

# The Holy Spirit? What does He do?

## Topic: The Holy Spirit

### Purpose of this study:

To give students a basic understanding of who the Holy Spirit is and what role he plays in their lives.

### Motivation for teaching this study:

This study is preparatory to the next lesson on the filling of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the least understood person of the Trinity. Yet, His importance cannot be overlooked. In this age, God has chosen to speak to us through His Word and through the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We cannot assume that our students have a basic understanding of the Holy Spirit even though they may have been Christians for some time. These truths are foundation to a lifetime of being one with God through His Holy Spirit.

### Introducing the Lesson:

You may want to begin with a couple of questions about who they think the Holy Spirit is. While some in the group may have a good understanding, others may have no idea who or what you are talking about. Or you can ask them, “*Have you ever made a New Years Resolution or a decision to change some area of your life?*” “*Was it easy to change?*” Then transition into saying, “*As Christians we have someone to help us make Christian resolutions in our lives.*”

### Teaching the Lesson:

#### Who is He?

Here you just want to communicate a very basic understanding of the Trinity. You can use illustrations such as: The Trinity is like water in three forms: ice, liquid, and vapor; or an egg: the shell, egg, and yolk; or perhaps three different roles you play: father, husband, son. Remember to keep it simple and not spend too much time on this area. You may want to ask your students how the Holy Spirit is different from “The Force” in Star Wars (there is a huge difference by the way!)

#### When did you receive the Holy Spirit?

Stress that God gives us the Holy Spirit when we believe as a pledge or deposit (NIV) that He will later come back and redeem us to Himself. Some other scriptures saying that the Holy Spirit indwells believers are I Corinthians 3:16 and Romans 8:9.

#### What does the Holy Spirit do in your life?

Here you might want to not only identify what the Holy Spirit does in the believer’s life but also come up with some specific examples of how this happened in your own life. Try to personalize it and even encourage your students to share examples of these things happening in their own lives.

#### What does the Holy Spirit do in non-Christian lives?

The main point is that God convicts non-believers of guilt or sin. The purpose of this conviction is to draw them to the Savior for their repentance. God does this in every believer’s life, regardless of their outward appearance. Some respond to God and become Christians while others continue to resist Him and become hardened (Romans 1:18-32).

#### How important is our relationship with the Holy Spirit?

Emphasize that God’s Spirit doesn’t work on a percentage basis - so that you do as much as you can and He makes us for the rest. God says here that He does it all - 100%.

### Closing the Lesson:

Encourage your students to identify areas of their lives where they are attempting to live their lives on their own without trusting God. Tell them that next week you will talk about how to learn to give God control of their lives.

### Evaluation:

Again here are some questions to ponder:

1. How is the Holy Spirit different from the “The Force” on Star Wars?
2. Is it possible to be a Christian and not have the Holy Spirit living within you?
3. Why do we need the Holy Spirit in our lives as believers?
4. What happens when we try to live the Christian life on our own? Why?
5. Who is responsible to produce fruit in our lives?