for me. Don't show your pictures until I tell you to! *Choose three students. Have them each hold one of the Tree Illustrations so it is facing them. You will tell them when to show their picture to the class.*

Have first student show Tree Illustration #1. OK. Let's look at three pictures of different apple trees that were all planted at the same time. Look at this picture.

? Does this look like a healthy apple tree? *No!*

? No? How can you tell? What is wrong? *Allow discussion. Dead branches, no leaves, no fruit.*

? *Have second student show Tree Illustration #2.* What about this apple tree? What do you see? It has lots of leaves, but where's the fruit? Could there be something wrong with it? *Allow discussion. Doesn't have what it needs to grow fruit.*

? *Have third student show Tree Illustration #3.* OK. Look at this apple tree now. Is it healthy? *Yes.*

? How can you tell? *Leaves AND fruit.*

That's right! We can't see what's going on inside of the tree. But we can tell by looking at the outside. Tree #1 looks like it isn't getting what it needs to grow. And Tree #2 is growing, but there isn't any fruit like there should be. So we know it isn't getting all it needs on the inside.

But with Tree #3 we can tell that it must be getting all it needs to grow because it has fruit! *Dismiss the volunteers to sit down.*

Now, think about the fruit of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives all believers what they need on the inside to help the fruit of the Spirit grow in their lives! When we're praying, listening to God's Word, and obeying Jesus, the fruit of the Spirit will start to show.

? Let's finish up our class notes. What should go in the blank on #10? *Fruit.*
Have students complete #10.

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.

Right. Let's read #10 together. These things are the fruit of the Spirit. *Read #10 on the class notes together.*

It's a special privilege, only for the children of God, to have the Holy Spirit to teach and guide us. If you are a believer then you are a child of God.

The Holy Spirit is at work inside your heart. He will help you grow His fruit to be more like Jesus. And He will give you strength and power to obey God every day.



MEMORY VERSE

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise God that the Holy Spirit makes His fruit grow in all believers.
- Thank God that the Holy Spirit makes us into new creations when we trust Jesus.
- Pray that the students will become new creations by faith in Jesus Christ.