Jesus promises a Helper

John 14:15-27

> The Holy Spirit is God with us, helping us know and follow Jesus.

What children should be able to do by the end

Name the Holy Spirit as God and describe his help in remembering and following Jesus' teaching.

Read & gather

Read aloud: John 14:15-27. Memory passage: John 14:26.

Basic kit: Bible, paper, pencils or crayons, child-safe scissors, glue or tape. Paper, pencils, crayons, and tape.

Before class, read the full passage and the activity example. Practice unfamiliar names and choose an age adaptation.

Words to explain

Advocate: one who helps and stands alongside. Holy Spirit: God's Spirit, a divine person, not an object or force. Trinity: one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Your 60-minute flow

0-5 minutes | Welcome & wonder

Use Welcome & wonder on page 2. Invite answers and allow children to listen quietly.

5-10 minutes | Worship & prayer

Offer thanks to God. Sing a familiar, church-approved song or speak a line of praise. Listening quietly is welcome.

10-15 minutes | Bible & memory

Find the reading together. Read the memory passage from your Bible. Repeat short phrases with simple gestures.

15-27 minutes | Discover the story

Read the named verses. Use the three retelling paragraphs and The Jesus connection on page 2.

27-35 minutes | Talk it through

Ask the three questions on page 2, one at a time. Give thinking time and use the answer guidance.

35-50 minutes | Create & practice

Use the purpose, example, and steps on page 3. Then use the separate Student Discovery Page on page 4. Unfinished drawing may go home.

50-55 minutes | Respond & pray

Connect the big idea with a choice this week. Offer voluntary prayer or quiet reflection.

55-60 minutes | Remember & take home

Use the learning check on page 3 and repeat the main teaching. Tidy supplies and give caregivers the Family Connection on page 5.

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Welcome & wonder

Ask what makes a helper trustworthy. Explain that Jesus promised more than a useful tool: he promised God's own Spirit.

Tell the story

Read the passage in your preferred translation. NIV is our reference translation; this is an original retelling, not a Bible quotation.

1. Jesus was preparing his disciples for his departure. They had walked with him, listened to him, and seen his works. He knew they would need help. He promised to ask the Father to give them another Advocate who would be with them forever: the Spirit of truth.

2. Jesus said they would not be left as orphans. The Holy Spirit would teach them and remind them of what he had said. This promise first addressed Jesus' disciples as they faced the coming events of his death, resurrection, and mission. They would not carry that calling alone.

3. Christians worship one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Spirit is not a lucky object, a ghost to fear, or a power we control. He helps believers know Jesus, understand his teaching, and live in love. We can welcome his help as we read Scripture, pray, and take the next faithful step.

The Jesus connection

> Jesus keeps his promise to be with his people through the Holy Spirit. Our learning begins with his faithful care.

Talk it through

Who did Jesus promise?

The Holy Spirit, the Advocate and Spirit of truth.

What would the Spirit do for the disciples?

Teach them and remind them of Jesus' words.

Is the Holy Spirit an object we control?

No. The Holy Spirit is God, who helps and leads us.

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A promise to remember

Why children are doing this: Children connect Jesus' promise with learning from Scripture and taking a loving action.

Teacher example: On Teaches Us, draw an open Bible. For including a newcomer, pray: Holy Spirit, help me remember Jesus' love and welcome this child.

Teacher instructions: Explain one step at a time and help children try it. Children may draw or tell you their answers.

1. Fold a sheet in half to make a four-surface booklet. Put Jesus Keeps His Promise on the front. Use the two inside pages and back for the three reminders in the next step.

2. Make three pages: With us; Teaches us; Helps us follow Jesus. Add a picture for each.

3. Read John 14:26 and connect it to the teaching page. Explain why remembering Jesus' words matters.

4. Choose one everyday situation, such as including a newcomer. Ask for the Spirit's help and describe one loving response.

Grades 1-2

Use a heart, open book, and footprints as prompts.

Grades 3-5

Explain why knowing who the Helper is matters more than chasing an unusual feeling.

Offer movement breaks, a quiet space, picture choices, or an adult scribe. Adapt to the child, not only the grade.

Teach with care

Use simple Trinitarian language without object analogies that make the Spirit seem like one part of God. Feelings vary; God's faithfulness does not.

Prayer invitation

Father, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit. Help us learn Jesus' words and live in his love.

Check what children learned

Name two ways the Spirit helps Jesus' followers.

Student Discovery Page: answer guide

1. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate and Spirit of truth. 2. Teach them and remind them of Jesus' words. 3. No. The Holy Spirit is God, who helps and leads us.

Drawings and personal responses vary. Look for understanding rather than polished artwork.

Jesus promises a Helper

John 14:15-27

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Holy Spirit is God with us, helping us know and follow Jesus.

Explore the story

1. Who did Jesus promise?

2. What would the Spirit do for the disciples?

3. Is the Holy Spirit an object we control?

Draw & discover

Draw a moment when you can ask for the Holy Spirit's help.

Think about it

How can remembering Jesus' words affect a choice?

You can write, draw, point, or tell someone your answer.

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John 14:15-27

A LITTLE FAITH, EVERY DAY

> The Holy Spirit is God with us, helping us know and follow Jesus.

Open the Bible together

Read John 14:15-27. Let your child retell one part. Write down a question to ask a trusted church leader; you do not need to have all the answers.

Start a conversation

What did Jesus promise his friends?

Try this during the week

Read John 14:26 together. Before one ordinary task, ask the Spirit to help you follow Jesus in it.

A prayer to share

Father, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit. Help us learn Jesus' words and live in his love.

Remember together

Look up John 14:26 in your family Bible. Read a short phrase, repeat it together, and ask what it means.

Keep it simple and welcoming

A few unhurried minutes are enough. Children may respond with words, drawings, or gestures. Prayer is an invitation; quiet participation belongs too.

This curriculum serves mixed groups in grades 1-5 in an evangelical setting. Retellings and prayers are original. NIV is our reference translation; use your church's preferred Bible translation. No extended Bible text is reproduced.