

The Holy Spirit

Sue Rader

THE WOMEN'S HYMN

SUE RADER

Come Women, wide proclaim
life through your Saviour slain
Sing evermore
Christ, God effulgence bright
Christ, who arose in might
Christ, who crowns you with light
praise and adore.

Come, clasping children's hands
Sisters from many lands,
teach and adore;
For the sin-sick and worn
the weak and over-borne
All who in darkness mourn,
Pray work, yet more.

Work with your courage high,
Sing of the day-break nigh
your love out-pour
Stars shall your brow adorn
Your heart leap with the morn
And, by his love up-borne,
Hope and adore.

Then when the garnered field
Shall to our Master yield
a bounteous store
Christ, hope of all the meek
Christ, whom all earth shall seek
Christ, your reward shall speak
joy evermore.

*The
Holy
Spirit*

Week 13: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CHRISTIAN
WORSHIP.

Sunday:	Ephesians 3:14-19
Monday:	Job 42:5-6
Tuesday:	Ephesians 1:15-19
Wednesday:	Isaiah 6:1-5
Thursday:	Isaiah 6:6-8
Friday:	Philippians 3:3
Saturday:	Psalms 105:1-2

Week 9:	THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE COUNSELLOR.
Sunday:	Romans 10:6-8
Monday:	Romans 8:1-2
Tuesday:	Romans 8:27
Wednesday:	John 1:33
Thursday:	Acts 17:26-28
Friday:	Romans 8:14
Saturday:	1 Corinthians 2:9-10
Week 10:	THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF LOVE
Sunday:	1 Corinthians 13:1
Monday:	1 Corinthians 13:2
Tuesday:	1 Corinthians 13:3
Wednesday:	1 Corinthians 13:4
Thursday:	1 Corinthians 13:5
Friday:	1 Corinthians 13:6
Saturday:	1 Corinthians 13:7
Week 11:	THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF JUDGEMENT.
Sunday:	Hebrews 10:26-27
Monday:	Hebrews 10:28-29
Tuesday:	Hebrews 10:30-31
Wednesday:	Isaiah 63:8-10
Thursday:	Isaiah 65:1-2
Friday:	Isaiah 1:18-20
Saturday:	Galatians 6:1-2
Week 12:	THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND THE FEAR OF THE LORD.
Sunday:	Proverbs 2:1-5
Monday:	Proverbs 1:7
Tuesday:	Proverbs 31:30-31
Wednesday:	Job 36:3-4
Thursday:	1 Thessalonians 4:7-8
Friday:	Ezekiel 36:26-27
Saturday:	Psalms 139:1-6

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Week 5: THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH.

Sunday: John 14:26
Monday: John 17:17-19
Tuesday: Acts 1:4-5
Wednesday: Matthew 28:19-20
Thursday: Mark 16:20
Friday: Acts 13:2-4
Saturday: Acts 10:44-45

Week 6: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS WORKMAN.

Sunday: Acts 16:9-10
Monday: Ephesians 6:13-17
Tuesday: Jeremiah 1:4-5
Wednesday: Acts 4:7-10
Thursday: Acts 4:29-31
Friday: 1 Timothy 4:1
Saturday: Acts 6:3

Week 7: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE SINNER.

Sunday: John 7:37-39
Monday: John 6:33-35
Tuesday: Psalm 95:6-7
Wednesday: Psalm 95:8-11
Thursday: Ephesians 4:30
Friday: John 16:7-11
Saturday: John 6:63

Week 8: THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE TEACHER.

Sunday: John 14:15-17
Monday: John 15:26
Tuesday: 1 John 5:6-8
Wednesday: 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12
Thursday: 1 John 2:26-27
Friday: Isaiah 54:13-14
Saturday: John 6:44-46

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Week 1: WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Sunday: Hebrews 9:13-14
Monday: Isaiah 4:3-4
Tuesday: Isaiah 11:1-2
Wednesday: 2 Peter 1:20-21
Thursday: Psalm 139:7-10
Friday: Psalm 139:17-18
Saturday: 1 Corinthians 2:16

Week 2: THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST.

Sunday: Matthew 1:20
Monday: Isaiah 42:1
Tuesday: Luke 4:1-2
Wednesday: Matthew 12:18-21
Thursday: 1 Peter 3:18
Friday: John 20:21-22
Saturday: Mark 1:9-11

Week 3: THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIVES OF MEN.

Sunday: Judges 6:34-35
Monday: Judges 14:5-6
Tuesday: Luke 1:13-15
Wednesday: Luke 1:67-68
Thursday: Luke 2:25-26
Friday: 2 Chronicles 24:20
Saturday: Daniel 5:11-12

Week 4: THE HOLY SPIRIT IN HIS TEMPLE.

Sunday: John 2:19-21
Monday: 2 Corinthians 6:16
Tuesday: Exodus 29:45-46
Wednesday: Leviticus 26:11-13
Thursday: Ezekiel 37:27
Friday: 1 John 4:13
Saturday: Romans 8:11

LESSON 1

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

MEMORY VERSE:

"Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God."
1 Corinthians 2:12.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 2:10-14.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

The Bible speaks many times about the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God. If we are Christians we have felt the Holy Spirit convicting us of our sins and leading us to accept Christ. Perhaps we have also felt him leading us to visit an unsaved friend or a neighbour who is sick. But who is the Holy Spirit?

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit has many names.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God whom Christ sent to earth to help his followers. Jesus calls him the Comforter or Counsellor. "And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you." (John 14:16-17). And he

calls himself the Comforter in Isaiah 51: 12, "I, I am he that comforts you; who are you that you are afraid of man who dies of the son of man who is made like grass."

He has many other names in the Bible. For instances in the verses we have just read from John, he is called the "Spirit of truth". John also calls him "the true light." In Hebrews 9:14 "the eternal spirit" is speaking of the same Holy Spirit. Romans 1:4 calls him the "spirit of holiness". He is also a "spirit of judgement" in Isaiah 4:4 and "spirit of prophecy" in the book of Revelation. One passage in Isaiah, chapter 11, has several names for the Holy Spirit: "spirit of counsel and understanding, spirit of counsel and might, spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit was in the beginning.

We may have thought that the Holy Spirit did not exist before he was sent by Jesus to his followers. But this is not true. The Holy Spirit was with God, the Father, and God, the Son, from the very beginning of time. He was in the very beginning of creation with God. In Genesis 1:2 we read, "The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters." With out the Holy Spirit the men who wrote the Old Testament would not have done so. For he is the one who inspired them to write, "Because no prophecy ever came by the impulse of man, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." (2 Peter 1:21). After Jesus' resurrection and ascension to

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his father hears him and comes to hold him in his arms. The Christian is like that. The Holy Spirit within causes him to be unhappy without God. He knows that he must search until he finds his Father God. Therefore he will try to remove all the things that are between him and God. He will confess his sins to God and ask God to forgive him. If he is still unhappy, he will search and search for the reason. The Holy Spirit within him keeps calling for God. When he has confessed all his sin and completely opened his heart to God, then God answers. The Spirit within him gives him joy and peace. And his spirit praises God. He wants to be with God always. And so he is willing to do whatever God's Spirit leads him to do. He yields his life to God. He prays for God to use his life. He worships God by giving himself.

LEADER:

Christian worship must be spiritual. Physical acts of worship are not enough. The Bible says that he must worship God in Spirit and truth. God wants our worship in acts such as singing, giving, and listening to his word, but these are not sufficient. God wants us to experience true worship in our inner person. He wants his Spirit to fill our hearts completely. Then our singing and giving and listening to his word will have new meaning. These will become true acts of worship. When God's children worship him with thankfulness and praise and willingness from deep within, God will hear. Let us pray that God's Spirit will lead us to experience this kind of worship.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

PART TWO: Worship with praise.

God helps those who ask for his help. The Bible says, "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13). We may not know to ask for the Holy Spirit. But if we ask for God's help, he gives us the Holy Spirit. God helps us through the Holy Spirit. Without his help we cannot even obey God's commandments. But God says, "And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances." (Ezekiel 36:27). As we try to obey and do the things we know God has asked us to do, the Holy Spirit will help us to understand more and more. He will guide us to understand spiritual truths. Therefore, the Christian learns about God. As the Holy Spirit reveals the goodness and greatness of God, the Christian sees how wonderful God is. He sees how unworthy he is to receive God's love. Yet, he knows that God loves him. His heart overflows with praise. In his prayer, he praises God with his inmost feelings. He worships God with praise.

PART THREE: Worship with giving yourself.

Sometimes when a Christian has been disobedient, he cannot praise God. He knows that God will not listen to his praise. But God's Spirit is within him. As we read in our scripture reading, this spirit within causes us to seek for God. When our sin has turned us from God, the Spirit cries out from within us until we have again found our heavenly Father.

A small child who loses his father in a crowd cannot stop crying. He will cry until

heaven, the Holy Spirit helped Jesus' first disciples to follow Jesus' teachings and to spread the good news of Christ. And Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit will abide with his followers forever.

PART THREE: The Holy Spirit is everywhere

We have read in Genesis how the Holy Spirit was moving over the face of the waters in creation. Even today the Holy Spirit is in the world, keeping his creation in order. The Holy Spirit is speaking to unbelievers trying to convince them of their sin so that they will accept Christ as their Saviour. The Holy Spirit is within the hearts of Christians. He is convicting, leading, giving assurance and joy and peace.

Because he is a spirit, the Holy Spirit does not have to be in one place at a time. He is not a physical body. Therefore he can be everywhere at the same time. There is nowhere we can go to escape from the Spirit of God. "Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?" (Psalm 139:7). The Bible assures us that there is no place where a person can hide from the Spirit. He is everywhere.

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit knows everything.

There are many times when we need wisdom. But we are not wise. We need help. The Holy Spirit is able to help us. He is much wiser than we are. There has never been wisdom to compare with God's

wisdom. He is wiser than all men who have ever lived. "O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?'" (Romans 11:33-34).

"Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him?" (Isaiah 40:13). No one could ever attempt to teach God. His way is always best. But sometimes when we know the Holy Spirit is leading us, we do something else. When we do this we are saying in our hearts, "God, my way is better than yours." This is wrong. We must be careful to follow the Holy Spirit if we really believe he is wise.

LEADER:

The Holy Spirit will guide us to abundant life. Because he has the wisdom of God, he understands God's ways. And he can explain these ways to us if we let him. Christ sent the Holy Spirit to "guide us into all truth." And Jesus says the truth will make us really free.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 13

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

MEMORY VERSE: *"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."*
John 4:24.

SCRIPTURE READING: Galatians 4:6.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

A child loves his father and mother. He likes to be with them. He wants them to be pleased with the things he does. If he makes something he shows it to them for their approval. In the same way a Christian loves God. He is a son of God. The Spirit of God's son is within the Christian. This Spirit leads the Christian in his relationship to God the Father.

PART ONE: Worship and thankfulness.

The Christian realizes that without God he would be nothing. Elihu said, "The spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life." (Job 33:4). The Christian knows that his life depends on God. If God did not want him to live, then he would be dead already. He knows that God has a purpose for all his children. He seeks to learn this purpose for his life. He worships God with thanksgiving for his life. And he prays for God to lead him to find the meaning of life.

aware that he cares for us. As we know more about him, may we trust him more. Let us ask him to enter every part of our lives. Let us pray that he will be the ruler of everything we do.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 2

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF CHRIST

MEMORY VERSE: *"Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him, he will bring forth justice to the nations."*

Isaiah 42:1.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 4:18.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

If we accept Jesus as our Saviour then we want to live like him. Let us look at Jesus' life and see how the Holy Spirit was helping Jesus in everything he did.

PART ONE: The birth of Jesus.

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 1:18). Jesus was not the son of Joseph. Mary was engaged to Joseph but they were not yet married. The Holy Spirit came upon Mary and she became pregnant. Joseph was afraid of what people would say. So he began to try to find a way to keep from marrying Mary. He did not want Mary if she had a child by another man. But an angel came to him and assured him that Mary had not been unfaithful to him. The angel told

Joseph that he should marry her. She had conceived of the Holy Spirit. See Matthew 1:20.

PART TWO: The experiences of Jesus.

Read Matthew 3:16-17. As Jesus grew up he was guided by the Holy Spirit. When he was grown, he went to the Jordan River where John was baptizing. There he asked John to baptize him. When he came up out of the water the Holy Spirit descended from heaven and remained on him. And a voice from heaven announced that Jesus really was the Son of God. The Bible tells of many events in Jesus' life after his baptism. As we read any one of them, we are convinced that the Holy Spirit was guiding him.

PART THREE: The temptations of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He did not send him to face temptation alone. The Spirit went with Jesus to help him to resist the devil. He can help us in the same way. Many times we hear people say, "I am not strong enough to resist temptation." But we must remember that the Holy Spirit is strong enough to help us. He is stronger than any temptation. And he can help us and give us strength to say, "No, I will not do that. God would not want me to do that."

PART FOUR: The miracles of Jesus.

Jesus Christ did many wonderful miracles. He healed people who were very sick. He helped people who had been blind to see. He gave strength to some who had

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit gives us hope.

Jesus promised that we would live eternally with him. The Holy Spirit gives us hope that this is true. Jesus himself said, "But when the Counsellor comes whom I shall send to you from the Father; even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me." (John 15:26). The Holy Spirit is a witness that Jesus will keep his promises to his followers. We believe that Jesus will reward us for living as he wants us to live. The Holy Spirit within us is our guarantee. "We who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory. In him you also who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory." (Ephesians 1:12-14).

LEADER:

As we pray, let us thank God for giving us his Spirit. Let us praise him for his wisdom and might. Let us remember our own worthlessness. We do not deserve anything we receive from God. And yet he has chosen to be our friend. He has decided to reveal his nature to us through his own Spirit. He has allowed us to learn his ways so that we might be able to follow him. He has given to us the Holy Spirit within our hearts in order that he might always be with us. As we learn of him, may we be

We cannot come to Jesus alone, without the Holy Spirit. No one can persuade us to follow Jesus if the Holy Spirit is not convicting us. Therefore it is the Holy Spirit who first introduces us to Jesus.

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit teaches us about Jesus.

After we know Jesus as our Saviour, it is the Holy Spirit who reveals more about Jesus. Those who lived before Christ did not understand how he was coming. They looked for an earthly ruler who would free them from their enemies. But Jesus came to free men from another kind of master, sin. The Holy Spirit helps us to understand the mystery of Christ. In Ephesians 3:4-5 Paul says, "When you read this you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit." There are many things about Christ which we cannot explain. But the Holy Spirit helps us to know that these things are true. He gives us faith.

PART THREE: The Holy Spirit gives us fear of the Lord.

When the Holy Spirit is within us, he gives us the courage and strength we need to live as Christians. He helps us to "walk in the fear of the Lord." This does not mean we are afraid of the Lord. It means that we are always aware of God's presence. We know that he made us. We are sure that he is leading us. We remember that Jesus is our Master. We do not forget about what Jesus has done for us. Everything we do says, "Thank you, Lord for saving me."

been crippled so that they walked. He helped some who were in the power of demons to have control of their own selves again. The Pharisees thought that Jesus had power from the devil. But Jesus explained to them that the devil would not give power to undo his own work. And one who undoes the work of Satan must be stronger than Satan. Jesus said therefore, "But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you." (Matthew 12:28).

PART FIVE: The death and resurrection of Jesus.

Because of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was able to die on the cross and arise from the dead on the third day. See 1 Peter 3:18. The Holy Spirit gave Jesus power to live a life without sin so that he could offer himself as a sacrifice for all our sins. Then the Spirit gave Jesus power to overcome death so that he could assure us of everlasting life.

LEADER:

Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit all of his life. He recognized the power of the Holy Spirit in his life and he wanted his followers to have that same power. He said, "peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." He did not send them alone. His Father had not sent him alone. Immediately after Jesus said these words he gave to them the Holy Spirit. Read John 20:21-22. Jesus wants his followers to live like him but he

knows that no man can do that alone. That is why he gave us the Holy Spirit. We must let the Holy Spirit help us if we intend to follow Jesus.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 12

THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND THE FEAR OF THE LORD.

MEMORY VERSE: *"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him."*
Ephesians 1:17.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11:2.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

Christianity is foolish to those who do not know Jesus. They have never received the Holy Spirit into their hearts. Therefore he has not helped them to understand spiritual truths. Perhaps he has caused them to feel guilt for their sins. But until one receives the Holy Spirit, he does not know God. The Holy Spirit gives us understanding of the way of God.

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit leads us to salvation.

Before we received the Holy Spirit, he spoke within us. He helped us to believe that Jesus died for our sins. Jesus said, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day." (John 6:44). God the Father speaks to us through his Holy Spirit. So it is the Holy Spirit that leads us to accept Jesus as our Saviour.

LEADER:

The Holy Spirit does not like for his people to disobey. He does not like to be a Spirit of Judgement. The Bible says that he grieves when his children are evil. Let us pray that he will give us strength and courage to continually follow him and resist the temptations to sin which we face.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 3

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIVES OF MEN

MEMORY VERSE: *"By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his own Spirit."*
1 John 4:13.

SCRIPTURE READING: Job 32:5-10,18.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

The Bible tells the story of many men who were filled with the Holy Spirit. They were given wisdom by God to lead his people or to do some task for him. Some of these men were young men. Sometimes they had to lead men who were older than they were. Sometimes they had to lead many people. Sometimes they had to make difficult decisions. But God gave them his Spirit to help them.

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit Helped Joseph.

If a man is really led by God's Spirit, even unbelievers will see that he is wise and they will respect him. Joseph lived in Egypt among people who did not believe in Jehovah. But Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt, had a dream. All the wise men of Egypt could not interpret his dream. Finally some one suggested that Joseph might interpret Pharaoh's dream. Joseph was called and he revealed the meaning of the dream to Pharaoh. When Joseph interpreted this

dream to Pharaoh, even the Pharaoh himself said that Joseph was wise. And he recognized that only the Spirit of God could make a man so wise. "And Pharaoh said to his servants, 'Can we find such a man as this, in whom is the Spirit of God.'" (Genesis 41:38).

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit helped Bezaleel.

God does not give his Spirit to men just so they can be advisors. Sometimes God wants a man to make something with his hands. The Holy Spirit helps him to be a good craftsman so that his work will please God. The Bible tells about a man like this in Exodus 31. God wanted Bezaleel to be in charge of building the tabernacle. He needed to be able to build the tabernacle, the ark of the covenant and the mercy seat, the altar, and all the other furniture for the tabernacle. So God helped him to learn to do these things. Exodus 31:3 says, "And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship."

PART THREE: The Holy Spirit helped Joshua.

God wanted a man to lead his people into the Promised Land. He needed a man who was not afraid, a man who trusted God's leadership. So he chose Joshua. He told Moses to, "Take Joshua, the Son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay your hand upon him." (Numbers 27:18). Joshua had proved earlier that he trusted God. When he was among the spies sent to bring back a report of the Promised Land, only he and Caleb remembered that God had

follow, the Holy Spirit may become angry with the whole congregation. We must seek his guidance so that we will know whom to follow.

PART THREE: Judgement upon individuals.

God does not necessary judge the entire group because of the sin of one. In our scripture reading we saw the story of Ananias and Sapphira. These two were in a church. Their church decided that all would sell what they had and bring the money to the church. Each one was to decide whether he would do this or not. Each person could choose to give all or part of his money. Ananias and Sapphira sold their land but they decided to give only part of the money. However, they wanted to be important in their church. So they decided to say that this was all the money.

Peter, the leader of the church, questioned them before the whole congregation. The Holy Spirit revealed their sin. He was very angry because they had lied to him. And both of them died that day. But the church had no part in their sin. The church members did not agree with what they had done. Therefore God did not punish the church for the sin of these two members.

All of us commit sin. Therefore we must ask for forgiveness. We must be careful that we do not allow one of our church members to continue in sin. If we agree with his sin by acting as if we do not know he is sinning, we are lying to God. Let every one in our church be truthful to the Holy Spirit. Let every one repent of his sins. Let us give the Holy Spirit no reason to be angry with our church.

enemies. Yet now they rebelled against him. They refused to follow God. They worshipped as the pagans did. Therefore God was very angry with them. He let his judgement fall on Israel. He allowed their enemies to conquer them. He let them be carried into bondage.

PART TWO: Judgement upon a congregation.

Perhaps we do not agree that Israel should have been judged for the wickedness of the whole nation. But God sometimes judges an entire group for the evil of one man. There is such a story in the Old Testament. God had chosen Moses to lead His people. Moses was leading them as God directed him. But a man named Korah accused Moses of making himself the leader. Korah aroused complaining among the people. God was angry with Korah and all those who listened to him. God was preparing to destroy all who were complaining. Moses and Aaron pled for the people. "And they fell on their faces and said, 'O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and wilt thou be angry with all the congregation?'" (Numbers 16:22). God was ready to judge all the people for allowing one man to lead them away from him. He was angry with many people because they followed one whom he had not chosen. God listened to Moses and spared all except those who had tried to be leaders with Korah. However, the next day those who had been spared began to doubt Moses' authority again. And God destroyed them also. We must let the Holy Spirit choose leaders for our church. If one makes himself a leader, he may not be chosen by God. He may lead us away from God. And if we

promised to help the Israelites take the land. Now the Israelites had wandered in the wilderness for forty years because of their failure to trust God. God knew that a man like Joshua would do a good job. He knew that a man filled with the Holy Spirit would remain courageous and strong.

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit helped Stephen.

The early church needed to choose men to lead in serving the Lord. One of the men who they chose was Stephen. The Bible says that he was "a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit." Because he was a good leader, the word of God increased, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly. Stephen followed the Spirit of God within him so closely that the enemies of Jesus became his enemies, too. They finally stoned him to death. But even when he was dying, he knew that the Holy Spirit was with him and he was not afraid.

LEADER:

God's people always need a leader who is filled with God's Spirit. He may be a young man or he may be old. But if he has the Holy Spirit within his heart, he will have wisdom to lead the church. If God wants a man to lead, he will give him strength and wisdom and courage. God will also give him the opportunity to lead. God does not want a man to make himself a leader. Sometimes God is not ready for one to lead.

Each one of us must allow the Holy Spirit to fill our lives completely. We must trust him to lead us every day.

must ask the Holy Spirit to guide them to choose the right leaders. God will reveal to them "a man in whom is the spirit."

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 11

THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF JUDGEMENT

MEMORY VERSE:

"How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by the man who has spurned the Son of God, and profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified and outraged the Spirit of grace?"

Hebrews 10:29.

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 5:3-4.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

We have been studying how the Holy Spirit is our helper. But today we shall look at reasons why the Holy Spirit can turn against us. If we allow him to control our lives, then he is our best friend. But if we rebel against him, he can be a spirit of judgement.

PART ONE: Judgement upon a nation.

Read Isaiah 63:10. The people in this story were Jews. They were God's chosen people. He made a promise to Abraham to establish them as a nation. He led them to Egypt to protect them from famine. He had helped them to have many sons and daughters. He had helped them to escape from slavery in Egypt. He had been with them on the long journey to the Promised Land. He had fought for them against their

able to love those who hate us, those who use us for their own profit, those who are cruel to us.

LEADER:

God wants us to love him. But we cannot show our love for him unless we keep his commandments to love others. Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." The Holy Spirit will lead us to love all people. But we must be willing to follow his guidance. If we follow him and learn to express his love to all those we meet, he will know that we love him. Saying we love him is not enough. We must show our love.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 4

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN HIS TEMPLE

MEMORY VERSE: *"Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?" 1 Corinthians 3:16.*

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 3:24.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

Many religions have temples where their followers go to worship their gods. Some believe that their gods live in these temples. But Christianity is not like this. Christians build buildings but these are just buildings where the church meets together. Christians do worship God in the church building and many times God is there. But God does not live in the church building. God does not live in any house. However, God does have a temple. The Bible says that Christians themselves are the temple of God. God says we are his temple if we have given our life to him.

PART ONE: Let the Holy Spirit come into his temple.

First we must allow him to come into his temple. If we believe on Jesus Christ as our Saviour, we confess our sins to him, Jesus forgives us and gives to us his Holy Spirit. "And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the

name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38). Every human being has the opportunity to become a temple of the Holy Spirit. No matter who we are, we become the temple of the Holy Spirit when he comes into our hearts.

PART TWO: Keep the temple pure.

The Holy Spirit wants our body to be his temple. Read again the memory verse. The Bible also says, "I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Romans 12:1-2). We must be careful to keep our bodies acceptable to God. If we use our bodies to commit sin against God, then we are not acceptable. His Spirit does not want to live in a temple that is dirty and stained. Read 1 Corinthians 6:15-20. God does not want us to do anything that does not glorify him. Our scripture reading says that he abides in all who keep his commandments. Jesus said that the first commandment is, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37). We cannot love God in this way and do anything against his will. If we love him, we want to please him. Jesus said, "And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbour as yourself." (Matthew 22:39). This does not mean just our friends. Our neighbour is any other human being. If we love another, we will not do something to harm him. If our body is to be acceptable to the Holy Spirit then we cannot use it in sin against God or against any person. We must do only good things.

Children show that they love God when they obey the parents God has given them. Parents must be careful when they correct their children. Show mercy as God has shown mercy. Train the child to love God and to do right. But be forgiving as God is forgiving. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to help us make our home a place of love.

PART THREE: To love those in the church.

Read 1 Peter 1:22. As we learn to obey the Holy Spirit, we learn to love one another. We love others in our church. We try to understand each other. We are forgiving. We are unselfish. We are commanded to love one another as Jesus loved us. He gave his life for us.

As we love one another and we follow the Holy Spirit, we will have unity in our church. The Bible says, "worldly people cause divisions," but we Christians are to pray in the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of love. God wants those who pray together to love one another. This is his plan for the church. And the Holy Spirit will lead the church that loves one another.

PART FOUR: To love our enemies.

If we love those in our homes and we love those in the church, then we can be able to love our enemies. Jesus said, "anyone can love his friends, but you must love your enemies." This is impossible to do without the help of the Holy Spirit. Because he is the Spirit of love, he can give us love if he lives in our hearts. We can love our enemies with God's help. If the Holy Spirit is within us, we will be

this we may be sure that we are in him: he who says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked." (1 John 2:5-6). We show our love for God by keeping his commandments. But the first commandment is to "love God". This seems to be impossible to do, but the Bible gives us the answer. It is by keeping the second commandment that we keep the first. For the Bible says, "If anyone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also." (1 John 4:20-21).

PART TWO: To love those in our home.

God wants us to love those in our home. "Wives be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged." (Colossians 3:18-21). This is the way God intended our homes to be. A wife is to love her husband and to do those things that make him happy in the same way that she loves God and tries to do things which please him. The husband is to love his wife as himself. Jesus said, "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one. So they are no longer two but one. What therefore God has joined together, let no man put asunder." The husband is not to have bitterness or resentment toward his wife. He is to try to be in unity with her. He is not to think of divorcing her.

PART THREE: Keep the temple clean.

The Holy Spirit does not want to live in our body if our mind is not also open to him. He wants to live in our thoughts, too. If our thoughts are not pleasing to him, he will turn away. He will not want to live in us. "For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit." (Romans 8:5). Sometimes we think bad thoughts and believe no one will know. But God knows every thought we have. The Bible tells us the things he wants us to think about. "Finally brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." (Philippians 4:8).

Jesus said in Matthew, Chapters 5 and 6, that we should not think about the things that would be wrong to do. He says it is wrong even to think about killing or committing adultery, or divorce, or lying, or seeking revenge or hating another. Even in worshipping God we must be careful to want glory for God and not glory for ourselves. We must not want others to notice that we worship. We should try to keep our minds acceptable to the Holy Spirit by thinking the things that he would like. Sometimes this is very hard to do. The Holy Spirit knows this and so he will help us. He knows our needs even when we cannot express them ourselves. See Romans 8:26.

LEADER:

The temple of the Holy Spirit is not a big elaborate building. The temple of the Holy Spirit is a Christian who does what God wants him to do. He tries to be what God wants him to be. This temple will cause others to come and worship God. It will be like a "city set on a hill." Others will come seeking the Holy Spirit who lives in this kind of temple.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 10

THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

MEMORY VERSE:

"But concerning love of the brethren you have no need to have any one write you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another."

1 Thessalonians 4:9.

SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 2:1-2.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

Jesus gave two great commandments. The first is to love God. The second is to love man. But we know that without God's help we cannot keep either of these commandments. Before we allowed the Holy Spirit to enter our hearts, we had hate and jealousy, impatience, quarreling, and evil thoughts in our hearts. Many times these controlled our actions. When the Holy Spirit came into our hearts he helped us to have self-control. He led us to find control of ourselves. Sin no longer was our master. "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us." Thus, God has given us the ability to keep his commandments.

PART ONE: To Love God.

How can we show love for God? The Bible says, "But whoever keeps his word, in him truly love for God is perfected. By

kind once in a while. But only the Holy Spirit can help all of these traits to grow and to have roots in our lives.

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit helps us be ourselves.

The Holy Spirit also gives gifts or talents to his followers. He helps us to fulfill the purpose of our lives. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11. We must remember that all our abilities come from God. Our gifts we must use as the Holy Spirit leads us. We are not to question why our talents are different from those of others. God needs some to do one thing and others to do another thing. Each of us must be thankful that God has given us our particular talent. We must realize that the Holy Spirit will show us how to use these abilities. Then we will trust the Holy Spirit to lead us and our lives will bring joy to God.

LEADER:

Galatians 5:25 says, "If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit." If the Holy Spirit has given us life, let our every action be done as he leads us. By following him, we find righteousness and peace and joy.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LESSON 5

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH

MEMORY VERSE: *"And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high."*
Luke 24:49.

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 2:38-47.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

Last week we studied about the Holy Spirit within one Christian. Today we shall think about what happens when the Holy Spirit is able to fill a group of people, the church, The Bible says the church is the body of Christ. That body cannot really live unless it is filled with the Spirit of Christ. Without the Holy Spirit, the church is dead.

PART ONE: The church must pray for power.

Read Acts 1:12-14. The first church to receive the Holy Spirit was the group of Christ's followers in Jerusalem. Jesus told them to stay in Jerusalem and wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. He promised them that the Holy Spirit would give them power. And so they obeyed and remained in Jerusalem. They did not try to tell anyone about Jesus. They did not visit the sick or minister to the poor.

They simply remained together in the upper room and prayed. The only other action recorded in the Bible was the choosing of Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot among the twelve apostles. This church without the Holy Spirit did not have power to reach out to others. But as they prayed they looked forward to the coming of the Holy Spirit.

If our church does not have power to speak to others, we must pray that the Holy Spirit will fill our church members. He does not want us to try to do his work without him.

PART TWO: The church must reveal this power.

When the Holy Spirit came, he filled all the house where they were sitting. He came upon each one. And all of them began to speak in languages which they could not speak before. The Holy Spirit gave them a message and the words to proclaim it. They went into the street and began to tell the message to everyone they met. The city was crowded with people from other countries who had come to celebrate the feast of Pentecost. A crowd began to gather around them. Everyone in the crowd heard some of the believers telling the story in his own language. They could not understand how this was possible. They could see that those who were speaking were not well-educated people. The multitude was curious to hear more.

When the Holy Spirit fills a church, this affects everyone in the church. They work together. Some do not just watch

of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7). Alone we cannot hold on to the truth. When unbelievers question us and try to confuse us, we must depend on the Holy Spirit to help us. 2 Timothy 1:14 says, "Guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us."

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit helps us control our desires.

We do not have to be in trouble to depend on the Holy Spirit. Every day our own desires lead us away from the Spirit. When we are following our own desires we must be careful not to break the law. Read Galatians 5:16-18. If we are led by the Holy Spirit we will not need to fear the law. The Holy Spirit will not lead us to break the law. If we follow him, we will be doing more than the law requires.

PART THREE: The Holy Spirit helps us be like God.

The Holy Spirit is our Counsellor. He guides us to be the best person we can be. If the Holy Spirit lives within us and we allow him to have his way, then we will produce the "fruits of the Spirit". This fruit will be seen in our lives. The Bible says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, against such there is no law." (Galatians 5:22-23). These are good traits that we cannot hold on to by ourselves. We may occasionally have some of them. There will be times when we are loving. Other times we may have joy for a short while. On rare occasions we may be patient. Or we may be

LESSON 9

THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE COUNSELLOR

MEMORY VERSE: *"For the kingdom of God does not mean food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."*

Romans 14:17.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 14:16-17.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

Many times we do not know what to do or what to say. There is no easy choice. If there is time, we ask advice from a friend. We may trust his judgement and do as he advises. Or sometimes we decide that his advice is not good and we do not follow it. God has given us his Holy Spirit to help us in times like these. We can always trust his judgement. He will never fail to give us good advice.

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit helps us give an answer.

Read Luke 21:13-15. Jesus knew that the early disciples would be put in prison for following him. He knew that they would be questioned by kings and governors. But he told them that they should not worry. In such a time, the Holy Spirit would give them an answer. They had no reason to fear. Later Paul wrote, "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit

while others work. All go telling others about Jesus. Their excitement causes lost people to want to know more.

PART THREE: The church must explain this power.

Some of the people began to ask, "What does this mean?" Others said, "They are just drunk." But Peter heard these remarks and he began to preach to the multitude. He explained how those who were acting so strangely were not drunk. He told how they had been filled with the Holy Spirit. He asked them to remember the prophecy of Joel that the Spirit of God would come and people would do strange things. Read Joel 2:28-29. He told them how Jesus' resurrection fulfilled the prophecy of David. He assured them that Jesus had sent his Holy Spirit. That was the reason for this strange happening.

When the Holy Spirit fills a church the members will not be ashamed to explain this to others. They will be confident that the Holy Spirit is leading them. They will not hesitate to do all the Spirit says.

Those who listened to Peter asked what they should do. Peter told them to repent. Read Acts 2:38-39. That day three thousand people were saved. Because the Holy Spirit gave them power, a few disciples convinced many, others to accept Jesus as Lord. When the Holy Spirit fills a group of Christians, the church, they do great things for God.

PART FOUR: The church must share this power.

All of those who received the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost were Jews. Therefore the Jews believed that the Holy Spirit was for Jews only. But some time later the Holy Spirit spoke to Peter. He told him to go with some men who were not Jews. When he went with them, the Holy Spirit led him to preach to many others who were not Jews. When they heard the word of God, they repented. And when they repented, the Holy Spirit came on them just as he had come upon the Jews. This experience caused Peter to be convinced that God wants all men to know him. Read Acts 10:19-20,44-47.

A church filled with God's Spirit cannot keep that Spirit for themselves only. They are compelled to try to share this gift with all whom they see.

LEADER:

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will fill our church. Let us ask him to help us to tell all people about Jesus. May we promise him to open our church to all those whom he has made.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

The Holy Spirit was sent by God to be our teacher. He wants to teach us the meaning of life. We can learn to listen for his teaching. Let us begin today to seek the teaching of the Holy Spirit.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

give us understanding. As the invitation is given at the close of the service, the Holy Spirit will convict us if there is something we need to do for him.

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit teaches us in our daily life.

The Holy Spirit teaches us every day. He causes us to know that God made all the beauty we see. The sky, the stars, the trees, the flowers, the rivers are all his. When we see them, the Holy Spirit helps us to remember that God made all these things for us to enjoy. He makes good things for us to hear. We can smile when we hear a bird singing, children playing and laughing, the wind blowing in the trees, or a kind word spoken by a friend. We can thank God for ears to hear. The Holy Spirit reminds us that food comes from God. He helps us to be thankful as we eat.

When one is sick, the Holy Spirit helps us to know that God does not want anyone to suffer. God, too, wants those who are sick to be well. When there is a death, we must trust the Holy Spirit to help us in our sorrow. He will give us hope. When we see two people marry, we are reminded by the Holy Spirit that God wants people to marry. God has a plan for the family to learn about him together. It is God's will that a man and a woman become one and that they have children. He wants us to teach those children about his love. In everything we do, we can look for what the Holy Spirit is trying to teach us.

LESSON 6

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS WORKMAN

MEMORY VERSE: *"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send and who will go for us?' Then said I, 'Here am I! Send me.'"*

Isaiah 6:8.

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 13:2.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

Every Christian can be led in his everyday life by the Holy Spirit. But sometimes God needs one man to do a particular job. He may need one man to lead others. Or he may need one man to separate himself from his friends and go to another place to tell others about Jesus. A Christian who follows the Holy Spirit every day will know if God is calling him to do a particular task.

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit chooses church leaders.

The Holy Spirit must be the one to choose his workman. A person cannot choose himself to work for God. If he has not been chosen by the Holy Spirit he will not be happy in his work. He will not be able to know the best way to do the work. Each one of us needs to be willing to do the work in the church. But we must depend on the Holy Spirit to lead us into that work.

The Holy Spirit also speaks to the church. He helps them to know those whom he has chosen to work as leaders. See again Acts 13:2.

Jesus cares about the church. He wants its leaders to be careful in their work. He wants his church to follow him. Therefore his workman is to point the way for others to follow. The leaders of a church are to be the servants of the church. But they can serve the church only as they serve the Master. Acts 20:28 says, "Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of the Lord which he obtained with his own blood."

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit chooses missionaries.

God wants some people to leave their friends and their home to go to another place. He knows that many people do not know him. Many people have never heard about Jesus. He needs someone to go tell these people the way of salvation. The Holy Spirit led Paul and Barnabas to places like this. They were the first missionaries. He helped them to know where he wanted them to go. He knew that in some cities the people were not ready to receive his message. And so he did not allow Paul and Barnabas to go there. Read Acts 16:6-7. The Holy Spirit wanted them to go where they could use their time wisely. If they preached where the Holy Spirit was already convicting, many would come to Jesus. If we let him, he will lead us in this way today. He will help us to go where our efforts will bring glory to God.

lead us to understand what the Scripture instructs us to do. The Holy Spirit gives meaning to the words we read in our Bible. Jesus said, "It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh is of no avail; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." (John 6:63). That is why Jesus' words which are written in the Bible are so important to us. The Holy Spirit causes them to live in us.

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit teaches us when we pray.

Praying is talking with God and listening to God. When God speaks, he talks to us through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps us to know the things we need to pray for. The Bible says that we have needs so deep that we cannot express them in words. The Holy Spirit expresses these needs for us. The Holy Spirit helps us to understand the greatness of God so that our hearts are filled with praise. And we can learn from the Holy Spirit to love others so that we sincerely plead for God to help them.

PART THREE: The Holy Spirit teaches us at church.

The Holy Spirit teaches us when we go to church. As we study our Sunday School lesson, he can teach us how to live for him. As we sing, he can guide us to understand what we sing, so that we can sing true praise to God. When we give our tithes and offerings, the Holy Spirit can help us to remember that God gives us everything we have. He can help us to be a cheerful giver. When we hear God's word from the preacher, the Holy Spirit can

LESSON 8

THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE TEACHER

MEMORY VERSE: *"But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."*

John 14:26.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 6:45.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

A teacher instructs us in ideas that we can use to improve the way we live. We hear a teacher explain how to do something. We may say, "Yes, that is a good idea." But until we try to do it ourselves, we do not really know that it is a good idea. The Bible says that the Holy Spirit will teach us. If we learn our lessons well, then we will live by these teachings. We will use these lessons in our homes, at work, in church, at the market, or wherever we go.

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit teaches us through the Bible.

Each time we read our Bible, we must ask the Holy Spirit to explain it to us. As we read, he can help us to understand the meaning. He can guide us to see how the Scripture applies to our life. He can

PART THREE:

Sometimes we are ashamed and afraid to speak about Jesus. The Holy Spirit will give us boldness. The Holy Spirit gave the prophets power and courage. They accused a whole nation of evil. They told how God would punish Israel for sinning. Read Micah 3:8. The Holy Spirit gave John the Baptist courage to accuse Herod of adultery. Peter received courage to speak to rulers about the gospel of Jesus. These rulers had power to put Peter into prison for saying these things. But the Holy Spirit helped him to preach to them. Other early Christians received boldness from the Holy Spirit. They told his message to many. Acts 4:31 says, "And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness." The Holy Spirit never leads his workmen to do a job without also giving him power to do the job.

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit chooses some to pray.

God does not choose leaders and leave others to merely follow. He has a plan for those who follow. He expects every Christian to pray for those who lead. He wants us to know about the needs of those who lead; perhaps they have physical needs. He may speak to us and ask us to help meet those needs. The Holy Spirit wants Christians to pray for each other. He wants all of us to follow him together. Ephesians 6:17-18: "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray at all times in

the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all saints."

LEADER:

For some work God calls one person. The Holy Spirit speaks to that person. He must be willing to obey. Others God never calls to this kind of work. But God expects them to follow him and to pray for the workmen whom he has called.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

peace in his heart but he will not find it. But if he chooses to repent of his sin and follow the Spirit, then the Spirit will help him to begin again to grow as a Christian.

Let us pray for our fellow Christians who have failed to be true followers of Jesus. Let us pray that they will hear the voice of the Holy Spirit and seek his forgiveness, so that he can give them peace.

WOMEN'S HYMN:

PRAYER:

PART FOUR: The Holy Spirit enters by faith.

We cannot be good enough to persuade the Holy Spirit to come and live in us. There is only one way to receive the Holy Spirit. That is by having faith in the Holy Spirit and trusting Jesus to pay for our sins. But we must continue to have faith. We cannot depend on good deeds to be enough. We must continue to believe that the Holy Spirit leads us in the right way. Only he can help us to live the Christian life. Read Galatians 3:2-3. The Galatians had forgotten to follow the Holy Spirit daily. Paul reminded them that those who receive the Holy Spirit must continue to follow him. Then the Holy Spirit, which Jesus has given, becomes like a spring of water that always brings joy and peace. Read John 4:14.

LEADER:

The lost sinner must choose. He can reject the help of the Holy Spirit; then the Holy Spirit cannot help him. He will remain a slave to sin. Or the sinner can listen when the Holy Spirit speaks. He can trust the Holy Spirit and receive the salvation from sin which Jesus offers. He can continue all his life to follow the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will help him to understand the teachings of Jesus. God's Spirit will help him to know good and evil. Let us pray that many people will believe the Holy Spirit and listen as he speaks in their hearts.

The child of God who sins also must make a choice. If he chooses to refuse to follow the Holy Spirit, then he will continue to be unhappy. He will search for

LESSON 7

THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE SINNER

MEMORY VERSE: *"Woe to the rebellious children," says the Lord, 'who carry out a plan, but not mine; and who make a league but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin.'"* Isaiah 30:1.

SCRIPTURE READING: Titus 3:5-6.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAYER:

LEADER:

As we have been studying about the Holy Spirit, we have said that the Holy Spirit helps those who follow him. But what about those who refuse to follow him? The Bible calls these people sinners. Every one of us is a sinner. Even if we have been forgiven by Jesus, we still sin. Any time we choose to do something the Holy Spirit does not want us to do, we are sinning. Every time we refuse to do what the Holy Spirit is leading us to do, we are sinning. How does the Holy Spirit speak to sinners?

PART ONE: The Holy Spirit may speak through others.

God loves all men. That is why he wants to save them from the power of sin. The Holy Spirit speaks to a lost sinner and pleads with him to trust Jesus. God

speaks to his child who sins to urge him to live a Christian life. The Holy Spirit may speak through his servant the preacher. The preacher may say something that causes the sinner to think about his sin. The sinner may become sorry for his sin. Or perhaps the preacher will tell about God's love and the sinner will want to be forgiven so that he can know more about this love. Perhaps the Holy Spirit will use some other person. Maybe he will use a friend to tell the sinner about God's way. Sometimes the Holy Spirit may not speak through another person at all. He may just speak to one himself. Sometimes we call this way "the still, small voice." This means that we feel deep inside us that we ought to do something. Perhaps we might even hear someone speak within us. This voice may simply urge the sinner to repent. He may know that he ought to trust Jesus to save him. Or if he is already saved, he may become aware of his need to turn from his sin so that he can be a true follower of Jesus. The Holy Spirit can speak to people in many ways. When a person thinks that the Holy Spirit may be speaking to him, he should listen carefully. The Bible says, "Do not quench the Spirit:" (1 Thessalonians 5:19). "Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, 'Today, when you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness.'" (Hebrews 3:7-8).

PART TWO: The Holy Spirit may stop speaking.

The Holy Spirit will not always continue to call. He will not continue to plead with men to follow him. If a person

will not listen to God's Spirit, then the Spirit will leave him alone. In Romans, Chapter 1, the Bible tells how men and women continued to sin against God. Eventually God gave them up to their sins. God let sin take them over. He allowed sin to master their lives. In Proverbs 1:24-28 God says he will not help those who have refused him. When sin brings distress in to their lives he will not help. When they call for him, he will not answer. They cannot find him. A person must listen when the Holy Spirit is speaking to him. We cannot say, "Leave me alone. When I am ready, I will call for the Holy Spirit." We may not be able to find him when we call.

PART THREE: The Holy Spirit wants to be heard.

Some people who hear the Holy Spirit speaking to them feel guilty for their sins. They want to be forgiven. They want to feel clean inside. They want to be free from the sin that they continue to commit. They know that they cannot free themselves. And so they listen to the Holy Spirit. These people seek to know the way of the Holy Spirit. They want to know how this Holy Spirit can help them find salvation. When they hear a preacher or read from their Bibles or receive advice from a friend, they listen for the Holy Spirit. He helps them to know if what they hear or read is true. If they trust and believe in Jesus, then Jesus gives them the Holy Spirit to live in them forever. They are forgiven of their sins and they begin to learn how to live an abundant life.

CORRECTION ~~SHEET~~ FOR SUE RADER'S THE HOLY SPIRIT

The corrections shall be listed according to paragraph. If there is a short paragraph which is continued from the previous page it shall be considered as paragraph 1. The title of a part shall not be considered as a paragraph.

Page 2, P. 2 line 8 hiliness should be holiness

Page 2, P. 3 line 16 pluse should be pulse

Page 10, P. 3 line 8 eariler should be earlier

Page 11, P. 2 line 3 who should be whom

Page 12, P. 1 there is an omission. Add at the top of the page the following:
"must trust God to choose one to lead his people. The church members..."

Page 23, P. 1 line 9 couraged should be courage

Page 23, P. 1 line 21 workmen should be workman

Page 23, P. 2 line 11 helment should be helmet

Page 43, P. 2 line 1 necessary should be necessarily

Page 50, P. 1 line 11 syas should be says