



# Growing as followers of Jesus

## Leaders Guide

### Introduction

**This week we are further unpacking the concept of the Holy Spirit being God present with us. The reading tells us of God's helper coming to remind us of the teaching of Jesus and the love of God for us. Sometimes the Spirit's engagement with us can be big and obvious but more often it is the subtle prompting, the still small voice that reminds us of who we are called to be and that we are held in love. Sometimes we have to look hard and pay attention in different ways to notice the Spirit at work.**

### Bible reading

**Advocate – In the reading the word Advocate is used for the Holy Spirit, it is not one way just God coming to us but also the spirit advocating on our behalf to God.**

**In the bible reading this week the word advocate is used. An advocate is one who comes to talk on behalf of another, the spirit comes to remind us of God but it also advocates to God on our behalf as well.**

### Ideas for Parents

- **You could talk about a time when you were prompted by the Spirit about something, and it turned out to be important.**
- **Has there ever been a time when you have felt the Spirit comfort you, it could be a feeling or when someone was kind to you at just the right time?**
- **Maybe you could bake some biscuits or make some food for someone you know who is struggling now. Talk to the kids about how the Spirit invites us to be part of God's work in the world.**

### Ideas for Congregations

**This week is a great opportunity for people to share their stories of how they have encountered the Holy Spirit.**

- **In small groups discuss how you think the Holy Spirit connects with us.**
- **Maybe share a story of how the Holy Spirit has connected with your life.**
- **Make some 3 D glasses and talk about how looking at things in a new way helps you notice things you did not notice before. How to Make Your Own 3D Glasses ([thesprucecrafts.com](http://thesprucecrafts.com))**
- **You could also look at this to explore how different cultures see things differently.**





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**Heart of the Story (Everyone Chat):**

**Looking for the Holy Spirit in our lives.**

**Play object memory game.**

**Have about 20 different things on a tray covered over. Get everyone to look at the tray for 20 seconds and write down what they saw.**

**Talk about how everyone notices different things, when you hear different things do you remember those things?**

**The Holy Spirit works with us to see things from a new perspective.**

### Activities

- **Make something to give to someone to encourage them.**
- **Create 3D glasses.**



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## Who is the Holy Spirit?

### A New Look

Name of the Book      Chapter      Verse

**John      14      25-26**

25 "All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the Advocate, 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.

#### Getting Ready!

What have you learnt about the Holy Spirit so far?

## DID YOU KNOW?

An advocate is someone who sticks up for us and looks out for us. The Holy Spirit in the reading is described as an Advocate.

Have you ever been in a situation where you remembered something about God at just the right time? It might have been when you were feeling sad or lonely or worried about something. The Holy Spirit is there to help us live life God's way. It gives us strength and courage when we are scared, to stick up for people when we see the wrong things happening. It brings us comfort when we are sad and lonely and reminds us that we are never alone, God is always there wanting to be friends with us. It helps makes things clear when we are confused. I love how Jesus promises that with the Spirit comes God's peace and that we do not need to be worried or afraid.

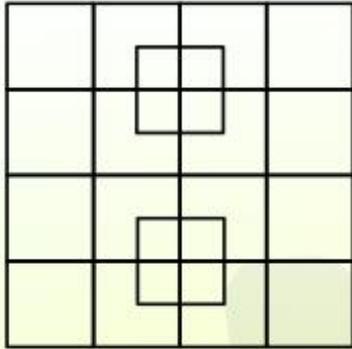


#### PRAISING GOD!

Dear God,  
thank you for your Spirit and the promise that you are with us no matter. Thankyou that there is no problem too big or too hard for you and that with your help we can overcome. Amen

#### SORRY GOD.

Hey god,  
Please help me to notice the prompting of your Spirit and listen for your wisdom even when I am scared and worried. Thanks God  
Amen



How many squares can you find in this picture?



Draw how you know;  
God's Spirit is with you.

**TELLING OTHERS**

Sometimes the Holy Spirit ask us to encourage others is there someone you can think of that you would like to encourage today?

**CONNECT WITH OTHERS**

Ask someone important to you: When have you noticed the Holy Spirit reminding you of something important?

**SPIRITUAL PRACTICE**

This week as you go to bed take a minute to think about where you have noticed the Spirit reminding you about Jesus's teaching or encouraging you or comforting you during the day.

**BLESSING**

May today and every day the Spirit of God guide your ways, blessing you for all your life.

