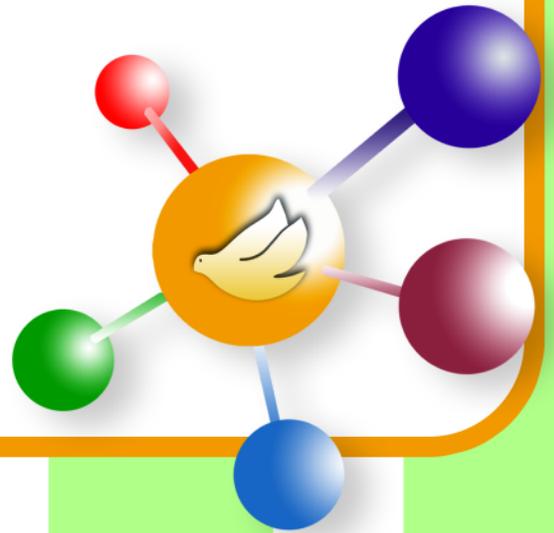


HOLY SPIRIT DISCOVERY

Getting Started



HOLY SPIRIT DISCOVERY

Holy Spirit Discovery for Kids.

Dedication

When I was a child growing up in Foursquare camps, I remember Miss Mary Lou (Canata) teaching us about the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Some of my foundational understanding of the fullness of God's Spirit came through her effective teaching and ministry.

The Foursquare Church honored her with a doctorate of divinity for a lifetime of outstanding ministry to children, and we take great pleasure in dedicating the long awaited release of *Holy Spirit Discovery for Kids* to Dr. Mary Lou Canata in furtherance of her life mission to see boys and girls won to Jesus Christ and nurtured in the things of the Lord.

The development team of this material includes Rev. Renee Walstad and Rev. Bob Bennett both of whom continue in effective ministries to children in their local churches. We're grateful for their creativity and attention to detail in the preparation of this resource. Thank you also to the artistic team of the Foursquare Communications department for translating concepts into visual expression of truth for children. Appreciation is extended to Dr. Steve Schell for doctrinal assistance during the development of this material as well as our General Supervisor, Dr. Glenn Burris, Jr., who champions resources such as this to equip leaders for successful ministries to children. And finally, thank you to Pastor Jack Hayford, President of The Foursquare Church, for spiritual leadership and caring partnership as well as confirming the mandate of authentic and meaningful ministries to children.

Praise Jesus for giving us His Spirit to challenge sin, release people, empower disciples and fill His children for effective service!

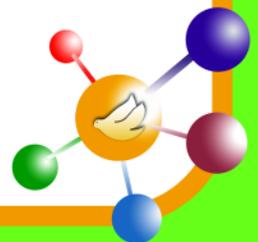
Rod Light, National Minister
Foursquare Christian Education
Los Angeles, Calif. March 2007



Holy Spirit Discovery for Kids

Getting Started – Using this resource

1. Holy Spirit Discovery for Kids is an eight-lesson resource for teaching key concepts about the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Several creative teaching methods are included with each lesson to help you plan a teaching session that connects kids with the truth from the Bible. The suggested lesson plan on the following page will help you organize the components of your teaching session.
2. Be sure that the teaching session focuses as much on the reality of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the kids as it does on the information they receive about Him. The content of this teaching and the outcome in the lives of the kids is far too important to focus on intellectual understanding alone. It is vital that you use the components of teaching the will bring kids to a personal desire for more of the Holy Spirit in their lives.
3. Mix and match the suggested activities to best fit your needs. Begin with a high energy game or activity to gain the attention and participation of the kids. Then, gradually calm things down a bit with an object talk and/or discussion groups as you move to quieter methods that will allow kids to think about the Holy Spirit and His plan for them. By the end of the class session, use word puzzles, worksheets or crafts to reinforce what you have discussed during the lesson.
4. Before you end your teaching session, be sure to allow time for personal ministry and prayer as you encourage kids to receive more of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Talk to your pastor or children's leader about how to do this most effectively. It is best that you discuss your approach ahead of time and that everyone understands how the teaching of this subject will impact the lives of the kids you teach.



Suggested Lesson Plan

Holy Spirit Discovery for Kids

Print this template to plan the supplies and how much time you will need for the activities to help teach kids about the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

Lesson # _____ Objective _____

1. Attention Grabber (Select one game or "active" activity): _____

What supplies will I need? _____

How much time will I need? _____ How many helpers? _____ Who? _____

2. Preparing to Learn (Select an object talk or "quieter" activity): _____

What supplies will I need? _____

How much time will I need? _____ How many helpers? _____ Who? _____

3. Bible Truth (Select 1 or 2 Bible passages from the lesson to reinforce the "bottom line"):

What Bible passage will I use for my teaching? _____

What key thoughts from the Bible passage will I emphasize? _____

How will I teach the memory verse? _____

What questions will I ask so I know the kids understand what I am teaching?

How much time will I need? _____ How many helpers? _____ Who? _____



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4. Extending the Learning (Select a craft or other activity to reinforce the learning):

How much time will I need? _____ How many helpers? _____ Who? _____

5. Application (Determine how to help kids personalize what they learned and how to inform parents.)

- How will we pray with kids who are interested in more of the Holy Spirit?
- How will we meet needs of the kids who are not ready for an extended time of personal ministry?
- What communication (memory verse cards, take home pages, or handouts will we send home so parents can celebrate with their kids what has been taught and decisions that have been made?

How much time will I need? _____ How many helpers? _____ Who? _____

What supplies will I need (photocopies, etc)? _____



Helping People Receive Holy Spirit Baptism

The second most important gift a Christian will receive is the fullness or baptism with the Holy Spirit. A non-Christian person cannot receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit, therefore it is a vital first step to be assured that the person you are praying with has received Christ. Once we know the person is a Christian, it is important to explain that God wants all Christians to experience a deeper work of the Holy Spirit. The fullness of the Holy Spirit brings more spiritual power for intensified Christian service (see Acts 1:4,5; and 1 Corinthians 6:19). Teachers that will most effectively lead children into the baptism with the Holy Spirit will have first received this gift themselves. Receiving the fullness of this gift should be a high priority on the part of every teacher.

It is important to emphasize that being filled with the Holy Spirit does not need to be a time-consuming or strenuous process. From the beginning, we need to show people how easy it is to receive this fullness. The best way to relate this truth is to point out that both salvation and the baptism with the Holy Spirit are free gifts received by faith (Ephesians 2:8,9). Although it may take a period of time for us to be ready to receive the gift from God, once we ask, the gift can be received immediately. The Bible makes it clear that the Holy Spirit will respond and fill a Christian who asks in sincere faith the moment she or he asks for the gift of His fullness (see Acts 8:16,17 and 10:44-46).

Leaders can make it easier for children to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit by keeping their instructions brief and positive. Children will probably not have the same resistance to the Holy Spirit that skeptical adults often demonstrate. We need to carefully present the biblical experience of Holy Spirit baptism without our own "what if" or "maybe not" scenarios. The book of Acts gives five occasions when people were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4; 8:14-25; 9:17-20; 10:44-48; and 19:1-7). In three of the five examples the people who were filled immediately spoke with tongues. Scholars agree that in the other two situations, tongues were implied. Speaking with tongues is God's proof to us that He has filled us with His Spirit. We should encourage children with confidence that they will speak with tongues when the Holy Spirit fills them.



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The gift of tongues can be known languages as on the Day of Pentecost. 1 Corinthians 13:1 uses the phrase, "tongues of men and angels," which is why some people prefer to call these tongues a "spiritual" language. After being filled with the Holy Spirit we may speak a language unknown or unrecognized on earth (compare Acts 2:1-11; 10:45,46). The person who is ready to be filled with the Holy Spirit must be ready to receive the gift of speaking with tongues. If there is reluctance in this area, it is important to address the concern before proceeding.

Two additional concerns seem to be most common. First is a fear that the Holy Spirit will take over a person's voice and mouth. The Bible indicates that an individual is completely in control of their own body, especially when they are filled with the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 14:32,33). A simple exercise that is helpful for reluctant people is to ask them to repeat a simple phrase after you, for example, "I love Jesus" (see John 16:13,14). Help them understand that the Holy Spirit will always glorify Jesus and give us words to speak in much the same way as they repeated what they just heard. The Holy Spirit will give them words and they will choose to speak them aloud.

Pray with people who are ready to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirits and allow Him to produce the results.

