Lesson 6: The Holy Spirit Is My Teacher

Overview:

Key Focus: The Holy Spirit teaches us about God, Jesus, and God's Word.

Bible Story: The Holy Spirit Teaches

Scriptures: John 14:26, Luke 12:11–12, Acts 4:8, 1 Corinthians 2:10–14

Memory Verse: John 14:26 (NKJV) But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- Gather 10 random items, such as a spoon, pencil, toy, car keys, cell phone, calendar, Bible, seed packet, snack, and jump rope. These should be on a tray covered by a large box or in a bag to pour the items on the floor in the middle of the group.
- Doll or stuffed animal

Engage:

What questions do you have about God? Write three serious questions on the board. **What questions do you have about Jesus?** Write three questions on the board. **What questions do you have about the Bible?** Write three questions on the board. **How could you find the answers to these questions?** (Possible answers: look on the Internet, ask the pastor, read a book, ask my parents) **Some questions we have about God and Jesus we won't be able to understand because God is so much bigger and more complex than our minds can understand. There are many things in the Bible that are spiritual truths and help us know how to live the Christian life. We need help understanding these spiritual truths and that's why God gave us a special 24/7 teacher to help us.**

Some of you might be homeschooled and it might seem like you have a 24/7 teacher with you. Maybe you go to the grocery store and your mom asks you to figure out math problems about the groceries. God's 24/7 teacher won't ask you any math problems

or teach you grammar. Today's lesson will show us who the teacher is and what the teacher will teach us.

Memory Verse Activity:
Display and discuss the verse. Call out a group, such as the color of their shirt, or name a favorite color, and have that group stand and say the verse. Then have everyone else stand and say the reference to the verse. Repeat several times and change the groups that you call out.

Memory Verse: John 14:26 (NKJV) But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

Bible Story:

Our Memory Verse told us who our 24/7 spiritual teacher is—the Holy Spirit. Say John 14:26 together. **When did God the Father send the Holy Spirit?** (God sent the Holy Spirit to live within people after Jesus returned to heaven.) **How does someone get the Holy Spirit to live in them?** (When someone asks Jesus Christ to forgive their sins and be their Savior, the Holy Spirit comes and lives in their spirit.) **In our last lesson, we learned how the Holy Spirit is the Helper who helped Peter preach boldly and lead the new believers. We prayed and asked the Helper to help each of us. How was the Holy Spirit your Helper last week?** Allow several responses.

This week we discover another job of the Holy Spirit is to be our teacher. What do you appreciate about your teacher? (Possible answers: My teacher explains things really well; I like my teacher's sense of humor; my teacher plays games that help us learn.) **What are some things you want your teacher to teach you?** Allow several responses. **The Holy Spirit won't teach you math or school subjects. The Holy Spirit teaches you spiritual wisdom and truth. We use the word "spiritual" to refer to God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Bible. Our human brain was created by God to learn and remember many things. God's thoughts and His wisdom are so much greater than our mind can understand. God knew we needed help understanding Him, so the Holy Spirit is our spiritual teacher. When we say "yes" to Jesus and the Holy Spirit lives inside us, the Holy Spirit begins to teach us spiritual wisdom.**

Jesus explained to His disciples that in the future the Holy Spirit would be their teacher. Read Luke 12:11–12. **These verses show that the Holy Spirit teaches us what to say because He knows God's will and shares God's wisdom with us. After Jesus returned to heaven, His disciples discovered that the Holy Spirit helped them know what to say. Peter experienced a big change in his life when He was filled with the Holy Spirit.** Read Acts 4:8. **He went from denying He knew Jesus to boldly preaching in front of the important religious leaders in Jerusalem.**

Read 1 Corinthians 2:10–11. **God loves us and puts the Holy Spirit inside us to help communicate His love and His Word in a way we can understand. The Holy Spirit is like an interpreter of God's wisdom and truth. Have you ever talked to someone who spoke a different language and used a interpreter?** Let volunteers share their experiences with a person or computer program that translates. **The person is trying to communicate, but without an interpreter, you won't understand or have to guess what they are trying to say. It can be very frustrating to know the person is trying to tell you something important. God wants believers in Jesus to understand Him, His love for you, and all His promises for you—that's why God put the Holy Spirit inside you!**

Now is a great time to start the habit of asking the Holy Spirit to help you understand what you are learning in the Bible lesson or when you read your Bible. Nod your head to answer these questions: Do you think the Holy Spirit wants you to understand what hear about God today? Do you think the Holy Spirit wants you to understand what you read in the Bible? The Holy Spirit is always with us and ready to help us—just ask for help! The Holy Spirit won't make you learn or remember things, but He will help you when you ask.

Point to the questions on the board about God, Jesus, and the Bible. **When you really want to understand the answers to questions like these, ask the Holy Spirit to help you. You can talk to the Holy Spirit anytime. The Holy Spirit might surprise you by showing you the answers through someone at church mentioning it, a sermon on the radio giving the answer, or you open your Bible and read a verse answering it. Don't expect to hear a voice speaking out loud with each answer, but sometimes you will just know the answer inside because the Holy Spirit is inside your spirit.**

Let's say our Memory Verse again and find the second thing this verse tells us about how the Holy Spirit helps us. Say John 14:26 together. **Teachers teach new things and help you remember what you have already learned. Each week when you learn the Memory Verse, you store God's Word inside you, and the Holy Spirit can help you remember it when you need it. The Holy Spirit can't help you remember something you didn't read or learn. In many places in the New Testament, you find Jesus and His disciples quoting Old Testament verses. The Holy Spirit wants to help you understand how things from the Old Testament match what Jesus said in the New Testament. The more you read and listen to Bible teachers—the Holy Spirit helps you understand more about your relationship with God and remember His ways. The Holy Spirit helps you remember God's Word to live more like Jesus!** Lead a cheer for the Holy Spirit!

Bible Story Questions:

- **What does the Holy Spirit want to teach you?** (The Holy Spirit teaches us spiritual wisdom and truths about God and His Word.)

- **How is the Holy Spirit like a translator?** (The Holy Spirit takes God's wisdom and helps us understand spiritual things.)
- **Are adults the only people who can understand spiritual things?** (No, children who are filled with the Holy Spirit can understand spiritual things also.)
- **What does the Holy Spirit want to remind you about?** (The Holy Spirit reminds us what Jesus said and what God's Word says.)
- **What is a good habit to do before you read your Bible this week?** (Ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand what you read.)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Set out the covered items in a spot where everyone can see them (on a table or on the floor with kids sitting in a circle). **When I uncover these items, you will have one minute to look at them and try to memorize the items. At the end of one minute, I will cover them up and you will see if you can remember them all.** Have a volunteer restate the directions for the group. Uncover the items for one minute and then cover them. Call volunteers to name one item they remember and write it on the board. If the group cannot name all the items, uncover them for one more minute. Once all ten items are listed on the board, talk about how hard it can be to remember things and how wonderful it is to have the Holy Spirit to help us remember spiritual things. If time allows, gather more items and play again.

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Set a doll or stuffed animal in a chair and choose a volunteer to stand and teach the doll what you say. Repeat several spiritual truths the children have learned and then select a new child to teach the doll.

  Spiritual truths: God loves you. The Holy Spirit teaches us about God. The Holy Spirit reminds us of things Jesus said. Jesus loves you. The Holy Spirit is in you.

Discussion:

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Lead a Bible Sword Drill. Have the group hold up a Bible. When you give the reference, everyone recites it back to you, and when you give the signal, they try to be the first to find the verse. When they find the verse, they stand up and start reading it. These references talk about learning spiritual understanding and wisdom: Nehemiah 9:20, Colossians 3:10, 1 John 2:20, 1 Corinthians 2:16, 2 Peter 3:15, James 1:5, Galatians 1:12, John 12:16, and Acts 20:35.

Worksheet:

Read the directions to the group. Point out that each blank has two numbers below that correspond to the box of letters. Do the first missing letter together by finding the row that

matches the first letter and then go across that row to the column that matches the second letter. After the children decode the message, have them think about what they've learned about the Holy Spirit and write their own coded message. When they finish, let them trade papers and try to solve each other's messages. On the back of their papers, have them write a thank you note to the Holy Spirit for being their spiritual teacher.

Affirmation/Declaration:
The Holy Spirit teaches me to be more like Jesus.
The Holy Spirit reminds me of what Jesus said.
I am a good student of the Holy Spirit.

Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:
The enemy of God longs to keep children from learning the truth about God, having a flourishing relationship with Him, and fulfilling His design for their lives. We need to teach children to listen to teachers through the lens of the Bible. No longer can everything the teacher says be trusted. As children learn God's true nature, the power of the name of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is their helper, they can identify the lies being promoted at school and on the Internet.

Missions Connection:
One easy way to work with internationals and share the Gospel is to teach English. Many immigrants stay in communities with their own people group and want to learn English or practice English with a native speaker. Even children can have an impact on non-English speaking people through speaking what comes easily to them—English. Have the children pray for opportunities to speak English with someone from another country and build friendships. Maybe your church would consider starting an ESL class and teach the Bible as part of the program.

Family Connection:
The Holy Spirit helps teach and remind us of spiritual things. Help your child develop the habit of asking the Holy Spirit for help in understanding God's Word. This week before reading the Bible together, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give an understanding of the verses read. Show your child how to use online Bible study tools, such as commentaries. There might be online children's videos posted by children's pastors on some topics. Talk about the verses and encourage your child that understanding God's Word is a lifelong task and the Holy Spirit will constantly show more things. Just like in school, studying more will help you learn more!

Prayer Points:
Have the children think about something spiritual they really desire to understand. As you pray, stop and let the children silently pray their request for the Holy Spirit to help them understand it.

Dear Father in heaven,
Thank You for wanting us to know You and worship You. Thank You for putting the Holy Spirit is us at salvation. I want to understand more about You. Holy Spirit, please help me understand (pause and let the children silently pray their request to understand something spiritual).
Thank You for helping me!
We ask this in Jesus' name, amen.

Name _____

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Solve the words using the code. Write them below to discover the message.

First Number -	1	2	3	4
1	a	b	c	d
2	h	g	f	e
3	i	j	k	l
4	p	o	n	m
5	q	r	s	t
6	x	w	v	u

- Second Number

1. _ _ _ _ _ _ _
   5-4 2-4 1-1 1-3 2-1 2-4 5-3

2. _ _ _ _ _ _ _
   5-2 2-4 4-4 3-1 4-3 1-4 5-3

3. _ _ _ _ _
   3-2 2-4 5-3 6-4 5-3

4. _ _ _ _ _
   5-4 5-2 6-4 5-4 2-1

5. _ _ _ _ _ _
   6-2 3-1 5-3 1-4 4-2 4-4

The Holy Spirit _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ us and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ us of what _ _ _ _ _ _ said. The Holy Spirit helps us understand spiritual _ _ _ _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

Use the code to make your own sentence about the Holy Spirit. See if someone can figure out your sentence.

The Holy Spirit

BONUS: *On the back of this page, write a thank you note to the Holy Spirit for being your spiritual teacher.*

ANSWERS

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Solve the words using the code. Write them below to discover the message.

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1	a	b	c	d
2	h	g	f	e
3	i	j	k	l
4	p	o	n	m
5	q	r	s	t
6	x	w	v	u

- Second Number

1. t e a c h e s
   5-4 2-4 1-1 1-3 2-1 2-4 5-3
2. r e m i n d s
   5-2 2-4 4-4 3-1 4-3 1-4 5-3
3. J e s u s
   3-2 2-4 5-3 6-4 5-3
4. t r u t h
   5-4 5-2 6-4 5-4 2-1
5. w i s d o m
   6-2 3-1 5-3 1-4 4-2 4-4

The Holy Spirit teaches us and reminds us of what Jesus said. The Holy Spirit helps us understand spiritual truth and wisdom.

Use the code to make your own sentence about the Holy Spirit. See if someone can figure out your sentence.

The Holy Spirit

BONUS: *On the back of this page, write a thank you note to the Holy Spirit for being your spiritual teacher.*

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