

## Embrace the promise of Jesus Christ's return: *God, the Holy Spirit*

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

#### Facilitator Notes:

- For more information about God, the Holy Spirit see the full Catechism section 3.5.
- For Your Journey episodes can be found on the [NAC USA YouTube](#) channel *and* in the [NAC USA mobile app](#)

#### I wonder...

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- How does the Holy Spirit show Himself as a divine person?
- How can I recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit?

#### I believe...

- The Holy Spirit is true God and is the third person of God, who is worshipped as Lord and God along with the Father and the Son. (Catechism Q&A question 197)
- The Holy Spirit shows Himself as a person of the trinity of God by sending human beings to spread the gospel, just as God, the Son. (Catechism Q&A question 198)
- We recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit in that He grants human beings knowledge of divine truth especially through experiencing preaching and the sacraments. (Catechism Q&A questions 203, 212, 213, 626)

#### Materials:

- IGNITE Bible
- Catechism Q&A
- Catechism
- Something to play a video clip with (computer, TV, tablet, phone, etc.)
- Fan
- Paper
- Trashcan

#### References:

- Bible: John 3:8, John 14:15-18, John 14:25-26, John 16:13-14
- Catechism Q&A questions 197-214, 626
- For Your Journey
  - [Episode 15 – The Power of the Holy Spirit](#)

### PRE DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND STUDENT (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

How do you know that the Holy Spirit is with you? This week, we will discuss God, the Holy Spirit – one Person of the Trinity. Join us tomorrow for small group at \_\_\_\_\_.

### POST DISCUSSION MESSAGE TO PARENTS (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

#### Facilitator Notes:

- Please keep the main message intact, but feel free to add local information as necessary.

Dear Parents,  
 This week the "I Wonder..." questions were about God, the Holy Spirit, as the third Person of the Trinity. Reflect on a time where you have felt the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Consider sharing this with your student, and ask if they have ever felt His guidance in their lives. As always, if you have questions about the topic, please feel free to contact us.  
 Your Youth Leaders

### SUNDAY SERMON REFLECTIONS (up to 10 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.

- What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?
- What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?
- So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?
- Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

### HOOK (up to 10 minutes)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.

- How are you and how are you feeling today?
- Who would like to share their point to ponder or call to action from last week?

Set up the trash can with the fan pointing at the can on the highest speed setting. Take a few sheets of paper and roll them up into balls. The purpose of the game is to toss a paper ball into the trashcan. Let each student have a few turns trying to get the ball in. Each time they throw, they'll get a better understanding of the wind from the fan and how fast/slow they need to throw the ball and at what angle to throw it in order to get it in the trashcan.

After the activity, ask the students:

- Why was it so difficult to get the ball in the trashcan? (Because of the wind from the fan)
- Did you see the wind coming out of that fan? (No – you can't see wind)
- How did you know the wind was there? (Because it blew the paper)
- When you go outside on a windy day, you also can't see it, but how do you know it's there? (You feel the wind blowing against you or you see it blow against other things)

### SET THE STAGE (1 minute)

**Facilitator Notes:**

- Preview the "I wonder" questions with the students.

**I wonder...**

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- How does the Holy Spirit show Himself as a divine person?
- How can I recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit?

**LESSON (up to 25 minutes)**

**Facilitator Notes:**

- For the sake of preparing for the discussion, the full Bible passage is included in the facilitator guide. However, in the actual discussion with the students, it is encouraged that the facilitator look up the passages in a physical Bible along with the students to reinforce the importance of using one's Bible and Bible literacy.

Ask a student to read John 3:8:

- 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.*

Tell the students: To help us start to understand the Holy Spirit, we can consider how He is like the wind. We cannot see wind, but we know it is there; just like the Holy Spirit. The wind from the fan moved the balls of paper as you tried to throw them. Similarly, the Holy Spirit guides our movements. Sometimes we even feel this guidance. We'll talk a little bit more about this throughout the lesson.

**Student Question #1 Who is the Holy Spirit?**

Tell the students: God, the Holy Spirit, is the third Person of the Trinity.

Ask a student, or multiple students, to read John 14:15-18.

- If you love Me, keep My commandments. 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. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.*

After reading the verses, tell the students: Jesus had just told His disciples that He was about to leave them and they could not go with Him. He divulged that they would face great hostility and many challenges. The disciples were confused by what Jesus was telling them. But Jesus offered hope and encouragement by saying, *I pray the Father will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever...*

Jesus gave His disciples the assurance of His eternal presence, love, and strength. He said "another" would come, which in Greek (*allos*) means, "another of the same kind." Jesus also used the word "Helper" to describe the Holy Spirit. The Greek word for "helper," *parakletos*, has the meaning of "one called to stand alongside" to assist during a struggle. Therefore, Jesus literally meant that the Father would send one like Him, who is called to stand alongside them, whose role is to support them during struggles and impart strength.

This gives us insight that the Holy Spirit is "of the same kind," equal to God, the Father and God, the Son, and that we also need to worship and glorify Him as we would the other Persons of the Trinity.

Ask the students: What are ways that we can worship God, the Holy Spirit?

- Some possible answers are: sing songs of praise about Him, try to listen more intently to His guidance, etc.

**Student Question #2 How does the Holy Spirit show Himself as a divine person?**

Tell the students: Let's read further in John 14 to learn more about the Holy Spirit.

Read together John 14:25-26.

- *These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 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.*

Tell the students: Jesus is the One speaking in these verses. Just as He taught and spoke truth to His disciples on this earth, Jesus assures us that the Holy Spirit does the same. He teaches and points us to the gospel of Jesus. This is how He reveals Himself as a divine Person. By reminding us of the teachings of Jesus, we then can go out and spread the gospel to others.

Ask the students: Imagine what the disciples felt in this moment as Jesus spoke to them. Jesus had told them He wouldn't be with them any longer. How might they be feeling? (sad, confused, upset, angry)

Tell the students: But then Jesus reassures them that a Helper will come and remind them of Him, and support them during difficulties. It makes sense then that the Holy Spirit is referred to as a Helper and Comforter.

Ask the students: When was the last time you were comforted by the Holy Spirit? Really think about this. The Holy Spirit can act in many different ways in order to offer us strength.

- Maybe they were reminded of a Bible verse that offered hope during a tough situation.
- Maybe a sense of peace overcame them during a stressful situation.
- Maybe someone, who didn't know what they were going through, reached out or encouraged them.

**Student Question #3 How can I recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit?**

Ask the students: How do you know when something is true? Is there evidence or indicators that you look for to know if something is true?

- See if the students can think beyond, "My parents told me it's true," etc. If someone tells you something is true, there is a chance that it actually isn't, so then how can you know if something is true?
- For Your Journey
  - [Episode 15 – The Power of the Holy Spirit](#), minute marker 4:13 – 5:26.

Ask the students: What did this video clip tell you about the Holy Spirit?

- The Holy Spirit reveals truth to us.
- He reminds us of the truth about our actions and deeds.
- Through His truth, we find inspiration, confidence, and joy.

- For Your Journey episodes can be found on the [NAC USA YouTube](#) channel *and* in the [NAC USA mobile app](#)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For more information about the activity of the Holy Spirit in the sacraments, see the full Catechism section 3.5.5.2</li> </ul>	<p>Tell the students: We know that the Holy Spirit is active in the world because He reveals truth to us. And we can trust in the things that He tells us to be true.</p> <p>Ask the students: Why can we trust what the Spirit reveals to us as truth?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well, think back to what we just talked about for the last question. The Holy Spirit's responsibility is to point us to Jesus and remind us of His teachings. Therefore, what the Holy Spirit reveals to us as true is based on Jesus and His gospel. And this is why we can have confidence when the truth is revealed to us, because we know it is directly from God and is according to His will and the gospel of Christ.</li> </ul> <p>Ask a student, or multiple students, to read Catechism Q&amp;A questions 203, 213, and 626</p>
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### WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? (up to 10 minutes)

<p><b>Facilitator Notes:</b></p>	<p><b>Wrap up the lesson with who God, the Holy Spirit, is.</b></p> <p><b>Close with the "I Wonder...." questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ask a student to read an "I Wonder..." question, and invite another student to answer with an "I Believe..." statement or an "I Believe..." statement in their own words.</li> <li>As you review each question and answer, stop and check in with the group to be sure there are no misunderstandings or misconceptions.</li> <li>Remind the students that on their Confirmation day, they will or have already vowed to surrender themselves to the triune God in belief, obedience, and the earnest resolution to remain faithful until their end.</li> </ul> <p><b>I wonder...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who is the Holy Spirit?</li> <li>How does the Holy Spirit show Himself as a divine person?</li> <li>How can I recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit?</li> </ul> <p><b>I believe...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Holy Spirit is true God and is the third person of God, who is worshipped as Lord and God along with the Father and the Son. (Catechism Q&amp;A question 197)</li> <li>The Holy Spirit shows Himself as a person of the trinity of God by sending human beings to spread the gospel, just as God, the Son. (Catechism Q&amp;A question 198)</li> <li>We recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit in that He grants human beings knowledge of divine truth. (Catechism Q&amp;A questions 203, 212, 213, 626)</li> </ul> <p><b>Point to Ponder....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus says, in John 16:13-14, <i>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. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>A Call to Action....</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do you currently let guide you in life and help you make decisions? Your parents or friends? The opinions of others? Write a prayer to God asking to be more open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life.</li> </ul>
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### Weekly Reflections

What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?

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What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?

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So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

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**Point to Ponder...**

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**Call to Action...**

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## Embrace the promise of Jesus Christ's return: *God, the Holy Spirit*

<b>I wonder...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Who is the Holy Spirit?</li> <li>➤ How does the Holy Spirit show Himself as a divine person?</li> <li>➤ How can I recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit?</li> </ul>	<b>I believe...</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Holy Spirit is true God and is the third person of God, who is worshipped as Lord and God along with the Father and the Son. (Catechism Q&amp;A question 197)</li> <li>➤ The Holy Spirit shows Himself as a person of the trinity of God by sending human beings to spread the gospel, just as God, the Son. (Catechism Q&amp;A question 198)</li> <li>➤ We recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit in that He grants human beings knowledge of divine truth. (Catechism Q&amp;A questions 203, 212, 213, 626)</li> </ul>
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### 1. Who is the Holy Spirit?

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### 2. How does the Holy Spirit show Himself as a divine person?

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### 3. How can I recognize the activity of the Holy Spirit?

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**Point to Ponder:** Jesus says, in John 16:13-14, *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. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

**Call to Action:** What do you currently let guide you in life and help you make decisions? Your parents or friends? The opinions of others? Write a prayer to God asking to be more open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit in your life.