

THE GREAT COMFORTER

THEOLOGICAL QUESTION

Who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do?

BIG IDEA

When we put our faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of us. Through His ministry, we are given a life-long helper to walk alongside us through thick and thin, and are also empowered to reach others for Christ.

SCRIPTURE USED

Philippians 2:5-11 *You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

John 14:16-19 *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live.*

Acts 4:8-13 *Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says 'The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men with no special training in the Scriptures. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus.*

For this lesson you will need:

- Nothing but the Holy Spirit!

OPENER

GAME

Copy Cat Extreme. This hilarious game requires people to mimic one leader from the youth group. Find a large open space and ask everyone to form a large circle. All of the students can sit or stand, just make sure everyone is faced inward. Once set, ask someone to volunteer themselves to be the guesser. Dismiss the guesser out of the room and have the group decide on a “leader” they should follow. The leader’s responsibility is to get the entire group to mimic their movements. But they have to be careful because the guesser is going to come back into the room and try to figure out who the leader is. The guesser only gets chances to pick who the leader is. Feel free to play multiple rounds.

LESSON

EXPLAIN

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have walked with Jesus? Imagine how spectacular it would have been to hang out with God, the very person who created you and loves you. What would it have been like to see the crowds astonished as Jesus restored sight to the blind, healed the lame, ended sickness and brought a dead man rotting in a tomb back to life?

Perhaps the coolest experience would be seeing Jesus come back to life. Think about it! A whole city condemned your leader to death and all of a sudden He is standing right before your eyes. [Feel free to personalize the following] I know if I were there I would be freaked out, but I’d also be thinking about how this is going to blow the world’s mind! Death cannot stop our fearless leader!

ASK

- **What would you have liked most about being with Jesus?**
- **Name a miracle that you would have liked to witness (e.g., loaves and fishes, walking on water, Lazarus coming back to life, Jesus coming back to life, restoring the sight of the blind, etc.).**
- **What would you have done if you saw Jesus come back to life?**