

LIVING
THE WORD

CARIBBEAN BIBLE LESSONS



Discoverers

Older Children • Age 10-12 • Learner Guide

May • June • July • August • 2023



**Older Children • Age 10-12 • Learner Guide**

The learning activities suggested in this book are used as part of the teaching plan provided in the *Older Children Teacher Guide*. It is strongly recommended that each church provides a copy of the *Older Children Learner Guide* for each Older Child and Older Children teacher.

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UNIT OVERVIEW

MAY 2023

The Holy Spirit

Writer: Joyce Graham, Jamaica



The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God. He is the third person of the Trinity. “Trinity” refers to God existing as three persons—three in one. The persons are God Himself, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. God, therefore, exists in the ‘form’ of three persons. In this case, the word ‘person’ does not mean people like us, who can be seen. It means a form of God. We can say that God is one God and at the same time three “persons”.

For many centuries after God made the world, He communicated with His people mostly through chosen people; for example, through Moses (Exodus 3) and prophets such as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea and Joel. God used them as messengers of His commands, warnings and instructions to His people.

While Jesus was on Earth, God lived in Him (John 14:11). Jesus taught everything which God wanted the people to know. We know this because Jesus said, *“The words I say to you I do not speak on My own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work”* (John 14:10 NIV).

Jesus went back to heaven; but on the ‘Day of Pentecost’ God sent His Spirit to live in everyone who will receive Him. When we receive the Holy Spirit, it means that God is within us.

During the month of May you will learn five lessons about the Holy Spirit. On the lines provided, write the weekly lesson titles.

Lesson 1: _____

Lesson 2: _____

Lesson 3: _____

Lesson 4: _____

"I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days." Joel 2:28-29 NIV

God's Spirit is available to everyone.

When you are a child of God, He sends His Spirit to live in you. God's Spirit is also called the 'Holy Spirit'. Every boy or girl can receive the Holy Spirit. A prophet, named Joel, wrote what God said about His Spirit. Look again at the **Memory Verse** and then, answer the questions below.

- 1) *On whom did God say He would pour out His Spirit?*

- 2) *What would God's Spirit cause His sons and daughters to do?*

- 3) *Would both men and women be able to receive God's Spirit?*

This message from God shows that His Spirit would be a free gift to all who would accept it.

Joel's prophecy happened on the 'Day of Pentecost'. Jesus had gone back to heaven. His disciples

were waiting in Jerusalem for Him to send His Holy Spirit as He, too, had promised (John 14:16-17). While the disciples were waiting, suddenly a sound came from heaven. It sounded like a strong rushing wind. The noise filled the house. There came also, tongues, looking like fire, that separated and rested on the head of each of the disciples in the room. Then, they began to speak in different languages, which they were not able to do before. The Holy Spirit was telling them what to say. That was a sign that the Holy Spirit had come into their heart.

Some Jews mocked the disciples (Acts 2:13). They said, "Oh, these men are filled with new wine, they are drunk!" One of the disciples, Peter, stood up and said, "Listen to me! We are

not drunk. We are filled with the Holy Spirit. God told you this would happen in His Holy Word, through the prophet Joel. “That promise is now being fulfilled.”

In Romans 8, the apostle Paul teaches that we cannot please God unless the Holy Spirit is within us. Complete verse 14.

For those who are led by the Spirit of God, are the _____ of _____ (NIV).

Even when you have the best father in the world, you still need God as your heavenly Father. You need His Spirit to guide you so that you can be the good human being He created you to be.



Learning Activities



1: Daily Bible Search

After reading the Bible passage each day, write on the lines the correct words to complete the sentence. Use the New International Version of the Bible.

Sunday: Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the _____ .

Monday: 2 Cor. 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the _____ of God, and the _____ of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Tuesday: Romans 8:9b And if anyone does not have the _____ of Christ, they do not belong to Christ.

Wednesday: John 14:16-17 And He will give you another _____ to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of _____ .

Thursday: John 14:26 The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my _____, will _____ you all things.

Friday: Judges 3:10 The _____ of the LORD came on him, so that he became Israel’s _____ and went to war.

Saturday: 1 Cor. 3:16 Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s _____ dwells in your midst?

2. Take Care

Place a tick in the box for the activities which the Holy Spirit wants you to do.
Place an X for the activities that do not help to take care of His home.

CARE YOUR MIND:

- 1) Be careful of what you watch on TV or on the Internet.
- 2) Listen to music with clean lyrics.
- 3) Keep friends who will encourage you to 'try everything, even once'.

CARE YOUR HEART:

- 1) Ask for forgiveness of your sins.
- 2) Malice the child who always gets the best marks.
- 3) Be thankful.

CARE FOR OTHERS:

- 1) Apologise when you are wrong.
- 2) Fight a child who told a lie on you.
- 3) Forgive people when they have wronged you.

3. What Does the Holy Spirit Do?

Use the key below to find out some of the things that the Holy Spirit does. Write the words on the line provided.

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

1)        

6)        

2)     

7)        

3)         

8)         

4)     

9)          

5)       

10)          

Unit Title: **The Holy Spirit**Lesson Title: **Lives in Us**

Bible Focus:

Acts 3:1-10; 4:8-12

Memory Verse:

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? 1 Corinthians 6:19 NIV

Central Truth:

The Holy Spirit lives within us and by His power we are able to do what God wants us to do.

When someone accepts Jesus as Lord and Saviour, God sends His Spirit to dwell within that person. That person becomes the ‘home’ of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says: *Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?* (1 Corinthians 6:19 NIV). The person’s body becomes sacred because the Spirit of God is now in him or her.

What is the greatest thing you ever wished you could do? When the Holy Spirit dwells within us, He enables us to do things which did not seem possible before. Here is a story which shows that the Holy Spirit lives in God’s children and empowers them to do great things, even miracles.

Peter and John were two of Jesus’ disciples. One day, they were going into the Temple to

pray, and preach the good news about Jesus. They arrived at the Temple gate, which was called “Beautiful”. A lame beggar was lying at the gate. He had been disabled from birth and so people carried him each day and laid him at the Temple gate. Here, the poor man sat from morning until night begging money from persons who went into the Temple.

As Peter and John walked by, the lame beggar asked them for money. Peter said, “Look at us.” The man was expecting to get some money. Peter looked at the man and said, “I do not have any silver nor gold, but what I do have, I will give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”

Peter took the man’s right hand and lifted him. Immediately, the beggar’s feet and ankles

became strong. He leaped up, stood and walked. Wow! Can you imagine that? The man went with Peter and John into the Temple, walking, leaping and praising God. The people were amazed. They crowded around the man. Peter asked, “Why do you look at us as if we ourselves made this man walk? It is Jesus who healed this man.”

Do you remember that in the previous lesson, Peter and the other disciples had received the gift of the Holy Spirit? Well, it was the Spirit of God in Peter who enabled him to heal the man. Even

though we cannot see the Holy Spirit, we can know that He is with us. He speaks to our hearts and helps us to do the things which He wants us to do.

The Holy Spirit gives Christians different gifts. Some of us might not have the gift of healing, like Peter had. Whatever our gifts are, we must be obedient to the teachings of the Holy Spirit in the way we think, speak and act. When we are obedient to the Holy Spirit, God is pleased with us, and people are blessed through us.



Learning Activities



1: Daily Bible Search

Each day, after reading the text, write in your own words what the passage tells us about the Holy Spirit.

DAILY BIBLE PASSAGE	INFORMATION ON THE HOLY SPIRIT
Sunday: Romans 8:9-11	
Monday: Matthew 10:19-20	
Tuesday: John 14:15-17	
Wednesday: Romans 8:26	
Thursday: Acts 11:12-15	
Friday: 1 Cor. 2:12-13	
Saturday: Acts 1:8	

2. Unlock the Truth

Below is a key that lists all the letters from A to Z and their corresponding numbers. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below to reveal a familiar message.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
11	3	19	20	4	6	15	12	14	2	25	22	13	10	21	17	5	23	16	26	7	9	8	24	1	18

26 12 4 12 21 22 1 16 17 14 23 14 26 22 14 9 4 16 8 14 26 12 14 10

7 16 11 10 20 3 1 12 14 16 17 21 8 4 23 8 4 11 23 4

11 3 22 4 26 21 20 21 8 12 11 26 15 21 20 8 11 10 26 16

7 16 26 21 20 21

3. The Holy Spirit and Me

Answer the questions below.

- 1) What should you do, to receive the Holy Spirit? Read **Acts 2:38** and then, fill in the correct word on the line below.

_____ of your sins. (This means to turn from sin, to change direction from wrong to right and to follow Jesus).

- 2) Think of five sinful habits which you have. The Holy Spirit will help you to change from those ways. On the lines provided, write what the Holy Spirit will help you to do.

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____



TRIBUTE

to the late

Reverend Samuel Vernon and Mrs. Maeve Vernon

We recall with great gratitude the contribution of Reverend Samuel Vernon and his precious wife Maeve for over 50 years. Mrs. Vernon passed in October 2021 and Rev Vernon a year later, both after a lifetime of stellar service to Christian ministry spanning Jamaica, Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, British Columbia and finally the USA.

In 1970, Caribbean churches formed the Caribbean Baptist Fellowship, which then became a regional grouping of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA). Reverend Vernon was elected chair of the Literature and Publications Committee of the CBF. The committee was tasked with producing, publishing and circulating the Caribbean Baptist News and Information Journal. This he did ably and effectively assisted by his wife Maeve.

The CBF came to recognise the need for culturally relevant Bible study materials for the region's Sunday Schools. The Literature Committee formed a sub-committee to spearhead this project. This sub-committee was also chaired by Reverend Vernon and was charged with publishing biblically grounded, educationally sound, and culturally relevant, age-graded Bible study material. These came to be known as Caribbean Bible Lessons (CBL), which were first published in 1976. By 1980 the work of the committee led to the foundation of a newly formed CBF agency called Caribbean Christian Publications (CCP). In 1989 CCP relocated from El Paso in Texas to Hollywood, Florida.

In lieu of the occupancy permit, Reverend Vernon, Pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Florida graciously made available a section of the church's educational building to serve as a temporary literature production office. In addition, Mrs. Vernon joined the editorial staff and used her computer, literary and creative skills to the benefit of the literature ministry.

This ministry, which has produced Christian discipleship literature in the region for some 45 years, is a part of the legacy left by Reverend Samuel Vernon and Mrs. Maeve Vernon. Caribbean churches and people will forever be in their debt. To God be the Glory.

Adapted from a tribute by Reverend Arthur Edgar presented at a memorial service held at Parkway Baptist Church in October 2022.

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