

# THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD ALIVE IN US

## BIG TRUTH: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD ALIVE IN US

John 3:5-8; John 14:17; Romans 8:9-11; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 1:13-14; 2:22

## BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 4:24

“God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

## BIG IDEAS

- The Holy Spirit is God.
- The Holy Spirit makes God’s people alive.
- The Holy Spirit lives within God’s people.

## BIBLE STORY: EZEKIEL 37:1-14

In this passage God is showing Ezekiel what He is going to do in the nation of Israel in the future. He is going to make them alive again with His spirit. The story in Ezekiel is a picture of God raising the dead to life by causing His spirit to live inside of them or indwell them. This new life is given to every believer when the Holy Spirit comes to live inside of them.

## FOUNDATION: GOD IS HOLY SPIRIT—GOD GIVES A HELPER

God not only exists as Father and Son, but also as Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is probably the most difficult person of the Trinity for us to grasp because it is the concept most unfamiliar to us. The Bible tells us that God is Spirit. The Holy Spirit is fully God, active, alive, and at work today in the lives of those who place their faith in God. Jesus told the disciples that it was far better for Him to leave the world than to stay, because God would send the Holy Spirit to indwell them, lead them, and work in them. God does not leave us on our own as Christians, but has sent us a helper, the Holy Spirit.

## BIG AIMS



### Every child should know that:

- The Holy Spirit is God
- The Holy Spirit lives within God’s people



### Every child should feel:

- Thankful for the helper that God has given us



### Every child should be able to:

- Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to live in His people



### Every child should want:

- To follow God with the help of the Holy Spirit

The Family Devotion on the next page is a weekly tool for the home. It is designed for you as family to gather for a few minutes on a set night of the week to unpack the Big Truth together. Use the model below and customize it to fit your family. As you continue to learn, love, and live out the Big Truth, some additional Hooks (next page) are provided that correspond to the Big Aims (see above). Use them to keep the conversation going throughout the week with your family.

# THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD ALIVE IN US

## THE SPIRIT IS OUR HELPER

Give your child several empty, flat balloons. Ask him or her to play balloon toss with you using the flat balloons. After you try a few times, blow the balloons up and then play again. We are dead in our sins, but when we place our faith in Jesus Christ, the Spirit helps us by breathing new life into us.

## DISCOVER IT:

Read Ezekiel 37:11-14 together.

## THINK ABOUT IT:

When God showed Ezekiel the vision of the valley of dry bones, He was showing Him the very hearts of His people. They are dried up and dead, killed by our own sins and transgressions. Yet God chose not to leave His people this way. Instead, He made a way for them to be made new. The Spirit is our helper in all things, but most importantly in breathing new life into us when we place our faith in Jesus Christ. Ezekiel saw the Spirit breathe life into the dry bones and we see the Spirit breathe life into the hearts of men when they receive salvation through Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit helps us know and love God.

## TALK ABOUT IT:

- What did Ezekiel see in the vision God showed him? (He saw the dried up dead bones.)
- What did God do to the bones? (He sent the Spirit to breathe new life into them.)
- How does God breathe new life into us? (When we believe in Jesus Christ, the Spirit breathes new life in us by coming to live inside of us.)



Read John 3:8 with your child. Lead them in a discussion of how the Spirit is like the wind. When you are outside, point out the wind to your child. Ask them if they can see it or touch it. Remind them that the Spirit is like the wind. We don't see it, but we know it is there and can see the things it does.



Memorize the Bible Verse for the week by saying it really loud first and then softly. Do this several times until your child has learned the verse. Lead your child in a discussion of how you can worship God in spirit and truth. You can praise and thank the Holy Spirit for the new life that He gives.



Using sidewalk chalk create a map on the driveway or sidewalk leading your child to a specific destination that contains a reward or treasure. The map can include arrows pointing in a certain direction or instructions of certain steps that your child should take. As they are following the map, lead them in a discussion about how the Spirit guides us and leads us. We can't obey God without the Holy Spirit. When they get to the treasure, tell them that the Spirit first guides us to put our faith in Jesus Christ.



Use a rock or some other item that is inanimate. Show it to your child. Let your child feel it and talk about how it doesn't grow like other things because it's not living. Then show your child something that is alive, like a plant or a fish or other small animal. Talk with them about how we know the living thing is alive. Talk with them about how the Holy Spirit breathes life into God's people. It makes them new and gives them a new heart.