

LESSON 3

**JESUS PROMISES THE HOLY SPIRIT**

LESSON **AT A GLANCE**

**WONDER TRUTH:** Because the Holy Spirit Leads Me, I Am Led

**SCRIPTURE:** [John 14](#)

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** While preparing to be with God the Father in heaven, Jesus promises His followers that God will send them the Holy Spirit—God's very presence—to lead them always.

**WORD OF WONDER:** Your glory fills me with wonder. You do amazing things. —[Exodus 15:11c](#)

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

The Holy Spirit is one with God the Father and God the Son. He is God's powerful, wise, and loving presence, empowering believers to honor God and follow Jesus. The Spirit brings wisdom and knowledge of God's Word, guiding and encouraging God's children.

**WHAT?**

Before Jesus died on the cross, He comforted His disciples by promising that the Holy Spirit would come to them after He went to be with the Father. The Spirit would be their helper, teaching them all things and reminding them of Jesus' words.

**WHERE?**

Jesus promised the Holy Spirit's coming during His Passover supper with the disciples in an upper room of a house in Jerusalem. Shortly after, Jesus and His disciples crossed the Kidron Valley to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus was arrested before His crucifixion.

**WHEN?**

This story took place shortly before Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion. Jesus and His disciples were in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread. The Holy Spirit would later come on the disciples during Pentecost, after Jesus' resurrection and ascension.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

In the book of Ezekiel, God promised to give His people new hearts by placing His own Spirit within them ([Ezekiel 36:26–27](#)). This promise was realized when the Holy Spirit came to Jesus' followers, empowering all believers to reject sin and walk in newness of life.

## Play Stations

Greet the kids warmly and briefly explain the play stations to them. Invite them to play at any of the stations.

**Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help you prepare for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas about what we'll be learning today?**

### Play Station: Roll-a-Way Maze

**Set up:** Use painter's tape to create a large path on the floor. You can make the path by using one single strip of tape that twists and turns across the open area of your room. Or you could use two parallel strips of tape to create the boundaries of a path. The path should be large enough that multiple children can play on it simultaneously.

**Play:** Invite kids to roll table tennis balls along the path from beginning to end. They can experiment with rolling the ball quickly versus slowly and keeping the ball in their reach versus pushing it farther away.

**NOTE:** You will use this same maze for two other activities later in the lesson, so do not remove the tape

### Play Station: Fall-O the Leader Blocks

**Set up:** Provide an assortment of wooden blocks or dominoes.

**Play:** Encourage kids to arrange the blocks so they are standing up in a row like dominoes. The blocks should be close but not touching. Ask the kids to set up the blocks in a way where if one block falls, it also knocks over the other blocks.

### Play Station: Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit Coloring Sheet

**Set up:** Print one copy per kid of the [coloring sheet](#) and set out the coloring utensils.

**Play:** Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw a simple maze. Have them start by marking starting and ending points on their paper and then ask them to connect the two points with a swirling and turning line.

### Craft: Holy Spirit Crayon-Resist Painting

**Leader Tip:** To simplify or shorten this craft time, write with the white crayon on the paper plates ahead of time. This will allow the kids to simply focus on the watercolor portion of the craft.

In preparation for this activity, set out one plate, one white crayon, one watercolor set, one paintbrush, and one water cup for every child.

**The *Holy Spirit* is God’s powerful, wise, and loving presence. When we trust and follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit will be in our hearts as a friend, helper, and teacher. The Holy Spirit can lead us and help us follow God’s way. Let’s make a craft to remind us how the Holy Spirit is with us when we trust and love Jesus.**

Invite kids to take the white crayon and make a big heart on the middle of their paper plate. Remind them that they won’t be able to see it well right now, and that it’s OK. Assure them they will see it clearly in a bit. Inside the heart, ask the kids to write an *H* and an *S* for *Holy Spirit*. Do the *H* and *S* motions from God’s big story to help the kids connect the meaning.



Once the kids have written with the white crayon on their plates, demonstrate how to add a bit of water to the watercolor palette and then paint on the paper plate. Kids can freely choose colors they like, or if you want to offer more direction, ask the kids to use blue and green watercolors to represent the colors of the earth. As the kids paint over the crayon, the wax will resist the paint, and the heart, the *H*, and the *S* will become visible. The crayon will not show up under paint if the plates are shiny or waxy. It will only work on plates that have a matte paper or cardboard finish. You could also use cardstock.

**Take your pictures home to help you remember how the Holy Spirit leads and guides you each day.**

## Identity

### Closing Game: Way-to-Go Hopping

Before you begin, place rubber dots on the floor in a random order, or you can use painter’s tape to make X’s to mark the spots instead. Be mindful to keep each spot within stepping distance of another.

Gather kids in circle. **Let’s play a game. The game is like Follow the Leader—but with a twist and a hop!** Select one child to be the first leader. The dots on the floor should be close enough to each other that the leader can choose where to jump to next, since there is not one clear path. The other children should follow behind, jumping onto the same dots as the person in front of them did. Allow other children to have turns as the leader and play as many rounds as time allows.

**We can remember that God sent the Holy Spirit to help His people. The Holy Spirit is God’s powerful, wise, and loving presence. The *Holy Spirit* leads the way.**

## Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them and thank God for the Holy Spirit.

**God, thank You for sending the Holy Spirit! Help us always be full of wonder because of all the amazing things You do for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** May you know that you're not alone. And may you remember that God's powerful, wise, and loving presence can lead you and help you, today and all the days of your life.