

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR HELPER

YEAR: UNITE / FOCUS: I AM CALLED
SERIES: GOD IS THE GIFT GIVER - I AM GIFTED

BIG TRUTH: THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OUR HELPER

John 15:26; Romans 8:16; John 16:7; Luke 12:11-12; Romans 8:26; Galatians 5:18

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 14:16

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever...”

BIG IDEAS

- The Holy Spirit helps us become like Jesus.
- The Holy Spirit confirms our standing as God’s children.
- The Holy Spirit equips us for greater works.

BIBLE PASSAGE: JOHN 14:12-31

UNITE - I AM CALLED

The Unite Year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are given a spirit of adoption as sons (Romans 8:15-16), are made a child of God, and we are also saved into a family- the Church. The Unite Year explores how we are to live as a part of a family, and to live in light of our calling as servants and disciples of Christ. We use our gifts to build up the church as we pursue unity, humility, and gentleness with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Ephesians 4:1-2).

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know that...

- Every good gift comes from the Father.
- They have been specifically and uniquely gifted to bring God glory.
- Spiritual gifts are given for the edification of the body of Christ.



Every student should feel...

- Thankful for the various gifts God has given their church family.
- Convicted of the ways they bear the fruit of the flesh.
- Secure in their standing as God’s children through the Holy Spirit



Every student should strive to...

- Pursue unity with other members of their church family.
- Use their gifts for the good of God’s people.
- Practice regular repentance and obedience.



Every student should want...

- To be known for loving others like Jesus loves.
- To learn more about their spiritual gifts and the gifts of others.
- To both suffer and rejoice with God’s people

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week’s Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 14:16

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever...”

God helps His people.

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper...”

- God helps His people. Jesus was a helper to His disciples. As Jesus prepared His followers for His crucifixion, He promised them that God would send another Helper.
- God has always helped His people. He is actively involved in His creation and always has been. Since He created the world, He has been involved in creation. God works in the lives of His people specifically to guide them and help them for His glory.

God’s Spirit is the promised Helper to His people.

“...and He will give you another Helper...”

- The Holy Spirit is fully God. He is one of the three persons that make up the triune God. He is fully divine and equal with God the Father and God the Son. He is the Spirit of God.
- God sent the Holy Spirit to help His people. The Holy Spirit lives inside of God’s people as a sign that they belong to Him and to help them live for Him. God’s Spirit is the fulfillment of Jesus’ promise to His disciples in John 14:16.

The Holy Spirit helps God’s people forever.

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever.”

- Because the Holy Spirit is fully God, He is eternal. This means that He is forever. He has no beginning and no end. The Holy Spirit is with God’s people forever. He will not leave His people or reject them.
- God gives the gift of His Spirit to His people for always. He places His seal upon them for all of eternity. This means that God’s people are His always. Nothing can change this fact. The Holy Spirit is always with God’s people and always helps them.

BIG IDEA #1: THE HOLY SPIRIT HELPS US BECOME LIKE JESUS.¹**[THIS]**

God is and has always been involved in His creation. He is not a God who is far away from, or disinterested in, creation, but is actively involved in His people's lives. Jesus' presence on earth was the greatest gift He could give to the world because it meant salvation had come. As Jesus prepared His disciples for His crucifixion and departure from the earth, He promised them that God the Father would send another Helper to the earth. This Helper is the Holy Spirit. God doesn't leave His people alone. He never has and never will. Jesus showed His followers how to live holy lives by pointing them to Himself and reminding them that He is their Savior and King. The Holy Spirit would come after Him and continue the work that He had done while He was on the earth.

[THEREFORE]**Why is it significant that God gives us His Spirit to help us be like Him?**

1 Corinthians 6:19 tells us that we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because the Holy Spirit is God, this means we are the temple of God. This makes it significant that God gives us His Spirit to help us. As Acts 1:8 reminds us, it is the power of the Spirit that we receive when we have saving faith, so the Helper gives us the power of God to make it through this life.

[THIS]

No person can obtain his or her own righteousness. We can't save ourselves because we need Christ to do that. We also need the power of the Holy Spirit in order to become more like Christ. The same grace that saves us also sanctifies us, and God gifts us with His Spirit to help us become more like Jesus. The Holy Spirit lives inside of each and every believer to help them become more and more like Christ. To become more like Christ is to bear the fruit of the Spirit and it is possible to do this when we have the Holy Spirit working inside of us. We have the power to overcome the temptation to sin. We can practice kindness when we may want to be mean. We can show love when we'd rather show hate. We can practice patience instead of impatience. All of this is possible because of the help of the Spirit inside of us. This is how He works to make us more like Jesus each and every day.

[THEREFORE]**Do you bear the fruit of the Spirit? How have you noticed the Holy Spirit helping you bear the fruit of the Spirit?**

Without the Holy Spirit, we cannot consistently bear the fruit of the Spirit for the glory of God. Galatians 5:22-23 teaches us that certain characteristics are from the Spirit and when we show these, they are from the working of the Spirit inside of us. Ephesians 4:1-3 also reminds us that it is the Spirit's work in us.

Why does it matter that the Holy Spirit makes us more like Jesus, not just a better version of ourselves?

When we fail to have a right view of who the Holy Spirit is, we will ignore Him and the work He does inside of us as 1 Thessalonians 5:19 reminds us. When we ignore His work inside of us, we are ignoring that it is God working inside of us. This is God's saving grace working in us to sanctify us, making us more like Jesus, not just better people.

1. John 14:17: The Holy Spirit lives inside of believers and guides them to be like Jesus.

BIG IDEA #2: THE HOLY SPIRIT CONFIRMS OUR STANDING AS GOD'S CHILDREN.²**[THIS]**

As Jesus' earthly ministry came to an end, His disciples would have felt like He was leaving them alone in this world. Often, we can feel that way now, but Jesus promised them that the Father would send another Helper to them. He promised that God would not leave them alone. In John 14:18, we see that Jesus promised not to leave His followers as orphans. This statement implies that believers are God's children. A good earthly father doesn't leave his child to fend for himself. He provides for that child and makes sure the child has what he needs. God the Father sent the Holy Spirit as our Helper to provide for us and to not leave us alone on this earth. Because God sent the Holy Spirit, He confirmed our place as His children. He is our Father and we are His sons and daughters. He cares for us and provided a Helper to take care of us on this earth.

[THEREFORE]**How does it encourage you to live for God knowing that you are not alone?**

Knowing that God has provided a great Helper for us should encourage us to live for Him. We should have hope in Him as Romans 12:12 and Isaiah 40:31 teach us. God knows us and didn't leave us to fend for ourselves. He not only made a way for us to be saved, but He provided a Helper to guide us during our lives on this earth, too!

[THIS]

Romans 8:12-17 teaches us that the Spirit testifies to the world that God is our heavenly Father. When we experience saving faith, we are adopted into God's family. Prior to our saving faith, we are enslaved to our sin and separated from God. When God saves us, He forgives us of our sin and makes us a part of His family forever. He is pleased to call us His sons and daughters. He gives us His Spirit as His seal upon us and it is His Spirit that shows the world around us that we belong to Him. As the Spirit works in us, we bear the fruit of the Spirit and we look, speak, and act differently than the dark world we live in. This sets us apart from the world. By our actions and words and the way we love others, the world knows to whom we belong. He also works in us to grow our relationship with God. We grow in our love of Him and our understanding of who He is as our heavenly Father. Our trust in Him grows as the Holy Spirit continues to work in us, confirming our place in His family.

[THEREFORE]**How does your position as God's child set you apart from the world?**

God's people are a chosen people. We are not like the world. 1 Peter 2:9, John 15:19, and Galatians 2:20 helps us see that we are set apart and different from the world because we belong to God. We have a different purpose and have been set free from the slavery of sin.

What are some specific ways the Holy Spirit has helped you to understand your place in God's family?

The Holy Spirit helps us understand that we are different than the world and helps us understand that we are His children. Romans 12:1-2 and Colossians 3:1 help us see that we will have a different perspective as His children. Romans 6:6 also helps us see that as His children, we no longer are enslaved to sin. We are different and we will not love sin or the things of the world. This will also mean that the world will not love us.

2. John 14:18: The Holy Spirit seals God's people and testifies that they are His children.

BIG IDEA #3: THE HOLY SPIRIT EQUIPS US FOR GREATER WORKS.³**[THIS]**

God's purpose for man is to bring Him glory. God uses His children to do His will on earth and to further His kingdom. Each person has unique works to do during their time on earth. God gifts every believer with the Holy Spirit to help them fulfill their purpose and do the work He calls them to do. John 14:12-31 shows us that the Holy Spirit is our Helper and He helps us do the will of God. We are equipped for the works God has called us to by the Holy Spirit. For some, God has ordained that they serve Him in foreign missions. For others, He has ordained they serve Him in the inner city. Still others are called to work in rural or suburban areas. Regardless of where or what a person is called to for the Lord, He uses His Spirit to equip them to do it. The Spirit teaches them and guides them, revealing God's call to them and showing them God's perfect will for their lives.

[THEREFORE]

Read John 14:12-31. In what ways has the Holy Spirit helped you understand your purpose?

God gives us the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us understand our purpose. He uses His Spirit to guide us to fulfill our purpose for Him. As we submit to His Spirit, we will do His will and bring Him glory.

[THIS]

The Holy Spirit equips us for the works that God calls us to by helping us grow in our knowledge of God. We grow in our knowledge of God by knowing His Word. God reveals Himself through the Bible. As we study the Bible and pray, we will grow in our knowledge of God. As we fellowship with other believers, we will grow in our understanding of our purpose on earth. John 14:26 helps us see that it is the Spirit that teaches us and reminds us of God's Word and what we've been taught. To be equipped is to be prepared and made ready. The Holy Spirit does this by reminding us of God's Word and His commands. As we walk in obedience to the Spirit, we will be equipped to do the works that God has ordained for our lives.

[THEREFORE]

How has the Holy Spirit reminded you of something you have learned in God's Word?

The Holy Spirit serves as our great Helper. Nehemiah 9:20 and Mark 13:11 remind us that He helps us when we need it the most. He reminds us of what we have learned and gives us the words to say when we need them. The Holy Spirit teaches us and guides us. He is always with us.

How has the Holy Spirit taught you how to live for God in your daily life?

Philippians 4:19 tells us that God supplies our every need. Because we have the Holy Spirit, God gives us the perfect teacher. The Holy Spirit is the perfect teacher in our lives to guide us and help us know how to live for God. 1 John 2:27 shows us that it is the Holy Spirit that guides us to know how to live for God. We can live for God daily because we have the Spirit. Without Him, we could not live for Jesus.

3. John 14:12: God calls us to good works and to greater works as He uses His Spirit in us to fulfill these works.