

The Holy Spirit

Who is the Holy Spirit?

What names is he given?

(15:26; 16:7, 13)

What two things did Jesus say the Holy Spirit comes to do? (vv. 8, 13-14)

1.

2.

What are the things the Holy Spirit points out in our hearts?

1.

2.

3.

What does it mean that the Spirit “glorifies” Jesus?

How does he do this?

The Holy Spirit

Cut out and decorate this dove. (a dove is often a symbol of the Holy Spirit). You might want to colour it or paint it, put stickers on it or draw patterns on it. Then stick it up somewhere in your house to remind you that the Holy Spirit is with you.



Can you find all of the words in the wordsearch?

- Advocate Encourage God
- Jesus Judgement Prove Truth
- Righteous Support Understand

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

Notes to help the grown-ups

Here are some notes to go with the first page of the worksheet. The aim of the questions is to see if the children have followed what was said if they understand what they mean. Please do encourage them to have a Bible open in front of them as they try to answer the questions. Don't worry if the children only manage to answer some of the questions. They are designed to help prompt further conversations about things they've heard today.

1. Who is the Holy Spirit? What names is he given? (15:26; 16:7, 13)

The Holy Spirit is God. He is one of the persons of the Trinity, sent by the Father and the Son to live in the hearts of people who have put their faith in the Lord Jesus and among God's people the church. He is given different names in our passage. He's referred to as:

- **The Advocate** (15:26; 16:7b) – an advocate is someone who pleads someone's case in court. They either try to prove that someone is innocent or someone is guilty. In our passage we'll see the Holy Spirit shows the world that they are guilty or in the wrong before God.
- **The Spirit of Truth** (15:26; 16:13) – he speaks God's truth to us, above all God's truth about the Lord Jesus.

2. What two things did Jesus say the Spirit comes to do? (vv. 8, 13-14)

Make sure that the children have a look at the verses that are mentioned in the question. See if they can answer the questions as they look at these verses.

- The Spirit comes to “**prove the world to be in the wrong**” before God (v. 8). I (Tom) described that as “pointing the finger at our hearts” showing that there is something wrong.
- The Spirit also comes to “**speak**” the words given to him and “**glorify**” Jesus (vv. 13-14). I described that as “shining a light on Jesus” showing him to be good and great and kind. He does this by speaking about the Lord Jesus to the disciples back then and to us today.

3. What does the Holy Spirit point out in our hearts?

- **Sin** – failing to do as God demands. The greatest sin is to fail to believe in the Lord Jesus. It's not that this is the only sin that he points to. It is, however, the biggest sin he can point out. And as he points this out, we can be sure he'll also point out the rest, proving us to be in the wrong.
- **Righteousness** – being “in the right” before God. While some people think this refers to Jesus' righteousness – i.e. that Jesus is totally righteous and only did what was right and good. I think, instead, it refers to the phony righteousness we and the world can claim we have. But it's phony because it totally fails to reach the standard of perfection that God demands. While Jesus was here on earth he exposed the phony righteousness the world can claim to have. But as Jesus ascends into heaven, his Spirit now exposes the phony righteousness in the world, but working a deeper righteousness in Jesus' disciples than the world can have.
- **Judgement** – reaching a decision about what's right/wrong or good/bad. The problem is that without God's help we make decisions that are wrong. This is seen most clearly in the decision from the world to put Jesus to death. But it's also a decision that shows the world's judgement is broken and sinful. Now (as Jesus goes to the Cross) the prince of this world stands condemned (v. 11).

NB Remember that it is kind of the Spirit to point these things out. Because as he points them out, he helps us to see that Jesus comes to forgive and cleanse us from these things.

4. What does it mean that the Spirit glorifies Jesus?

How does he do this?

To glorify Jesus means to “shine a light on him” showing him to be good and great and kind. (Remember the desk lamp Tom mentioned lighting up things on his desk.) The Spirit glorifies Jesus by speaking to people about the Lord Jesus.

- The Spirit spoke about Jesus to the disciples so they would know what’s true about the Lord Jesus in their hearts and so they could **WRITE** the New Testament.
- The Spirit speaks to us about Jesus as we **READ** what the disciples wrote so we can know what’s true about the Lord Jesus in our hearts. What are some of the things the Holy Spirit help us read about the Lord Jesus and know to be true? You might find it helpful to look at some of the verses below:
 - John 6:35
 - John 8:12
 - John 10:7
 - John 10:11
 - John 11:25
 - John 14:6
 - John 15:1

5. Suggestions for prayer

Why not make time to pray through what you’ve learned about. Here are some ideas of how to pray.

- THANK YOU – thank God for sending his Spirit who comes to live with us and point us to the Lord Jesus.
- SORRY – say sorry for ways in which we know we are in the wrong before God. You could think of things connected to “sin”, “righteousness” and “judgement”.
- PLEASE – ask God to please show us in our hearts how good and great Jesus really is. You could also ask that seeing Jesus like this would be a great comfort to us at this difficult time.