

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

Lesson At-A-Glance

Scripture Reference
John 14:15-21

Lectionary Sunday/
Church Season
Easter 6

Lesson Focus
I can help Jesus.



Gather (10 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<p>Center Time Kids make fans, play with helper toys, and color Bible story pictures.</p>	<p>Coloring Pages </p>	<p>Whistle, wallpaper samples, craft sticks, glue, glue sticks, masking tape, community helper toys (puzzles, books, equipment, costumes, hats), blank paper, crayons or markers</p>
<p>Circle Time Kids find a fan in the Holy Spirit Surprise Sack, hear about the season of the church, and get ready for storytelling by blowing bubbles.</p>	<p>Leaflet</p>	<p>Gift bag, fan from Center Time, bubble solution and wand</p>
<p>Prayer Time Kids pray with feathers.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Feathers</p>

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
<p>The Promise of the Holy Spirit Storytelling Leader reads aloud from the Spark Story Bible.</p>	<p>Spark Story Bible</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Helper Hat Kids make a helper hat.</p>	<p>Lesson Stickers</p>	<p>Construction paper, markers, star stickers, stapler, scissors</p>
<p>Windy Wavers Kids add a streamer to their leaflets.</p>	<p>Leaflets</p>	<p>Crepe paper streamers, tape</p>

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Find Our Way Kids follow a maze.	Leaflets	Crayons or markers
Helping Jesus Kids add stickers to their leaflets.	Leaflets, Lesson Stickers	None
Never Alone Kids do activities in small groups.	None	Soft balls

Send (5 minutes)

	Spark Resources	Supplies
Good-bye Time Kids share a closing rhyme.	Leaflets	None
Prayer Time Kids say and sign a litany.	Family Pages 	None



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit wearesparkhouse.org/kids/SHOSS to learn more about these options for purchase.

- The Director's CD-Rom contains Activity Pages, Coloring Pages, Family Pages, Large Group Openings, and two additional in-class activities for each lesson.
- A Spark Online annual subscription gives you access to all content contained in the Director's CD-Rom and the Spark Leader Guides, plus administrative tools and other extras.

Gather (10 minutes)

Center Time

You may choose to set up all or some of these learning centers for kids to play in as they arrive in your classroom. Have helpers in each center to help kids with the activities. Kids can stay in one center or travel to more than one.

When all kids have arrived and have had time to participate in at least one center, blow the whistle. **When you hear the whistle, you know it is time to clean up and come to Circle Time. The whistle is like the Holy Spirit. You breathe into it to make it work. The Holy Spirit breathes power into us to make us good helpers.**

Fan, Fan

Cut the wallpaper in circles about 6-8 inches (15-20 cm) in diameter. Let the kids choose a wallpaper pattern they like and encourage them to put some accordion folds in the circle. It does not need to be perfect—they can only do two folds and still have a lovely fan. Use the glue or tape to attach the folded fan to a craft stick. Show the kids how to hold the craft stick handle and wave their fans. **Some people say that the wind reminds them of the Holy Spirit because even though you can't see the wind, you can feel it and know it is there.**

Lots of Helpers

Let the kids play with the community helper items you gathered. **Lots of people work to help others every day. Jesus wants us be good helpers, too.**

Coloring Center

Have coloring supplies and copies of the Spark Coloring Page available at a table for the kids to color. Be sure to help them put their names on their papers.

Circle Time

Welcome, friends! We are all here to learn about God. Let's sing our welcome song and see who is here today. Sing to the tune of "Mulberry Bush".

**Now it's time for Spark Time,
For Spark Time, for Spark Time.
Now it's time for Spark Time,
We hear about God's love.**

**Our friends are here for Spark Time,
For Spark Time, for Spark Time.
Our friends are here for Spark Time,
We hear about God's love.**

(Name's) **here for Spark Time,
For Spark Time, for Spark Time.
(Name's) here for Spark Time,
We hear about God's love.**

Continue until all kids and adults are named.

Spark Resources

Coloring Pages



Supplies

Whistle
Wallpaper samples
Craft sticks
Glue
Glue sticks
Masking tape
Community helper toys
(puzzles, books, equipment,
costumes, hats)
Blank paper
Crayons or markers

Spark Resources

Leaflet

Supplies

Gift bag
Fan from Center Time
Bubble solution and wand

Show the Holy Spirit Sack with the fan in it. **Let's see what we have in our Holy Spirit Surprise Sack. It's a fan. Remember we said that the Holy Spirit is kind of like the wind—we can't see it, but we can feel it? I'm going to go around the circle to welcome you all and let you feel the wind from the fan.** Go around the circle giving everyone a little fan. **Can you feel the wind on your faces? The Holy Spirit comes to help us be good helpers like Jesus. The Holy Spirit comes to all of us.** Continue around the circle until everyone has been welcomed.

Hold the leaflet up for everyone to see. **Let's see what's on our leaflet. I see a white cross. That's because the season is Easter and the color for Easter is white. White reminds us that Easter is a special season. It is the season when Jesus rose from the dead. The white makes us think of the white robes of the angel who talked to the women. The white reminds us of the white clothes that Jesus was wrapped in when he was inside the tomb.**

To get ready for our story today, we're going to blow bubbles. It takes wind to blow bubbles. And the Holy Spirit is kind of like the wind. The wind can be quiet or loud. The wind can be soft or wild. The Holy Spirit can be all those things, too. Pass the bubbles around to let everyone have a turn.

Prayer Time

Show the kids the feather. **Jesus promises us that the Holy Spirit will always be with us, helping us to grow stronger every day. Let's all toss our feathers in the air and say thank you to the Holy Spirit as we watch the wind carry our feathers.**

Dear God,
Thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to help us every day. We want to be good helpers like Jesus. Amen.

Spark Resources
None

Supplies
Feathers

Open the Bible (15 minutes)

The Promise of the Holy Spirit Storytelling

Take out your Spark Story Bible and open to The Promise of the Holy Spirit on pages 450-451. Read the story out loud and point to the corresponding pictures. Look for Squiggles the caterpillar in each picture. Ask kids what they think Squiggles is feeling or doing. Encourage them to make a face like Squiggles.

Ask the following questions, allowing time for kids to answer.

What did Jesus tell the disciples to remember? (*love God, love other people, help each other, God is most important*)

What is something you can do to help other people like Jesus wants us to?

Spark Resources
Spark Story Bible

Supplies
None

Helper Hat

Cut the paper into 12 x 2 inch (30 x 5 cm) strips. Make two for each kid. Cut the rest of the paper into any shape large enough to hold the Lesson Sticker. A star or a circle would work, but so would a square. **We're going to make helper hats to remind us that the Holy Spirit helps all of us be good helpers for Jesus. Let's add this sticker to our shapes. It says, "I help Jesus!" We'll add the star stickers and decorate our hats before we use these strips to make a strap to fit around our heads.** Staple the front of the hats to the strips of paper. Help the kids fit the strips around their heads and then staple the strips into a closed circle so the kids can wear them on their heads. **I think we should wear our helper hats while we work on our leaflets, don't you?**

Spark Resources
Lesson Stickers

Supplies
Scissors
Construction paper
Markers
Star stickers
Stapler

Windy Wavers

Pass leaflets and streamers out to the kids. Talk to the kids while you help them tape the streamers to the edge of the leaflet. **What is happening on the front of our leaflets? Jesus is talking to his helpers, the disciples. He tells them that he will be leaving soon. Jesus tells them not to worry because they will not be alone. The Holy Spirit will be with them always. We are putting streamers on our leaflets to remind us of the Holy Spirit. When we wave our leaflets in the wind, we will think of the Holy Spirit.**

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Supplies
Crepe paper streamers
Tape

Jesus wants his friends to be good helpers and to tell everyone about God's love. The Holy Spirit will help them. Jesus wants us to be good helpers, too. The Holy Spirit will help us, too.

Activate Faith (15 minutes)

Find Our Way

Pass out crayons or markers. **Let's turn our leaflets over to the other side. Look at the fun maze. We want to find our way to Jesus. The Holy Spirit will be there to help us all the time. Let's use our crayons to trace the path to Jesus. Those little flames represent the Holy Spirit showing us the way.**

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Supplies
Crayons or markers

Helping Jesus

Now let's look at the other part of our leaflets. Who wants to tell me about one of the pictures? What is happening? How are the kids in the picture helping? Can you be a helper like they are? Let's put a star beside the kids to remind us that we can be star helpers, too. Now let's look at the other pictures. Put the star stickers next to the helpers. Talk about other ways kids are helpers.

Spark Resources
Leaflets
Lesson Stickers

Supplies
None

Never Alone

Form into groups of about four or five kids. **Jesus promised the disciples that they would never be alone. We're going to play a game with friends. We're not going to be alone. Let's make a circle with our small groups. Bounce the ball to a friend across the circle. Now bounce it to someone else. You could bounce the ball in the air all by yourself, but it's a lot more fun to bounce it with friends. Who can think of another way to play with the ball with our friends?**

Spark Resources
None

Supplies
Soft balls, 1 per 4-5 kids

Send (5 minutes)

Good-bye Time

It's time for our blessing. The blessing song is sung to the tune of "Good Night Ladies."

God bless [Name]. ASL *bless* sign.

God bless [Name]. ASL *bless* sign.

God bless [Name], ASL *bless* sign.

God bless me! Point to self.

Repeat the blessing song until everyone has been blessed. At the end of the blessing song, shout out today's lesson focus. **I can help Jesus! I can help Jesus! I can help Jesus!**

Hold up the leaflet and point to Faith on the Go! on the back. **Be sure to take your leaflet home, because it has one more fun activity you can do with your family.**

Spark Resources
Leaflets

Supplies
None



Bless

Prayer Time

We're going to share a litany prayer today. A litany is when we all say the same thing together. We're not only going to say the same thing out loud, we're going to sign the same things.

Here is the ASL sign for *spirit*. It looks like the Holy Spirit softly coming up into the air. Let's all practice the sign together. Now let's say, "Come, Holy Spirit" and make the sign for *spirit* after each thing we say, "Come, Holy Spirit."

Dear God,

Wherever we are, (*Come, Holy Spirit.*)

When we're playing, (*Come, Holy Spirit.*)

When we're eating, (*Come, Holy Spirit.*)

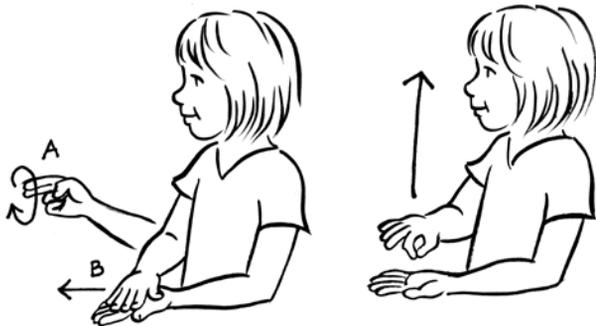
When we're sleeping, (*Come, Holy Spirit.*)

When we're singing, (*Come, Holy Spirit.*)

Wherever we are, (*Come, Holy Spirit.*)

Amen.

Be sure to send leaflets home with the kids, and give each of them a Family Page to take home.



Spirit

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None