LESSON 3: THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

AIM: That children understand that although the Holy Spirit is invisible, He is the power of God working in the world and the hearts of men and women, boys and girls to fulfill God’s plan.

OPENING IDEA: MIME—OCCUPATIONS
Write different occupations on small squares of paper (e.g., truck driver, typist, teacher, dentist, etc) and put into a container. Ask a child to draw out one piece and mime the action. The child in the group who guesses correctly takes the next turn.

MEMORY VERSE:
When the Holy Spirit, who is truth, comes,
He shall guide you into all truth (John 16:13)

PRESENTATION SUGGESTION:
Write the memory verse on one of the shapes that represent the Holy Spirit, ie Dove, Fire, Wind, Water, Oil, Teacher
LESSON:
Even though the disciples spent three years with Jesus, when the time came for Him to return to heaven, they became very sad. They knew that the work Jesus started would have to continue. Jesus instructed them to go into all the world, preaching the Good News, baptizing people and making disciples of them (Mt29:18-20). But the disciples were worried, they didn’t know how they would remember everything Jesus had taught them. They were afraid in case they were not strong enough to be faithful because they knew they were just ordinary men.

Jesus knew just what they needed, so He sent the Holy Spirit to live within them and in all Christians. The Bible says the Holy Spirit is like:

- **A DOVE** – He is gentle, pure and harmless like a dove (Mt3:16, Mk 1:10, Lk 3:22, Jn 1:32)
- **WATER**—the Holy Spirit is Living Water (Jn 4:10-14) who causes us to grow to spiritual maturity like tall trees by a stream and grass in a meadow with rain and dew (Isa 44:3-4). The Holy Spirit is freely given to those who are thirsty for Him (Isa 55:1, Rev 22:17). The Holy Spirit refreshes (Ps 46:4, Isa 41:17-18), cleanses (Eze 16:9, 36:25, Eph5:25-27, Heb10:22), gives in abundance (Jn 7:37-8)
- **FIRE**— the inner presence of the Holy Spirit can rid us of all the sin in our lives, like a refiner’s fire brings impurities to the surface to be scraped off, leaving the purified silver (Mal 3:2-3). The Holy Spirit fire gives guidance, like the Israelites being led through the wilderness by a pillar of fire at night (Ex 13:21, Ps 78:14).
- **OIL**—the soothing presence of the Holy Spirit enables Christians to work together without getting upset and angry with each other, like an engine that runs smoothly when its parts are well oiled (Heb 1:19, Jas 5:14, Mk 6:13). The Holy Spirit is the Consecrating Oil (Isa 61:1), comforting (Isa 61:3), illuminating (Mt 25:3-4, 1 Jn 2:20, 27), healing (Lk 10:34).
- **THE WIND**—powerful (1 Ki 19:11), reviving (Eze 37:9-10, 14), independent (Jn3:8), we can’t see where He comes from or where He goes, but His presence is felt, His gifts are seen.
- **TEACHER** so that we can fully understand the Bible. The Holy Spirit teaches us spiritual truths that don’t come from human wisdom (1 Cor 2:9-14).
Cut out the 6 word boxes. Match them with the 6 pictures of the Holy Spirit, paste them onto sheet.

- Teaches truths that don’t come from human wisdom
- soothes
- heals
- makes rough smooth
- cleansing
- gives life
- makes things grow
- makes dry things fresh
- takes away thirst
- gentle
- pure
- innocent
- purifies
- makes clean
- separates good from evil
- invisible
- powerful
- revives
- independent

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The work of the Holy Spirit

Mark 1:10

James 5:14

John 3:8

John 4:10

Malachi 3:2-3

1 Corinthians 2:9-14
In the dove shape color blue all the spaces that have the number 2. Color red all the spaces in the flame shape that have the number 4. Use the words that appear to fill in the spaces below to complete the sentence about what must happen before a person can be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

We must ___________ ___________ ___________ and ___________

_________________ before we can be baptized in the Holy Spirit.
Jesus wants everyone to become part of God's family. Find and circle the words in the list that are hidden in the letters that are in the cross. Print the leftover letters from left to right on the spaces below to see what the Bible says about becoming part of His family.

BELIEVE  SALVATION
JESUS    CROSS
HEAVEN    THORN
SINS      DIED
BLOOD     SACRIFICE

ANYONE  WHOEVER  E SAVED
CLIEEV  ESALVATIONRSWORLDINAN
DIACCEFHALPSTSJEISUSW
INLFLBEIEIAEVEILEBCOM
ESAEPARRALSTHRONDOLB
C VSTND  AESIEE
S NONPM  TORGEE
F GCRRE  HTIAFD
ODSCFE  AMIELRY
Y JESUS

Jesus loves the world so much!