

Date Used: _____

Group: _____

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND YOU

Topic: The Holy Spirit

Purpose of this Session:

For most junior high students, the concept of the Holy Spirit is a mystery. They can relate to God the Father and God the Son, but they aren't clear about God the Holy Spirit. This TalkSheet gives you the chance to discuss the role the Holy Spirit plays in the life of a Christian.

To Introduce the Topic:

The young people in your group may not understand the Holy Spirit living within them is a storehouse of power that can enable them to live the Christian life. To illustrate, empty a small can of shaving cream on a table top. This will show how much a small can really contains. The same is true for us living as Christians. We are overflowing with God inside us.

The Discussion:

Item #1: Ask the students to share their choices and explain why they were chosen. Don't put anyone down for choosing the "wrong" words. Ask for other suggestions they might use to describe the Holy Spirit.

Item #2: Ask for a show of hands on this True-False question. It will probably get some "true" responses, but again, don't ridicule anyone for not choosing the correct answer, which is "false". This is a good place to explain the doctrine of the Trinity. All three persons of the Trinity are equal because they are the same. They are all God. You may want to consult your church's statement of faith, or look up the following scriptures: John 14:15-31, Romans 8:1-7, I Corinthians 2:6-16.

Item #3: Have the students share their choices. Focus on those things specifically mentioned in the Bible. Here is a partial list: comforts, John 14:16-17; prays for us, Romans 8:26; teaches and guides, John 16:13-15; leads, Galatians 5:18; gives spiritual gifts, I Corinthians 12:7; convicts of sin, John 16:8-11.

Item #4: Ask volunteers to state why they chose one "Fruit of the Spirit" over all the others.

To Close the Session:

Reinforce the important role the Holy Spirit plays in empowering a person to live the Christian life. One way to illustrate this with an object lesson is to use a glove. It cannot do anything without your hand in it. But when you put your hand in the glove, it can do anything your brain wants your hand to do. It can pick up things, wave, scratch your head, and much more. In the same way, when the Holy Spirit is allowed to dwell within us and to work in our lives, we can do anything God wants us to do. Encourage your students to ask God to control their lives more completely.

Outside Activities:

Have your group decide upon three questions they have about the Holy Spirit. They should then try to find the answers to their questions by visiting your church library, browsing a Christian bookstore, talking with the pastor, interviewing the pastor of another church, asking for their parents' viewpoint, etc.