

What I Need: What God Has for Me

A Bible Study for Teens

(And for others who are brave enough to ask the tough questions...)

Part C: God as Enabler (Holy Spirit)

© 2012, Sharon Kay Chatwell

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FOREWORD:

Youth, in their characteristic economy, would rather not bother with things which they perceive as making no difference in their lives.

If our idea, as adults, is to be supportive of them in this difficult age (while taking every opportunity afforded to teach them) then we must be able to make God seem important enough for them to bother listening about Him.

God is, of course, important enough... the problem is often our delivery of that information.

By remembering the needs of Youth (*acceptance, self-awareness, growth to physical and mental maturity, separation from parents, new relations to peers, etc.*) we can present some of the mysteries of God in a way that is truthful and acceptable by asking questions and letting the Youth seek the answers from the source of all Truth. (*From God Himself and from His Word: The Bible.*)

Personal journals may be helpful in increasing self-awareness and personal growth, especially in this age group. God will be more important to them at this stage if they can see some clear connection between their lives (*and the associated pain, struggle, hardship and loneliness*) and God's provision for them. Thus the name of this study, ***"What I Need: What God has for Me."***

Essentially, we need to show them that "what they need" is "what God has". Sharing that one basic concept with them will encourage them to learn more about what God has to say. This will subsequently empower them with knowledge that can affect their lives everyday... forever.

God bless you!

-- Sharon Chatwell

TEACHER INSTRUCTION:

Use one of the following lessons at each gathering with the Youth.

Teacher will need: One copy of the lesson.

Each Student will need: A question and answer sheet, pencil or pen, and a Bible. Each student may have a personal folder with a journal in which to make observations.

NOTE: *It is best if each student has access to a Bible. Alternatively, make copies of the Bible verses, divide them among the students, and have them read aloud.*

Opening Shot:

The “Opening Shot” is a statement made by the teacher to the Youth at the beginning of the Bible Study time. It is a brave statement of faith, outlining the ideas that will be discussed in that lesson. It is “a shot across the bow”, intended to get their attention and to fly in the face of what culture may be telling them these days. *“Let ‘em have it!”*

Introduction to Bible Truths – (OPTIONAL):

These Bible verses support the statements in the Opening Shot. These may be read aloud, especially if the students have questions about statements made in the Opening Shot. **If time does not allow, this portion of the lesson may be omitted.**

Ask Me No Questions/ I’ll Tell You No Lies:

The question and answer sheet may then be handed out and the students allowed a period of time to reflect on the questions privately. They may wish to respond to the questions or write other questions on their paper. This may be done individually or in groups of 2-3. The Youth are encouraged to come up with their own answers (even if they seem simplistic at first.) Papers may be collected and/or kept in a personal folder.

We’ve Got Questions/ God’s Got Answers:

These Bible verses are meant to help answer the questions which were posed on the question and answer sheet. Ask the students to find and read the various Bible passages aloud. Discuss how the Bible’s answers may be different from their own.

Personal Journaling – (OPTIONAL):

This exercise allows students to make an entry in a personal journal after the lesson. It lets them reflect on what they have learned and write down their thoughts on the subject. This journal is kept private and given to the student to take home at the end of the year. The journal may be kept in a personal folder, in a separate section from their question and answer sheets. **If time does not allow, this exercise may be omitted.**

Parting Shot:

This portion is a summary of the truths learned in the lesson, and it tells how we may apply them to our lives. It is to be read by the teacher just before the closing of the time together in prayer.

C. God as Enabler (Holy Spirit)

1. Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit (The Comforter)
2. Who is the Holy Spirit? What is He like? (Trinity)
3. The Coming of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost)
4. The Holy Spirit and the Great Commission
5. The Spirit of Truth (Testifies of Jesus)
6. Born of the Spirit (Born Again)
7. The Holy Spirit and Baptism
8. The Holy Spirit Lives in Us
9. The Spirit of Life
10. Fruit of the Spirit
11. The Spirit Knows the Will of God (Discernment and Prayer)
12. Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Lessons 1-6 deal with who the Holy Spirit is, what He is like, and how and why He came. Lesson 6 tells how we must be “Born of the Spirit” to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. (The Processes of Revelation, Evangelism, and Salvation)

Lessons 7-12 deal with the way the Holy Spirit interacts with Believers: those “Born of the Spirit.” (The Process of the Sanctification of Believers)

Additional Portions of the Bible Study Series ***What I Need: What God Has for Me***

To download these for Free – Visit www.SundaySchoolCenter.com

A. **God as Creator (Father)**

1. God Created Everything (Seen and Unseen)
2. God: the Alpha and the Omega (the Beginning and the End)
3. Plans for Salvation before the Beginning of the World
4. Concepts of Sin and Righteousness
5. Old Covenant (Abraham) – Promises Made
6. Delivering His Nation (Moses) – Promises Kept
7. The Ten Commandments
8. Creating a New People (from the Wilderness to Canaan)
9. Our Awesome God (How do we worship God?)
10. The Question of Faith
11. Does God Hear Prayer?
12. Prophecy of a Savior

B. **God as Savior (Son)**

1. Jesus Came in the Fullness of Time
2. Jesus Fulfills the Prophecies of the Christ
3. Jesus: The Son of God and The Son of Man
4. Satan tries to Destroy Jesus and His Journey
5. Jesus Dies on the Cross
6. Jesus is Raised from the Dead
7. Jesus brought God's message
8. Jesus is God (God come to earth)
9. Jesus Taught Us
10. Jesus Saves Us
11. After the Resurrection
12. Jesus is Coming Back

Lesson #1 Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit (The Comforter)

Opening Shot:

Jesus was going away. He told His disciples that very soon He wouldn't be with them anymore, and of course that made them very sad. But then He told them something astounding. He told them that it was better for them if He went away, because, if He did, He would send "the Comforter" to be with them. Jesus would not leave them alone.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

NOTE: *The KJV refers to the Holy Spirit as the Comforter; this is the NIV translation.*

John 16:5-7 *"Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you."*

John 14:16-18 *"...I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans;"*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) Since Jesus rose from the dead, why didn't He just stay here on the Earth?
- 2.) I thought a comforter was something you put on a bed. Why do I need a Comforter?
- 3.) If the Holy Spirit is still around, why aren't things better than they are?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

John 16:7 *But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.* **John 16:12-13** *"I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*

Acts 1:3-5 *After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."* **Acts 1:8** *"...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

John 14:17 *...the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*

Parting Shot: Jesus was leaving. He was going to be with His Father, but He would not leave us alone, like orphans. He knew that it was better for us that He went away. He promised to send the Holy Spirit (The Comforter) who is the Spirit of Truth, to be with us and in us forever. He knew that we would need the Holy Spirit to accomplish all that He had for us to do. His final words before His Ascension into heaven must have continued to ring in His disciples ears: *"... and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #1 Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit (The Comforter)

1.) Since Jesus rose from the dead, why didn't He just stay here on the Earth?

2.) I thought a comforter was something you put on a bed. Why do I need a Comforter?

3.) If the Holy Spirit is still around, why aren't things better than they are?

Lesson #2 Who is the Holy Spirit? What is He like? (Trinity)

Opening Shot:

Jesus promised that, if He went away, He would send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.) During the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit had rested on one person or another. But now Jesus was promising the fulfillment of an ancient prophecy: The Holy Spirit was to be poured out on the disciples (and on all believers to come.) From now on the Holy Spirit would live with them and be in them.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

John 16:7 *“But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.”*

Matthew 28:19 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”*

Joel 2:28-29 *“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.”*

John 14:16-17 *“...I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) Who is this Holy Spirit guy? Has anyone ever heard about Him before this?
- 2.) If He's got to be here, what's He going to be like? What should I expect?
- 3.) What's this whole “living with you” concept? I'm not sure I need a roommate.

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Bible histories that tell how the Spirit of God was with one person or another:

1 Samuel 10:9-10 (the Spirit of God came upon Saul); **1 Samuel 16:14** (Spirit left Saul)

1 Samuel 16:13 (the Spirit of God came upon David)

Luke 1:15 (John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth)

Luke 1:35 (Mary was to have a child conceived of the Holy Spirit – the child was Jesus)

Psalms 139:7-10 *Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast. (The Spirit of God is everywhere.)*

John 14:16 Jesus calls the Holy Spirit the Spirit of Truth

Acts 1:8 Jesus says that the disciples will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes

Romans 5:5 *...God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.*

Parting Shot: The Holy Spirit was promised by Jesus. He was to be poured out on to all of God's people in the last days. Should we be worried about this? No. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Living God. He is everywhere. It is through Him that we learn truth and receive power to do all that God has asked us to do. God pours out his love to our hearts through His Holy Spirit. What a wonderful thing!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #2 Who is the Holy Spirit? What is He like? (Trinity)

1.) Who is this Holy Spirit guy? Has anyone ever heard about Him before this?

2.) If He's got to be here, what's He going to be like? What should I expect?

3.) What's this whole "living with you" concept? I'm not sure I need a roommate.

Lesson #3 Coming of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost)

Opening Shot:

It was time. Even before His Crucifixion, Jesus had promised His disciples to send the Holy Spirit. After His Resurrection, He had walked and talked with them for 40 days. Before He ascended to the Father, He promised them again that the Holy Spirit would come. Now it was ten days after Jesus' Ascension. It was Pentecost, and it was time.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

John 16:7 *"But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you."*

Acts 1:4-5 *On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) What's a Pentecost, and do I want one?
- 2.) How did the Holy Spirit come to the disciples? Did He knock or use a doorbell?
- 3.) Why would Jesus think it was so important for the disciples to have the Holy Spirit?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Leviticus 23:9-16 Pentecost - The Festival of Weeks (or of Firstfruits) was held 50 days from the Sabbath following the Passover. (Jesus Ascended 10 days before Pentecost.)

Acts 2:1-4 *When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.* **Acts 2:5-12** The people visiting Jerusalem heard them *"declaring the wonders of God"* in their own tongues. **Acts 2:13** The people said they were drunk.

Acts 2:14-36 Peter's reply and his first sermon. **Acts 2:37** The people asked *"what must we do?"* **Acts 2:38-39** *"Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off – for all whom the Lord our God will call."* **Acts 2:41** *Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

Acts 1:8 *"...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Parting Shot:

The Holy Spirit came with great power. This amazing gift from God of Himself gave the disciples great power to talk to others about Jesus. They were able to speak in all the languages of the people listening. They preached with great ability and effectiveness. Three thousand people repented and became followers of Jesus on that very day, and they received the Holy Spirit. From that time until this the world has never been the same. The church (The Body of Christ here on earth) had come into being. It was time.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #3 Coming of the Holy Spirit (Pentecost)

1.) What's a Pentecost, and do I want one?

2.) How did the Holy Spirit come to the disciples? Did He knock or use a doorbell?

3.) Why would Jesus think it was so important for the disciples to have the Holy Spirit?

Lesson #4 The Holy Spirit and the Great Commission

Opening Shot:

The Holy Spirit had been given to the disciples at Pentecost. Because they had received power from the Spirit, as they had been promised by Jesus, they were able to preach powerfully to the crowds of visitors in Jerusalem for the Festival of Pentecost. The visitors each heard the disciples speaking to them in their own language! The effect of the sermon was so powerful that 3,000 people repented that day and were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. Now that's power! What was next? According to the Great Commission: It was time to tell the whole world!

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Acts 1:4-5 *On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."* **Acts 1:8** *"...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) What's a Great Commission? Is it getting paid really well for selling something big?
- 2.) Going off to the ends of the earth to tell other people about Jesus sounds like a really BIG job. Where are we going to get the power to do that?
- 3.) How is the Holy Spirit given to those who believe in Jesus today?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Matthew 28:18-20 *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Zechariah 4:6 *'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.*

Joel 2:28-29 *"And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days."*

John 3:5-8 *Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."*

Parting Shot:

Jesus promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit would come, and He did! Jesus also promised that, after they had received power from the Holy Spirit, they would be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. He gave them the Great Commission which was to "go and make disciples of all nations." That is a really BIG job! God actually does this job through the power of the Holy Spirit working in believers. The Holy Spirit is "poured out" on each person who believes in Christ. Jesus said the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #4 The Holy Spirit and the Great Commission

1.) What's a Great Commission? Is it getting paid really well for selling something big?

2.) Going off to the ends of the earth to tell other people about Jesus sounds like a really BIG job. Where are we going to get the power to do that?

3.) How is the Holy Spirit given to those who believe in Jesus today?

Lesson #5 The Spirit of Truth (Testifies of Jesus)

Opening Shot:

Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth. He said the Holy Spirit, whom the Father would send in His name, would teach us all things and remind us of everything that Jesus had said to us. He also said that the Spirit of truth (the Holy Spirit) would guide us into all truth.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

John 14:25-26 *“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”*

John 15:26 *“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.”*

John 16:12-15 *“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.”*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) Truth is great. What kind of truth are we talking about?
- 2.) We are supposed to talk to the whole world about Jesus. What are we to say?
- 3.) There's a lot of talk about truth. How do we recognize the Spirit of Truth?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Acts 2: 22-24 *“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.”* **Acts 2:32-33** *God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.* **Acts 2:36** *“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”*

1 John 4:2 *This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,*

1 Corinthians 12:3 *Therefore I tell you that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.*

Parting Shot:

Jesus is the Christ, the promised Savior of the scriptures, the one and only Son of God. Jesus is Lord. It is this truth that resounds through the ages, reaching us even today. The Holy Spirit (the Spirit of Truth) gives testimony of these facts. The Spirit of Truth testifies that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. This Gospel of Jesus is the truth with which the Holy Spirit evangelizes the world. The Spirit of Truth says, “Jesus is Lord!”

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #5 The Spirit of Truth (Testifies of Jesus)

1.) Truth is great. What kind of truth are we talking about?

2.) We are supposed to talk to the whole world about Jesus. What are we to say?

3.) There's a lot of talk about truth. How do we recognize the Spirit of Truth?

Lesson #6 Born of the Spirit (Born Again)

Opening Shot:

It is clear that to do the work of the Great Commission (reaching out to the world with the truth of the Gospel of Jesus) we must have the Holy Spirit living in us. Peter told the crowd at Pentecost that they must “repent and be baptized” and that they would receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit. And he said that this promise was for them, for their children and for all who were far off – “*for all whom the Lord our God will call.*” That means us!

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Acts 2:38-39 *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”*

1 John 4:13-14 *We know that we live in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I’ll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) Why do I need the Holy Spirit living in my life?
- 2.) Can you catch hold of the Holy Spirit and make Him come live in your life?
- 3.) How do I get the Holy Spirit in my life?

We’ve Got Questions/ God’s Got Answers:

John 3:1-8 *Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.” In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, **no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.**” “How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!” Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, **no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.** Flesh gives birth to flesh, but **the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘**You must be born again.**’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”*

1 Peter 1:23 *For you have been born again... through the living and enduring word of God.*

1 John 5:1 *Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well.*

Parting Shot:

Jesus said that “the Spirit gives birth to spirit” and that we must be “born again.” It is not enough for us to have “head knowledge” about God, or even for us to sincerely desire to do better. We need something that only God can give us: the gift of a changed heart and of a new spirit. This is something so different that Jesus called it being “born again.” There is no way of capturing the Holy Spirit, for He is like the wind, which blows where it will. But when the Holy Spirit comes to us and invites us to believe in Jesus, we need to accept His invitation to have this gift God offers. The Holy Spirit is intimately involved with the “new birth” of each believer: He gives birth to our spirit. All true believers (those who believe that Jesus is the Christ) are born of God.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #6 Born of the Spirit (Born Again)

1.) Why do I need the Holy Spirit living in my life?

2.) Can you catch hold of the Holy Spirit and make Him come live in your life?

3.) How do I get the Holy Spirit in my life?

Lesson #7 The Holy Spirit and Baptism

Opening Shot:

John the Baptist baptized with water, but he foretold that One was coming who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist called Jesus “The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” He also testified that Jesus was the Son of God. John the Baptist said that he came baptizing with water was so that Jesus “might be revealed to Israel.” Jesus would indeed baptize all believers with the gift of the Holy Spirit. There must have been some very good reasons for Him to do so. What were the reasons?

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Matthew 3:11 *“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who ...will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.”*

John 1:29-34 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”*

Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ I have seen and I testify that this is the Son of God.”

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) John the Baptist said that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Why would He?
- 2.) What does it mean that we would get baptized with the Holy Spirit? Will it hurt?
- 3.) What reason would Jesus have to baptize us all with the same Holy Spirit?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

2 Corinthians 5:5 *Now it is God who has ... given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.*

Ephesians 4:4-6 *There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 *The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. **14** Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. **19-20** If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. **25** ... there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. **27** Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

Parting Shot:

Jesus baptizes all believers with one Spirit (the Holy Spirit) into one body (the body of Christ.) As believers we are integral parts of the body, and as such we must have equal concern for one another. We are given one Spirit so that we can live in unity and care for one another, and ultimately be enabled to do the work that Christ has for us to do!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #7 The Holy Spirit and Baptism

1.) John the Baptist said that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit. Why would He?

2.) What does it mean that we would get baptized with the Holy Spirit? Will it hurt?

3.) What reason would Jesus have to baptize us all with the same Holy Spirit?

Lesson #8 The Holy Spirit Lives in Us

Opening Shot:

As believers, we are part of the Body of Christ. We are baptized by One Spirit into one body, and the Holy Spirit lives in us. This means that each of our bodies is the Temple of the Holy Spirit. We were washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. That means we are clean! So, now, how should we live?

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

1 Corinthians 12:27 *Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

1 Corinthians 12:13 *For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.*

Romans 8:11 *...through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

1 Corinthians 6:17 *But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.*

1 Corinthians 6:11 *But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) OK... I'm saved! Great. Now what? How am I to behave?
- 2.) Since God has already saved me, does that mean that I can do anything I want?
- 3.) Does God have any guidelines for me on how I should act from here on out?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Ephesians 4:22-24 *You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

1 Corinthians 6:12 *"Everything is permissible for me"—but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"—but I will not be mastered by anything.*

1 Corinthians 6:13-15 *The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!*

Galatians 5:13-14 *You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

Ephesians 4:1 *...I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.*

Ephesians 4:30 *... do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (See also: Ephesians: Ch. 4 & 5, and Romans 6:12-14)*

Parting Shot:

As believers, everything may be permissible for us, but NOT everything is beneficial. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in us, and we are members of the Body of Christ. We are not to grieve the Holy Spirit, with our behavior; instead we are to live lives worthy of the calling we've received. As for guidelines, there are lots! They are all summed up in this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Let's start there and let the Holy Spirit lead us. He's the one, with whom we were sealed for the day of redemption.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #8 The Holy Spirit Lives in Us

1.) OK... I'm saved! Great. Now what? How am I to behave?

2.) Since God has already saved me, does that mean that I can do anything I want?

3.) Does God have any guidelines for me on how I should act from here on out?

Lesson #9 The Spirit of Life

Opening Shot:

As believers in Christ, the Spirit of God lives in us. We are urged to live lives worthy of the calling we've received, but even when we fail to do so, we do not have to run after Jesus eternally, trying somehow to be "good enough." God, in His mercy, punished sin in the person of Jesus on our behalf, and now there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life set us free of the law of sin and death! Now we do not live according to the sinful nature but the Spirit.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Ephesians 4:1 ...*I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.*

Romans 8:1-4 *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) I want to do what's right, but sometimes I still do what's wrong. Does that mean I'm not saved?
- 2.) So, if God's Spirit lives in me, how does that help me right now... today?
- 3.) If the Spirit lives in me now, how will that benefit me in the future?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Romans 7:21-25 (The Apostle Paul wrote) *So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

Romans 8:6 ... *the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace;*

Romans 8:11 *if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

Romans 8:16-17 *The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ...*

Parting Shot:

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus: What a wonderful thing! Yes, our sinful nature still plagues us; often we do things we shouldn't and we regret it. The Apostle Paul (who was definitely a believer in Christ) struggled with his own sinful nature. But he rejoiced that he had been rescued from "this body of death" through Jesus Christ. As believers, we are no longer controlled by the sinful nature, but by the Spirit of Life who lives in us. He testifies with our spirits that we are God's children. And as His children, we are His heirs and co-heirs with Christ. One day our bodies will be raised, just as Christ was raised, and we will live with Jesus forever!

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #9 The Spirit of Life

1.) I want to do what's right, but sometimes I still do what's wrong. Does that mean I'm not saved?

2.) So, if God's Spirit lives in me, how does that help me right now... today?

3.) If the Spirit lives in me now, how will that benefit me in the future?

Lesson #10 Fruit of the Spirit

Opening Shot:

As believers in Christ, we have the Spirit of Life living in us. The question is “Can we see it making a difference in our lives?” Or... maybe more importantly... “Can others?” What evidence is there of the Holy Spirit working in our lives? We still have our “sinful nature,” and, although we are no longer slaves to it, we still struggle with it. What acts of the sinful nature should we be aware of and guard against? How are we to live?

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Romans 8:9 *You ...are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) Even as a Christian, I find that there always seems to be a struggle going on inside of me: Good vs. Evil. Why is that?
- 2.) What types of things are “acts of the sinful nature”? The Top 10 Worst Things...
- 3.) I've heard about the “Fruit of the Spirit.” What type of fruit is that exactly?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

Galatians 5:16-17 *... live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.*

Galatians 5:19-21 *The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

Galatians 5:22-23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

Galatians 5:25 *Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

Galatians 6:7-8 *Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

Hand out the extra sheets included with today's lesson.

Parting Shot:

As believers in Christ, we live by the Spirit: and the Spirit produces fruit in our lives. This fruit consists of things we can see and that others can see! These things include: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. Some of these things take time to show up in our lives. In the mean time, our sinful nature is in conflict with the Spirit; but we can watch for its acts and turn from them. *(Of course, the sooner, the better!)* Remember that, as Christians, we are no longer slaves to our sinful nature: We can choose what we will do. Let us try and keep step with the Spirit, so that we can have the Fruit of the Spirit in our lives, and so that from the Spirit we will reap eternal life!

From Galatians 5:19-22

Acts of the Sinful Nature

Sexual Immorality

Impurity

Debauchery

Idolatry

Witchcraft

Hatred

Discord

Jealousy

Fits of Rage

Selfish Ambition

Dissensions

Factions

Envy

Drunkenness

Orgies

(And the like...)

Fruit of the Spirit

Love

Joy

Peace

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Faithfulness

Gentleness

Self-Control

(Against such things there is no law.)

What's in My Heart?

By Sharon Chatwell

Is it lies? Is it deceit? Is it callous disregard or disinterest in the needs of those around me? Is it hate? Is it worry? Is it anger and lechery? Is it conspiracy and divisiveness? Is it self-righteousness and stubborn self-assertiveness? Is it vanity and evil self-protection? Is it greed? Is it amoral? Is it self-pity? Is it flattery? Is it coyness? Is it self-indulgence? Is it false-piety? Is it judgmental? Is it smug? Is it hell-bent for a fight? Is it legalistic?

Is it unworthy of God who gave His Son for me?

If so...

Then it's not Love.

Is it kind? Is it patient? Is it honorable? Is it right? Is it friendly? Is it self-revealing? Is it self-involving? Is it self-sacrificing? Is it honest? Is it truthful? Is it real? Is it generous? Is it modest? Is it helpful? Is it faithful? Is it inclusive? Is it forbearing? Is it forgiving? Is it long-suffering? Is it moral? Is it ethical? Is it good? Is it pure? Is it disinterested in self? Is it healing? Is it righteous? Is it true? Is it courageous? Is it gracious? Is it holy?

Is it worthy of God who gave His Son for me?

If so...

Then it's Love.

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

Galatians 6:7-8

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #10 Fruit of the Spirit

1.) Even as a Christian, I find that there always seems to be a struggle going on inside of me: Good vs. Evil. Why is that?

2.) What types of things are “acts of the sinful nature”? Say, the Top 10 Worst Things...

3.) I've heard about the “Fruit of the Spirit.” What type of fruit is that exactly?

Lesson #11 The Spirit Knows the Will of God (Discernment and Prayer)

Opening Shot:

The Holy Spirit lives in all of us who believe in Jesus as our Savior, and the Spirit leads us into all truth. God reveals things to us through His Holy Spirit, who knows the very thoughts of God. People who don't believe in Jesus (those without the Spirit) can't accept these things, because they are spiritually discerned: The things of God just sound like foolishness to them. The Holy Spirit reveals them to us. He also helps us to pray, and (even when we don't know what to pray for) He prays for us in the will of God!

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

John 16:13 *But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*

1 Corinthians 2:6-8, 10 *...we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it ...but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.*

1 Corinthians 2:10-13 *The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words.*

1 Corinthians 2:14 *The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) How come when I talk to my friends about God stuff, they don't always understand?
- 2.) I barely know what I want myself... How can I possibly know the will of God?
- 3.) How can I pray for things, when I never seem to know what to pray for?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

1 Corinthians 2:14 *The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

Romans 8:26-27 *...the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.*

Parting Shot:

Having the Holy Spirit in our lives helps us so much. Because we have received the Holy Spirit, we can understand the spiritual truths that God has freely given us. In addition, the Spirit of God, who knows the deep things of God, makes intercession (or prays) for us in accordance with God's will. That means that even if we don't know what to pray for, the Holy Spirit is praying for us all the time! (*Wow! How great is that?!*)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #11 The Spirit Knows the Will of God (Discernment and Prayer)

1.) How come when I talk to my friends about God stuff, they don't always understand?

2.) I barely know what I want myself... How can I possibly know the will of God?

3.) How can I pray for things, when I never seem to know what to pray for?

Lesson #12 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Opening Shot:

As believers, the Holy Spirit lives in us and enables us to do the good works which God has prepared in advance for us to do. We are each part of the Body of Christ, but we are not all alike. That would be silly! God has arranged the parts of the Body of Christ just as He wants them: Some parts have this job and some parts have that job. Each one of us may have different gifts (and talents), but each gift (*no matter how modest it may seem to us*) is given for the common good. It is also given so that we can do all of the good works that God has prepared in advance for us, as the Body of Christ, to do.

Introduction to Bible Truths: (OPTIONAL)

Ephesians 2:10 *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

1 Corinthians 12:18-20, 27 ... *God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.*

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 *There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.*

Ask Me No Questions/ I'll Tell You No Lies:

- 1.) OK, so everyone has gifts and talents they can use... What are mine?
- 2.) If my gift is "better" than someone else's, that makes me more important... Right?
- 3.) Is there anything more important than having those really great spiritually-given gifts?

We've Got Questions/ God's Got Answers:

1 Corinthians 12:24, 26 *But God has combined the members of the body... so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*

1 Corinthians 12:28-31 *And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But eagerly desire the greater gifts.*

1 Corinthians 13:1-2, 13 *If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

Parting Shot:

We are part of the Body of Christ, and as such we are to have equal concern for each other; no matter what our various gifts and talents may be. It is important for us to have differing gifts and talents, so that the work of the Body of Christ may be accomplished. But, even more important than gifts, is the love we show as we are administering them.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Lesson #12 Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1.) OK, so everyone has gifts and talents they can use... What are mine?

2.) If my gift is "better" than someone else's, that makes me more important... Right?

3.) Is there anything more important than having those really great spiritually-given gifts?

Lesson #12 Gifts of the Holy Spirit (*Addendum for Teacher Reference*)

Dear Friends,

As you know, the concept of Spiritual Gifts is one about which there are many opinions. Believers of good conscience fall across a vast spectrum of beliefs about Spiritual Gifts. The object of this lesson is not to inflame any differences of opinion, but to point out beliefs which are very commonly held. The major points of this lesson are:

- Believers are part of the Body of Christ.
- God has arranged the members of the body just as He intended them to be.
- Each part has its own particular abilities (gifts and talents) and/or “calling.”
- God has prepared good works in advance for us to do.
- Working together as parts of the Body of Christ (and enabled by the Holy Spirit) we can accomplish these good works.
- We are to value each other and have equal concern for one another.

When you teach this lesson, it is possible that questions may arise regarding various ideas about Spiritual Gifts. As always, I recommend speaking with your Pastor ahead of time about the content of any lesson. Also, familiarize yourself with what your church teaches about Spiritual Gifts, before teaching this class. You might even consider **inviting your pastor to class** to explain what your church teaches about Spiritual Gifts.

My prayer is that you will find this lesson useful, and that it will help the Youth in your class learn that each person is valuable and important to the work of the Body of Christ.

God bless you!

Sharon Chatwell

For additional information on Spiritual Gifts, please see these Bible references:

Another listing of gifts (or callings) and the reason for them: **Ephesians 4:11-13** *It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

Various Gifts of the Holy Spirit: **1 Corinthians 12:8-11** *To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.*

Speaking in Tongues: **1 Corinthians 14:1-40** In these verses, the Apostle Paul discusses the gift of Speaking in Tongues and the importance of Orderly Worship.