Jesus called the Holy Spirit both the Helper and the Comforter. These names highlight the strength and support the Spirit provided to the apostles, and they are excellent descriptions for shaping our understanding of the Spirit today. This study will help students become familiar with key passages (in their context) that describe the Holy Spirit so that we can avoid common misunderstandings and be more grateful for the blessings He provides.

This class will help students:
- Acknowledge and honor the Spirit’s wonderful works.
- Appreciate the means the Spirit employs to accomplish His work.
- Advance our understanding of the Spirit’s relationship to Christians today.
- Answer common questions about the Spirit.
- Avoid sins that tear down the very things the Spirit builds up.

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Lesson 1: Introduction to the Spirit’s Nature

The Holy Spirit’s Personal Nature
What do the pronouns used to describe the Holy Spirit indicate? (John 14:16-17)

Not every use of the word “spirit” refers to the Holy Spirit. How is it used in 1 Timothy 4:1?

The Holy Spirit’s Personal Traits
What qualities of the Spirit are described in the following verses?

- He has ____________________________ (Romans 8:27)
- He has ____________________________ (Romans 15:30)
- He has ____________________________ (1 Corinthians 2:11)
- He has ____________________________ (1 Corinthians 12:11)

What personal actions does the Spirit perform?

- He ____________________________ (Acts 8:29, 1 Timothy 4:1)
- He ____________________________ (John 14:26, John 15:26-27)
- He ____________________________ (Romans 8:26)

What personal suffering does the Spirit endure?

- He ____________________________ (Ephesians 4:30)
- He ____________________________ (Hebrews 10:26)
- He ____________________________ (Acts 5:3)

The Holy Spirit’s Divine Qualities
What attributes of God are possessed by the Spirit?

- Divine __________________________ (John 16:13, 1 Corinthians 2:10-11)
- Divine __________________________ (Psalms 139:7-10)
- Divine __________________________ (Hebrews 9:14)

Considering these passages, what conclusions about the Holy Spirit can we make?
2: Introduction to the Spirit’s Work

In The Beginning…
The Old Testament frequently describes the Spirit in action and in prophecy. What help or comfort does He provide in the following passages?

• ________________ (Genesis 1:2, Job 33:1-7)
• ________________ (Judges 6:34, 15:14)
• ________________ (1 Samuel 10:6, 16:13)
• ________________ (Isaiah 11:1-2, 42:1)
• ________________ (Nehemiah 9:20)

In The Life of Christ…
The New Testament reveals the very significant role the Spirit played in the ministry of Jesus. What does He accomplish in the following passages?

• __________________________________________ (Luke 1:28-35)
• __________________________________________ (Luke 2:25-35)
• __________________________________________ (Luke 4:16-21)
• __________________________________________ (Matthew 3:16-17)

In The Early Church…
The Spirit’s help and comfort in establishing the church is a joy to behold. What wonderful blessings did He provide in the following passages?

• __________________________________________ (Acts 1:8, 1:26-2:6)
• __________________________________________ (Acts 4:8, 25)
• __________________________________________ (Acts 7:51, 55)
• __________________________________________ (Acts 8:17-19, Acts 19:6)
• __________________________________________ (Acts 11:12)
• __________________________________________ (Acts 21:11)
Lesson 3: The Spirit and Inspiration

Remember the Class Goals:
1. Acknowledge and honor the Spirit’s wonderful works.
2. Appreciate the means the Spirit employs to accomplish His work.
3. Advance our understanding of the Spirit’s relationship to Christians today.
4. Answer common questions about the Spirit.
5. Avoid sins that tear down the very things the Spirit builds up.

Promises to the Apostles
The night before his death, Jesus made several promises to his apostles regarding the Holy Spirit. John records these promises as part of a larger section of what Jesus said to them during that evening (John 13 – 17).

1. Read John 14:15-17, 25-31
   a. What are two names or titles given to the Spirit in vs. 16 and 17 (cf. John 16:7, 13)?
   b. What does Jesus promise the Spirit will do for them in vs. 26?

2. Read John 16:1-15
   a. Did Jesus teach everything he wanted the apostles to know while he was with them (vs. 12)?
   b. What does he promise the Spirit will do for them (vs. 13)? Whose teaching will this be?

3. Read Matthew 10:1-5, 16-20
   a. When the twelve were sent out during Jesus’ ministry what were they able to do (vs. 1)?
   b. How did they know what to say (vs. 20)?

4. Read Matthew 28:16-20
   a. What was their mission?
   b. How would they know (remember) what Jesus had commanded them?

The Apostles Receive the Holy Spirit
1. Read Acts 1:2-8.
   a. How did Jesus give commands to the apostles (vs. 2)?
b. What would the Spirit allow them to do (vs. 8)?

   a. Who is together on Pentecost (1:26, 2:1)?
   
   b. When they were filled with the Spirit (vs. 4), what were they able to do (compare vs. 4 with vs. 8 and 11 to answer this question)?
   
   c. What did Peter say had happened to him and the other eleven apostles (vs. 14-18)?

Paul and the Inspiration of the Spirit
1. Read Ephesians 3:1-5
   a. How did Paul come to know the “mystery” (vs. 3)?
   
   b. Who else does he declare now knows this (vs. 5)?
   
   c. To whom does he give credit for their knowledge (vs. 5)?

2. Read I Corinthians 2:6-16
   a. There are things of God that no one can know (vs. 9). Paul speaks of how he came to know them. How did God reveal them to Paul (vs. 10)?
   
   b. Who alone can understand the thoughts of God (vs. 11)?
   
   c. How do we in turn understand these things of God (vs. 12-13)?
Lesson 4: The Spirit and Conversion

Remember the Class Goals:
1. Acknowledge and honor the Spirit’s wonderful works.
2. Appreciate the means the Spirit employs to accomplish His work.
3. Advance our understanding of the Spirit’s relationship to Christians today.
4. Answer common questions about the Spirit.
5. Avoid sins that tear down the very things the Spirit builds up.

Introduction – Nature of Salvation
To avoid misunderstanding the Holy Spirit’s role in a sinner’s conversion, it’s essential to have a Biblical view of the sinner’s responsibility for his or her own sinfulness and the role God’s message has in reaching and saving them from the consequence of their sin. This can introduce a topic well beyond the scope of our study of the Holy Spirit, but the scriptures below should help us avoid the idea that the Holy Spirit must work directly on the heart of a sinner turning him to God even against his will; or the false idea that an individual cannot weigh out the message of God and have a personal involvement in making a free will decision to turn to the Lord.

In Lesson 3, we saw how the Spirit played an essential part in revealing the message of the Father to the Apostles. In this lesson, we see how important that work of the Spirit is in producing the salvation of any soul.

1. Read James 1:18-21
   a. What is the message called in vs. 18? What is the word able to do?

2. Acts 15:7-9 discusses sinners who have been saved.
   a. By what was their heart cleansed?
      b. Read Romans 10:14-17. What was the source of that faith? Look also at Acts 15:7.

3. Acts 17:30 declares God commands all people everywhere to repent.
   a. What leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4)?
      b. Where do we learn of the goodness of God (Romans 1:16-17)?

4. Galatians 3:27 speaks of all Christians being baptized, explaining that they have put on Christ. Based on the following verses, who was being baptized?
   a. Acts 2:41:
   b. Acts 8:12:
   c. Acts 18:8:

Mission of the Apostles
Remember in the previous lesson, the Apostles were promised the Holy Spirit who would teach them. What were they to do with this blessing from the Spirit?
1. Read Matthew 28:16-20 and Mark 16:15-16.
   a. How were they to make disciples? What were they to teach them and what the source of that teaching?

   b. What were they to proclaim to the whole world? Who would be saved?

2. Read I Peter 1:10-12
   a. What had the Spirit done for prophets of old?

   b. In the days of Peter, by what were inspired men preaching the good news? What did this good news concern (vs. 10a)?

*Day of Pentecost*
Acts 2:1-41 records the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles (as promised) and what they immediately did as a result of the influence and power of the Spirit.

1. What were all of the Apostles doing (vs. 7)?

2. What does Peter say has been fulfilled (vs. 16-18)? What is going to be the result (vs. 21)?

3. What does Peter urge the crowd to do (vs. 22)? What would they be able to know as a result (vs. 36)?

4. What was their reaction and question (vs. 37)? How is it answered (vs. 38-39)?

5. How does Peter bear witness and exhort them (vs. 40)?
Lesson 5: The Spirit and Our Christian Walk

Remember the Class Goals:
1. Acknowledge and honor the Spirit’s wonderful works.
2. Appreciate the means the Spirit employs to accomplish His work.
3. Advance our understanding of the Spirit's relationship to Christians today.
4. Answer common questions about the Spirit.
5. Avoid sins that tear down the very things the Spirit builds up.

Introduction
In lesson 4, we examined the Holy Spirit’s role in the conversion of a lost soul. Now we want to examine how the Spirit assists the converted as they begin to live as a child of God.

The Spirit’s Work for Us
According to the following scriptures, what does the Spirit do for us?

1. Romans 5:5
2. Romans 8:9
3. Romans 8:11
4. Romans 8:16
5. Romans 8:26-27 (two things)
6. Romans 15:13
7. II Corinthians 13:14
8. Galatians 5:18
9. Ephesians 2:18
10. Ephesians 4:30
11. II Thessalonians 2:13

The Response Expected from Us
We are expected to respond to the Spirit. There are things we should and should not do in our response. According to the following scriptures, what are we NOT to do?
1. Matthew 12:31-32
2. I Corinthians 6:18-20
3. Ephesians 4:30
4. I Thessalonians 5:19
5. Hebrews 10:29

According to the following scriptures, what are we to do?

1. Romans 8:4-6
2. Galatians 5:16
3. Galatians 6:8
4. Ephesians 4:3
5. Ephesians 5:18
The Major Passages. *In the following passages, the Spirit of God is described as dwelling within Christians. The Bible is clear about the fact of the Spirit’s indwelling, but what is often debated is the manner of the Spirit’s indwelling.*

- In Romans 8:9-10, what effect does the Spirit dwelling within Christians have?

- In 1 Corinthians 3:6-17 and 1 Cor. 6:15-20, what metaphor does Paul use to help the Corinthians understand the indwelling of the Spirit?

**Considering The Temple.** *Because the Spirit’s dwelling is described in terms of a temple, I believe careful attention is due. Consider what we know…*

Where is God usually described as dwelling? Deut. 26:15, 1 Kings 8:30, 2 Chron. 2:6, 6:18, Psalm 11:4, Isaiah 66:1-2, Mark 16:19

So, in what sense did God dwell in the Tabernacle? Exodus 33:9-14, 40:34

And, in what sense did God dwell in Solomon’s temple?

- ________________________________ 1 Kings 8:1-11, 1 Kings 9:1-9

- ________________________________ 2 Chronicles 5:1-14, 2 Chron. 7:1-3

Summary: God did not cease to dwell in heaven, but His favor, light, glory, and guidance were given to His special people.

**A Righteous Response:** *In context, the dominant issue described by the language of the Spirit dwelling within people is Moral Behavior, not Miraculous Power. This is just what we would expect based on Ezek. 36:27.*

According to Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:18, what righteous behavior will be true of Christians who are filled with the Spirit and the Word of God?

According to 1 Corinthians 6:15-20, when the Spirit dwells within a Christian, what righteous behavior are they motivated to practice?

According to 2 Timothy 1:14, when the Spirit dwells within a Christian, what will they value?

According to James 4:4-7, when the Spirit dwells within a Christian, what relationship will they pursue? With what attitude?
7: The Spirit & Our Sanctification

Set Apart For...

In 1 Peter 1:2, 13-16, what is the purpose of our sanctification?

How is sanctification described in the Old Testament? (Leviticus 20:7-8, Ps 51)

Our Sanctification

How is sanctification a Privilege?

How is sanctification a Process? (1 Thessalonians 5:23, 1 Corinthians 6:11)

How does sanctification require our Participation? (2 Timothy 2:21)

Why does God care about our sanctification?

- ____________________________ Ezekiel 38:23
- ____________________________ 1 Thessalonians 4:3,7

The Holy Spirit’s Role

In Romans 15:14-21, how is the Spirit involved in our sanctification?

In 2 Corinthians 6:16-18, what type of sanctification is expected for us as God’s temple?

In Hebrews 10:26-31, what is the Spirit’s response to those who reject sanctification?
8: The Spirit & Our Edification

Common Evidence

Studying the gifts of the Spirit and the fruit of the Spirit makes much more sense when we appreciate what they have in common.

- What gifts does the Spirit provide to manifest His power? (1 Corinthians 12:7-12)

- What fruit does the Spirit produce to manifest His character? (Galatians 5:22-25)

Common Purpose

What common purpose is accomplished by the gifts and the fruit?

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<tr>
<th>Gifts</th>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th>Common Purpose</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrews 2:4</td>
<td>Matt. 7:16-20, John 13:35</td>
<td>____________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Cor. 14:4,12,26</td>
<td>1 Cor. 8:1</td>
<td>____________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Cor. 12:7</td>
<td>Philippians 2:3-4</td>
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In 1 Corinthians 14, what abuses of the Spirit’s gifts existed? How would the fruit of the Spirit help heal these problems?

Common Concerns

Christians sometimes feel confused and wonder why gifts that would still be useful today such as healing, prophecy, or tongues have ceased. If we remember that the Spirit granted the specific miraculous gift He chose, to the specific person He chose, at the specific time He chose, then we can replace confusion about gifts with __________________________ in the Spirit’s choices.

Christians sometimes feel inadequate when they have the fruit of the Spirit, but not His miraculous gifts. If we remember that the fruit of the Spirit is especially beneficial in building relationships and in furthering the growth of local churches, then we can replace feelings of inadequacy with __________________________.

Christians sometimes feel jealous that some saints received miraculous gifts while others did not. This was certainly true in Corinth, and can still be true today. When we cut through Satan’s deception so that we don’t feel “left out” or under-served, then we can truly value the fruit of the Spirit and replace jealousy with __________________________.

Christians sometimes doubt that God cares for us equally when we don’t have the same gifts of the Spirit. How has God, the perfect Father, done even better than giving us all the exact same blessings? (1 Cor 12:22-31)
The Churches of Galatia
In Acts 14:1-18, what signs did the Spirit enable Paul and Barnabas to perform? How did witnessing these miracles influence the people of Galatia?

Please read Galatians 3:1-5. In verse 2, Paul asks the Galatians to consider two possible approaches to following God. What are the two approaches and which one resulted in the people of Galatia actually receiving the Spirit?

Please read verse 5 again. For those who questioned Paul’s authority as an apostle, what evidence does he provide?

The Church at Ephesus
Ephesians 1:13 describes Christians as sealed with the Holy Spirit. What did an ancient seal communicate?

Ephesians 1:14 describes the Holy Spirit as already given to Christians “as a pledge of our inheritance.” What does this mean Christians are looking forward to receiving?

Ephesians 2:19-22 describes the church as a “dwelling of God in the Spirit.” What praiseworthy qualities does this dwelling place possess?

Ephesians 3:5 gives the Spirit credit for His important work. What did He accomplish?

Ephesians 3:16 describes the Spirit as a source of strength. Where is this strength given?

Ephesians 4:1-3 associates the Spirit with what kind of local church?

Ephesians 5:18 commands Christians to be filled with the Spirit. How can that command be obeyed?

Ephesians 6:17-18 associates the Spirit with the Word and with prayer. What other Bible passages make the same connections?
Lesson 10: Big Questions, The Sins Against The Spirit

The Father, Son, & Spirit all desire for people to be saved, but are also greatly offended by and cannot tolerate sin. According to Romans 12:9 and Proverbs 8:13, what attitude should Christians have towards evil?

Resisting The Spirit
- The Context: What event is unfolding in Acts 7:51-60?
- The Meaning: What were the people guilty of in Acts 7:57?
- The Application: How do people refuse to obey God’s word today?

Quenching The Spirit
- The Context: What work of the Spirit is being suppressed in 1 Thessalonians 5:19-20?
- The Meaning: Why would the Spirit dislike the gifts He imparted being neglected?
- The Application: How can we neglect the Spirit’s work today?

Grieving The Spirit
- The Context: What type of sins are discussed in Ephesians 4:29 and 31?
- The Meaning: Why would sinful attitudes and speech especially sadden the Spirit?
- The Application: What kind of speech would the Spirit rejoice in today?

Insulting The Spirit
- The Context: What type of sinners are described in Hebrews 10:26-31?
- The Meaning: God is willing to forgive, but what is lacking on the part of these people?
- The Application: What is the difference between sins that are committed as “mistakes” and sins that are committed in “rebellion?”

Blaspheming The Spirit
- The Context: What accusation have the Pharisees made?
- The Meaning: What purpose did the Spirit’s miracles serve in Jesus ministry?
- The Application: According to Hebrews 6:4-6, what must we have in order to please God?
Lesson 11: Big Questions, The Anointing of 1 John 2:27

John Describes Two Groups
How does John describe the False Teachers in 1 John 2:18-19?

How does John describe the Faithful Christians in 1 John 2:20-21?

The Actions & Effects
According to 1 John 2:22-23, what have the False Teachers become and what result has this produced?

According to 1 John 2:24, what have the Faithful Christians held onto and what result has this produced?

The Reward & The Risk
According to 1 John 2:25, what reward is given to those who remain faithful?

According to 1 John 2:26, those who listen to the false teachers are at risk of what danger?

Three Actions To Take
In 1 John 2:27, what will the Faithful Christians be able to distinguish between?

In 1 John 2:28, what will Faithful Christians abide in so that they can be full of confidence?

In 1 John 2:29, what behaviors will Faithful Christians practice which verifies their relationship to Christ?

Faithful Christians Will Abide In...
In 1 John 2, what verses use the word “abide?” According to vs. 24, what must Christians abide in?
Lesson 12: The Charismatic Movement

The Spirit’s Work and Power in the New Testament Compared To Modern Claims
Based on Acts 2:11 and 1 Corinthians 14:10, 27-28, what important considerations should be made when evaluating current claims of speaking in tongues by the power of the Spirit?

Based on Acts 3:1-10, what important considerations should be made when evaluating current claims of miracles performed by the power of the Spirit?

Based on Galatians 1:6-9 and Jude 3-4, what important considerations should be made when evaluating current claims that additional revelation from God has been given by the Spirit?

Christians & Illness
Today some teach that all Christians should expect miraculous healings. James 5:14-15 make it absolutely clear that we should pray for God’s care for the sick, but how do these other passages also set our expectations…

- 2 Corinthians 12:10
- Galatians 4:13
- 1 Timothy 5:23
- 2 Timothy 4:20

Christians & Evangelism
Today some desire supernatural signs to accompany their evangelistic efforts. Acts makes it clear this did happen on some occasions in the first century. However, in Acts 16:14, what touched Lydia’s heart?

According to Jesus in Matthew 13:18-23, what must people receive in order to be saved?

What did Jesus say about those who crave to see a sign in Matthew 16:1-4?

The Scriptures & The Oneness Doctrine
Oneness Pentecostalism teaches that there is one God in three forms. God manifested as the Father, Son, and Spirit. This doctrine teaches that Jesus is not in perfect divine unity with the Father and Spirit, but that the Father, Son, and Spirit are simply different forms taken on by one God.

How is this different from what is seen in…

- Matthew 3:16-17
- Matthew 26:39
- Matthew 28:18-20

To Acknowledge The Spirit’s Work
Give an example of each of the 6 works the Spirit helps accomplish.

- The Spirit Helps Bring Order: __________________ Communicate: ____________
- The Spirit Helps Renew: ________________ Strengthen: ______________
- The Spirit Helps Confirm Truth: ________________ Equip & Edify: ______________

To Appreciate The Means Employed To Accomplish His Work
To help the apostles, the Spirit ____________________________ (John 14:26)
To prove the Gentiles were welcome, the Spirit ________________ (Acts 10:44-48)
To confirm the gospel message, the Spirit ____________________ (Hebrews 2:4)
To increase our hope and confidence, the Spirit is ________________ (Eph. 1:13-14)
To equip us for spiritual battles, the Spirit provides ______________________ (Eph. 6:17)

To Advance our Understanding of the Spirit’s Relationship To Christians Today
Today, Christians are saved according to God’s _________ and by the washing of _____________ and _____________ by the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5)
Today, Christians are ________ by the Spirit and ________ by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:18,25)
Today, Christians glorify God and edify the local church when they produce the ____________ of the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22)

To Answer Common Questions
In 1 John 2:18-29, the anointing refers to the word of God. Both are described as…

The word of God and the anointing have the same source: _____________ (1 John 2:20)
The word of God and the anointing give knowledge of the: _____________ (1 John 2:21)
The word of God and the anointing abide in Christians who have: _____________ from the _____________ (1 John 2:24)
The word of God and the anointing lead to a relationship with: _____________ (1 John 2:24)

To Avoid Sins That Tear Down What The Spirit Builds Up
Please fill in the blanks with the sin to avoid and the righteous behavior to practice.

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<tr>
<th>Sin To Avoid</th>
<th>Righteous Behavior To Practice</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Corinthians 6:18-20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ephesians 4:29-32</td>
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