

LESSONS ON THE UCCP STATEMENT OF FAITH

A Sunday School Guide for Youth

That in the Holy Spirit, God is present in the world, empowering and guiding believers to understand and live out their faith in Jesus Christ.

Mission Sunday

First Sunday in Kingdomtide

August 26, 2018

LESSON 14: THE HOLY SPIRIT

General Concept: The Holy Spirit is the moving and empowering presence of God.

Biblical References: Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:62-63, 68-69

List of Lectionary Readings for the Week: 1 Kings 8: (1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43; Psalm 84; Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:62-63, 68-69

Specific Concepts

- The Holy Spirit is the presence of God in the world.
- The Holy Spirit empowers people to do God's mission.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Recognize that the Holy Spirit is the presence of God in the world
- Cite examples of how the Holy Spirit empowers the people to do God's mission
- Plan a mission project to manifest God's empowerment

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart, offering plate or basket, notebook/journal, pens, markers, Manila paper

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Opening Song "I've Got Spirit"

I've got spirit in my head and it's keeping me alive

Keeping me alive, keeping me alive

I've got spirit in my head and it's keeping me alive.

Jesus is keeping me alive!

(Repeat the song several times, each time replacing the underlined word with the following: shoulder, hips, feet, body)

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Prayer with Movements (Ask the learners to form a circle.)

Thank you, God, (clasp hands then extend upwards)

for bringing us here (everybody hold hands)

to sing and dance, (move forward and then backwards)

to pray and play. (clasp hands and then do a jumping jack)

Amen. (raise both hands)
(Also pray for the birthday celebrant[s], if there are any.)

Recite a portion of the UCCP Statement of Faith:
“We believe that in the Holy Spirit....”

Getting Ready

Motivate the learners by singing “When the Spirit of the Lord” (*Children Praise God*, p. 203)

When the Spirit of the Lord is in our hearts, we can sing like Mary sang.
When the Spirit of the Lord is in our hearts, we can sing like Mary sang.
We can sing, oh Lord, we can sing, oh Lord, we can sing like Mary sang.
We can sing, oh Lord, we can sing, oh Lord, we can sing like Mary sang.

(Repeat the song several times, changing the underlined phrases with the following:

We can pray like Daniel prayed
We can dance like Miriam danced
We can shout like Deb’rah shouted
We can lead like Moses led
We can laugh like Sarah laughed
We can pray like Hannah prayed
We can fight like David fought
We can cry like Jeremiah cried
We can serve like Martha served
We can preach like Peter preached
We can witness like Stephen did
We can love like Jesus loved
[add more phrases if you wish])

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

- Let the class read the Biblical references.
 - Ephesians 6:10-20. Let the class identify the components of the “armor of God”.
 - Belt of truth
 - Breastplate of righteousness
 - Shoes of readiness to announce the good news of peace
 - Shield of faith
 - Helmet of salvation
 - Sword of the Spirit, the word of God
 - John 6:62-63, 68-69. Let the learners share their thoughts on the essence of these verses.
 - You may present salient points of the Biblical Background of these texts.

Lessons Learned

- Discuss: Do you agree that the Holy Spirit is the moving and empowering presence of God in the world? Why? Explain. Give personal experiences you have had.



Applying the Lessons Learned

- Let the class plan a mission project entitled “Go and Share the Good News”. Divide the class into groups of three or more.
- Tell them to include the following in their plan to be written in their journals individually and on Manila paper as a group:
 - Purpose of the project
 - People involved and targets
 - Plan of action
 - Budget
 - Time frame
 - How will it be evaluated

Closing Worship

Memory verse: John 6: 63a, “It is the spirit that gives life....”

Offering

Closing Song: “When the Spirit of the Lord” (Choose the verses you want to sing)

Closing Prayer

Dear God, empower us always by your Holy Spirit to do your mission and become worthy of receiving the gifts of the Spirit. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Assignment: Have a volunteer practice doing a monologue of John 16:5-15 playing Jesus to be presented next Sunday.

**Christian Education
Sunday**

Second Sunday in Kingdomtide
September 2, 2018

LESSON 15: THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT, GOD IS PRESENT IN THE WORLD

General Concept: The Holy Spirit is manifested through God’s teachings, and through the Advocate, the spirit of truth.

Biblical References: John 16:5-15; Galatians 5:22-23

List of Lectionary Readings for the Week: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Specific Concepts

- The Holy Spirit moves us to live out love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control.



Learning Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Affirm that God is present in the world through the Holy Spirit
- Articulate that the Holy Spirit is manifested in Christ's teachings
- Cite examples of how the fruits of the Holy Spirit are lived out today
- Make a self-assessment on how we live out the fruits of the Holy Spirit

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart, offering plate or basket, notebook/journal, pens, cartolina cut-outs of fruits

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Opening Song "O Holy Spirit, Rouse Your Church" (*Hymnal of a Faith Journey*, p. 180)

O Holy Spirit, rouse up Your Church from apathy and idleness,
Make us aware of changing times that threatens all of humankind.

O Holy Spirit, shake Your Church to face the evils of our days
What hinders us, we cast aside, our minds be changed to do Your will.

O Holy Spirit, stir Your Church to feel the hardships people bear
And take us from the ease of life, to be of service to the poor.

O Holy Spirit, move Your Church to have the zeal to spread the Word,
Make stronger now your spirit's fire, publish your love to all the world.

O Holy Spirit, fill Your Church, transform our lives with love and care
That on this earth your goodness reign and peace with justice shall prevail.

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Prayer (Also pray for the birthday celebrant[s], if there are any.)

Liberating God, we thank you for calling us today. Help us understand your Word.
May your Holy Spirit be with us always. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Recite a portion of the UCCP Statement of Faith:

"We believe that in the Holy Spirit, God is present in the world..."

Getting Ready

Let the learners look for the following words in the puzzle. The letters of each word must be adjacent to each other horizontally, vertically, diagonally, downwards, upwards, from the left, or from the right. Have the learners encircle the words. Allow them to do it within a given time frame. The learner who finishes first will win the game.

Appreciate by giving 10 claps.



LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS,
 GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL

E	C	A	R	G	G	N	I	V	A	S	F
N	G	M	P	E	A	C	E	T	S	A	L
T	E	A	C	H	Y	O	U	R	I	G	O
H	N	Z	P	H	O	N	E	T	L	O	R
U	T	I	R	A	J	E	H	A	E	O	T
S	L	N	I	F	T	F	R	N	N	D	N
I	E	G	M	H	U	I	P	O	T	N	O
A	N	O	L	L	E	H	E	I	L	E	C
S	E	W	N	I	N	E	G	N	O	S	F
M	S	E	N	S	E	S	O	T	C	S	L
U	S	L	V	T	N	C	L	O	V	E	E
S	M	L	S	S	E	N	D	N	I	K	S

(Use this puzzle in your discussion later on.)

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

- Monologue. Have the volunteer from last Sunday creatively read these passages from John 16:5-15 entitled “The Work of the Holy Spirit”.
 - Discuss based on the text that God is present in the world through the Holy Spirit, as embodied in the teachings of Jesus Christ. Mention that the advocacy of the Holy Spirit is the advocacy of truth.
- Read Galatians 5:22-23 aloud. While reading the text and when “the fruits of the Spirit” are mentioned, ask the learners to put a check mark on the words they have found.
 - Discuss these nine qualities and have the class try to give definitions.
 - Love: giving of the self
 - Joy: deep celebrative happiness and thankfulness
 - Peace: well-being
 - Patience: calm endurance
 - Kindness: graciousness, compassion
 - Goodness: having integrity and the ability to do good to others
 - Faithfulness: can be trusted
 - Gentleness: being pleasant and considerate
 - Self-control: not just achieved on its own but through the above qualities

Lessons Learned

- Discuss: Do you agree that God is present in the world through the Holy Spirit? How? How does a renewed life manifest the fruits of the Holy Spirit?



Applying the Lessons Learned

“Know Them by Their Fruits.” Distribute cartolina cut-outs of fruits on which a different name of a learner is written on each. Make sure that no one gets their own names. Ask each learner to write one good trait they see in that person named, after which she/he passes on the fruit cut-out to the next learner. After everyone has written a description, give the cut-out to the owners and allow them to read the comments. This exercise is to encourage others and to give them assurance that others appreciate them.

Closing Worship

Memory Verse: Galatians 5: 22-23, “...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control....”

Offering

Closing Song “Spirit”

Refrain:

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, You called to the deep,
Then You coaxed up the mountains from the valley of sleep,
And over the eons You called to each thing,
“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.”
(Refrain)

You swept through the dessert, You stung with the sand,
And You gifted your people with a law and a land,
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
Then You spoke through Your prophets to open their eyes.
(Refrain)

You sang in a stable, You cried from a hill,
Then You whispered in silence when the whole world was still,
And down in the city, You called once again
When You blew through Your people on the rush of the wind.
(Refrain)

You call from tomorrow, You break ancient schemes,
From the bondage of sorrow, the captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions Your people arise.
(Refrain)

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank you for your presence in the world through the Holy Spirit. Thank you for the Holy Spirit which moves us to live in love, peace and joy, patience,



kindness and goodness and faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. May we always be empowered by Your Spirit to live out its fruits. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Children's Sunday

Third Sunday in Kingdomtide

September 9, 2018

LESSON 16: THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS AND GUIDES BELIEVERS

General Concept: The Holy Spirit guides, empowers and enables believers to testify to the truth and to do what is good and upright.

Biblical References: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Isaiah 35:4

List of Lectionary Readings for the Week: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125; Psalm 146; Isaiah 35:4; James 2:1-10; (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

Specific Concept

- The Holy Spirit enables us to witness to the truth and to do what is good and upright.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Acknowledge that the Holy Spirit guides and empowers believers
- Articulate that the Holy Spirit helps us to testify and witness to the truth
- Analyze how the Holy Spirit helps us to choose what is good and upright
- Commit to participate in the quest for social transformation

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart, offering plate or basket, notebook/journal, pens

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Opening Song "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go"

Perhaps today there are loving words which Jesus would have me speak,
There may be now, in the paths of sin, some wand'rer whom I should seek,
O Savior, if Thou wilt be my guide, tho' dark and rugged the way,
My voice shall echo the message sweet, I'll say what you want me to say.

Chorus:

I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord, o'er mountain or plain or sea,
I'll say what you want me to say, dear Lord, I'll be what you want me to be.

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Prayer (Also pray for the birthday celebrant[s], if there are any.)

Dear God, empower us by your Holy Spirit as we study your word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Recite a portion of the UCCP Statement of Faith:

“We believe that in the Holy Spirit, God is present in the world, empowering and guiding believers....”

Getting Ready

Have the class interpret the opening song using their own words. Have them write their interpretations in their journals.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

- Divide the class into 4 groups. Assign each group the following texts:
 - Proverbs 22:1-2
 - Proverbs 22: 8-9
 - Proverbs 22: 22-23
 - Isaiah 35:4
- Let each group read their assigned text and analyze it. Let them share the gist of the text to the whole class.
- Tell the class to study the role of the Holy Spirit in the following conditions:
 - God wants the believers through the Holy Spirit to be empowered and active participants in testifying to the truth.
 - God wants the believers through the Holy Spirit to do what is good and upright.
 - God wants the believers through the Holy Spirit to continue to work for social transformation.

Lessons Learned

- Discuss: How does the Holy Spirit empower God’s people to speak the truth and do what is good and upright?

Applying the Lessons Learned

Encourage the class to have a self-evaluation regarding their declaration of commitment that they made in Lesson 9 towards the different church ministries. Have them write down in their journals how they have been empowered and guided by the Holy Spirit in fulfilling their commitment. Also have them write down how they can be even more effective in their chosen ministries. Or perhaps, in this self-evaluation, they find out that they seem to be suited to doing other ministries. This is now the time to choose to commit to these other ministries. They can even consult with the pastor if they choose to.

Closing Worship

Memory Verse: Isaiah 35:4b, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.”

Offering



Closing Song “Lord, Be Glorified”

In our lives Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In our lives Lord, be glorified, today.

(Repeat while replacing the underlined word with: church)

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, continue to empower and guide us through your Holy Spirit so that we may be able to tell the truth and do what is just and upright. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Youth Sunday

Fourth Sunday in Kingdomtide

September 16, 2018

LESSON 17: UNDERSTANDING AND LIVING OUT OUR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

General Concept: Believers must keep the Word of God by understanding and living out their faith in Jesus Christ, through the help of the Holy Spirit.

Biblical References: Psalm 19:7-14; James 2:14-17

List of Lectionary Readings for the Week: Psalm 19; Proverbs 1:20-33; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3: 1-12; Mark 8:27-38

Specific Concept

- The Holy Spirit enables us to understand and live out the Word of God.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Discuss their understanding of faith
- Explain the relationship between faith and deeds
- Express their commitment to live out their faith in their daily lives

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart, offering plate or basket, notebook/journal, pens, a medium-sized ball or any toy that can be thrown around

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Opening Song “We Praise You, O God” (*Hymnal of a Faith Journey*, p. 33)

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;

In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;

We bless Your Holy Name, glad praises we sing.

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings



Opening Prayer (Also pray for the birthday celebrant[s], if there are any.)
 Lord, we thank you for this time of gathering as we study and meditate on your Word. May our faith be seen in our words and deeds. In Jesus' name we pray.
 Amen.

Recite a portion of the UCCP Statement of Faith:
 "We believe that in the Holy Spirit, God is present in the world empowering and guiding believers to understand and live out their faith in Jesus Christ."

Getting Ready

Answer Ball. How do you live out your faith in Jesus Christ? Have the class answer this question by playing catch. Throw a ball to the learner who you want to be the first to answer the question. After sharing his/her answer, she/he throws the ball to the next person who she/he wishes to answer. Let all the learners have a chance to answer the question. List down their answers as you may use it at the end of the session.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

- Tell the class to read the Old Testament and the New Testament Biblical references.
- Ask them to complete the two-column note based on the O. T. and N. T. references. Tell them to write on the left side the main idea and on the right side the details.

O.T. Reference

Main Idea	Details
The Law of God	

N.T. Reference

Main Idea	Details
Faith and Actions	

- Discuss the biblical references. Asks the following questions.
 - How does the text from the Psalms describe the law of God?
 - What does faith with actions mean as written by James?
 - Do you agree with what the Psalm text declares about the law of God?
 - How else can you show your faith in Christ apart from actions? Are there other ways?

Lessons Learned

- Discuss: How can we live out our faith in Jesus Christ? Who will help us?

Applying the Lessons Learned

Prepare a shoe box of regular size. Name that shoe box the "Promise Box." Allow each of the learners to write an affirmation of their commitment to continue to live out their



faith with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Tell them to write practical ways of living out their faith.

Closing Worship

Memory Verse: James 2:14, “What good is it my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you?”

Offering

Closing Song “Faith in the Service of the People” (*Hymnal of a Faith Journey*, p. 306)

Refrain:

Faith in the service of the people, faith in the service of the poor
This is our response to the call of God, faith in the service of the poor.

People of the church have the vision of Kingdom of God on earth,
A kingdom of justice and righteousness; a kingdom of joy and love. (Refrain)

Recite a portion of the UCCP Statement of Faith:

WE BELIEVE

In one God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, who provides order, purpose, meaning and fulfillment to all creation.

That in Jesus Christ, who has born of Mary, God become human and is Sovereign Lord of life and history.

That in the Holy Spirit, God is present in the world, empowering and guiding believers to understand and live out their faith in Jesus Christ.

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, may your Holy Spirit continue to guide us in living out our faith. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

