

CHAPTER 4

HOLY SPIRIT: GOD PRESENT WITH US

Refer to **pg 41** in the workbook

Summary

Who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do? The person, the different tasks and roles of the Spirit are noted.

The practical stresses the outworking of the fruit of the Spirit in the learner's daily life.

To get ready

1. Extra bibles, pens and pencils
2. Some copies of New King James Version Bible
3. Some copies of New Living Translation Bible
4. Optional - photocopy of flash cards on pages 13 to 16
5. Memory verse Galatians 5:22, 23

Teacher's Guide

Here you can open up the discussion by asking them to share what they have heard others say about the Holy Spirit. Depending on the denominational backgrounds of your learners' friends, they may have heard things like 'Spirit baptism', 'power anointing by the Spirit', 'Spirit-anointed' etc. On the other hand, they may share thoughts from friends who believe that the gifts of the Spirit (especially the spectacular ones) have ceased.

This sharing will help you to have a clearer idea of where your learners are coming from and so you can deal with them accordingly as the lesson progresses.

Refer to **pg 42** in the workbook

1. The answers are given below.

The Bible speaks of the Holy Spirit as a **person** and definitely not as a thing..

The concept of personhood may need explanation. Contrast the reaction of a thing (like a table) and a person.

Also it was Jesus who **promises** to send the Holy Spirit to His disciples (that's us now) after He goes back to God the Father and Jesus has done just that.

It is written in the Bible that only the Holy Spirit knows the **mind** of God.

This last point of the Holy Spirit being the second Person of the Trinity needs some emphasis. Some leading questions could be as follows:

Who knows your mind i.e. your innermost thoughts? Ans: myself

Who would know God's mind? Ans: God Himself

So what does it mean that the Holy Spirit knows the mind of God?

Ans: He must be God

More details and Bible references can be found in Foundation (A Manual for Christian Growth) – Chapter 4 - pages 38 to 43.

2. The other answers are given here.

He was called the Holy **Ghost**.

He is **spirit** and not **physical** with a body like us.

The word 'ghost' or 'spirit' means there is no physical substance. So He cannot be seen or touched nor is He solid like us.

Tell the learners that the names given to the Spirit also show His roles or tasks as will be seen below.

John 14:16. The Spirit is the **Counselor**.

John 14:17. He is the Spirit of **Truth**.

This last verse needs to be referred to in the NKJV. Have one ready.

John 15:26 (NKJV). The Spirit is the **Helper**.

John 14:16,17

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another **Counselor** to be with you forever. -- the Spirit of **truth**.

John 15:26(NKJV)

"But when the **Helper** comes,...

In short, the Holy Spirit makes it **possible** for all of us to live the good life God wants.

Refer to **pg 43** in the workbook

3. The picture below has many images but only four here are the images of the Holy Spirit. They are a dove, the wind, the fire and the water. The wind is the picture in the center of the bottom row. These are taken from the verses here.

Circle the right images of the picture.

MATTHEW 3:16

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descend-ing like a **dove** and lighting on him.

JOHN 7:38,39

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, **streams of living water** will flow from within him." ³⁹By this he meant the Spirit.

ACTS 2:1-3

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent **wind** came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be **tongues of fire** that separated and came to rest on each of them.

Ask the learners to think of one or two things that are usually associated with each of the four images. Some guidelines are given below.

Dove - This bird signified peace as can be seen in contemporary designs with an olive branch in its beak. The dove as the symbol of peace goes back to Noah and the Flood.

Water - This symbolizes freshness and cleansing. Water is also life-giving.

Wind - Wind is unseen yet its powerful force is distinctly experienced.

Fire - This signifies great (even destructive) power and cleansing, as in shaping of metals, where the dross or impurities are burnt away leaving the pure metal.

Refer to **pg 44** in the workbook

Let the learners write some notes onto the scrolls below. If time permits, ask them to draw a picture to show the characteristic of each one.

4. This puzzle is called a cryptogram. The same numbers below the dash have the same letter on top. Some of the letters are already numbered and some of the words can be read.

Refer to **pg 45** in the workbook

The verses above are written out in full below with some comments.

Ephesians 4:30 - seals

³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were **sealed** for the day of redemption.

Acts 4:8 - fills

⁸Then Peter, **filled** with the Holy Spirit, said to them...

Acts 8:29 - guides

²⁹The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

Though the word itself is not present, yet the thought of the Spirit guiding Philip so specifically should give the right idea.

Acts 1:8 - empowers

⁸But you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit comes on you.

1 Corinthians 12:7 - equips

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

How can we help each other in the community of the church? By using the equipment of spiritual gifts the Spirit gives to each one.

Galatians 4:6 - assures

⁶Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

Again here the word 'assures' is not specifically mentioned. Take note that the Spirit cries out the relationship from our hearts assuring us that we are indeed sons (and daughters) of the Father.

Luke 12:12 - teaches

¹²for the Holy Spirit will **teach** you at that time what you should say."

Galatians 5:17 - fights sinful nature

¹⁷For 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.

Romans 8:26 - prays for and with

²⁶In the same way, 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.

Sometimes, we are really at a loss as to what to pray for. But note that the Spirit helps us pray. And He also prays (intercedes) for us with deep groans.

Refer to **pg 46** in the workbook

5. The answers to the speech bubbles are given below.

I can trust the
Spirit to **fight**
against my sinful
nature.

Refer to **pg 47** in the workbook

If there are other examples relevant to the group, give it to the learners.

Thank you, Spirit, that you
can **empower** me.

Come and **fill** me, Holy
Spirit!

Thanks, Holy Spirit, you
actually **guiding**
me in the right way.

Refer to **pg 48** in the workbook

Praise the Lord! The Holy Spirit **equips** me with spiritual gifts.

6. We can **grieve** the Spirit. (Ephesians 4:30 NIV)

Ephesians 4:30
And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

We can **stifle** the Spirit. (1 Thessalonians 5:19 NLT)

1 Thess 5:19 (NLT)
Do not **stifle** the Holy Spirit.

Note that above the NLT is used for the verse. Other words used for the same idea in different versions is 'put out' in the NIV and 'quench' in the NKJV. You may like to draw the learners' attention to this variance in different versions.

You may explain 'grieving the Spirit' as doing things which are not in agreement to the Spirit's (and God's) agenda. In short, we sin.

On the other hand, 'stifling the Spirit' can be seen as NOT doing the things the Spirit wants. The Spirit tells us something but we say, 'No!'.

Refer to **pg 49** in the workbook

1.

Now what the Spirit really wants to do is to **fill** us. (Ephesians 5:18)

Ephesians 5:18

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, **be filled** with the Spirit.

The Spirit wants to fill us in the sense of controlling all our behavior. Ephesians 5: 18 compares drunkenness with being filled with the Spirit. When drunk, a person is under the control of alcohol. When filled with the Spirit, the Spirit takes control. Emphasize the continuous tense - keep on being filled. It is an ongoing process.

The answer to fill into the box is "Fruit of the Spirit"

Emphasize that there is essentially one fruit for the Spirit works out the beautiful character of Jesus Christ in the believer's life. But this one fruit expresses itself in nine forms (here listed in Galatians 5: 22,23).

Galatians 5:22,23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kind-ness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Fill in the blanks in the tree with the qualities in Galatians 5: 22, 23.

Flash cards for these qualities available at the end of this chapter pages 15 and 16.

Refer to **pg 50** in the workbook

2. Have some discussion with the learners as to how each expression of the fruit shows itself in anticipation of the practical at the end. There may be more than one answer.

Encourage the learners to give their own examples of how the fruit of the Spirit can be manifested in their daily lives.

Your younger brother has 'borrowed' your pen again without your permission.

**patience, love,
self-control**
.....

A new student joins your class in school. She does not know anyone.

kindness
.....

A classmate says something bad about you. You feel like taking revenge.

peace, self-control
.....

A friend whom you have been bringing to the youth meeting just became a Christian.

joy
.....

Refer to **pg 51** in the workbook

Your mother is very tired
after all the housework.

love, kindness
.....

End in a practical manner that can be evaluated the following week when you have another session with the group of learners.

You may want them to share on real life situations or difficulties that they are experiencing at present and to examine how they can exhibit the fruit of the Spirit in those particular situations. Then pray for each person concerned for the manifestation of the Spirit in his or her life. Remind them to report the following week as to how God has changed the way they see the situation.

Link with the previous lessons by letting them take down these items of prayer in their prayer request notebook and to pray for these people concerned during their Quiet Time. You can also remind them that the Spirit helps them to pray during their Quiet Time and leads them to see God's truth in the Bible as they study it.

3. Today's memory verse is Galatians 5:22, 23. Let them write it down.

Revise the past memory verses.

Galatians 5:22,23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kind-ness, goodness, faith-fulness, gentleness and self-control.

Refer to **pg 52** in the workbook

TODAY I LEARNED ...

- 1 that the Holy Spirit is a **person** and He was sent by **Jesus**
- 2 that the Spirit is the third person in the **Trinity** of God
- 3 that the Spirit is our **Counselor** and **Helper**
- 4 that the Spirit can be represented by the symbols of **fire** , **wind** , **water**
and a **dove**
- 5 that we should always be **filled** with the Spirit
- 6 that the Spirit fights **sin** and helps us to **pray**
- 7 that the Spirit **equips** us with spiritual gifts and **empowers** us for
ministry
- 8 that the Spirit wants to **fill** us but can be **stified** or **grieved** by our wrong
thoughts and actions
- 9 that the Spirit produces the **fruit** of the Spirit in our character

AND I LEARNED HOW

To show out the f **ruit** of the Spirit in my everyday life

See page 5 above

SEALS

FILLS

GUIDES

EMPOWERS

TEACHES

See page 5 above - continued

ASSURES

EQUIPS

**PRAYS FOR AND
WITH**

**FIGHTS SINFUL
NATURE**

See page 9 above

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

LOVE

JOY

PEACE

PATIENCE

KINDNESS

See page 9 above - continued

GOODNESS

FAITHFULNESS

GENTLENESS

SELF-CONTROL