



## The Holy Spirit is with Us

Luke 24 & Acts 2

### God Statement: The Holy Spirit is With Us

KEY VERSE:

**"The Spirit of God lives in you." Romans 8:9 & 11, NIRV paraphrased**

## CHECK-IN

**(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*Purpose: To build relationships with families and help parents feel comfortable leaving their child.*

*As parents check-in their child at your classroom, try to welcome them by name to help them feel secure in leaving their child in your care. Once you've completed each of the check-in procedures, welcome the child into your classroom and encourage him/her to play with the classroom toys and activities. If you have LITs in your classroom, this is a great time for them to help engage with the kids while you continue checking in the kids.*

*If a child is upset or reluctant to enter the room, encourage him or her by offering toys, books or other fun items. If a child is still upset, let the parents know that we will text them if their child continues to be upset. Then, offer to carry the child into the classroom and try to calm the child with toys or other activities.*

*Use the "Connect" reminder (listed below) to help kids feel comfortable and safe in your class!*

## CONNECT WITH KIDS

*Purpose: Building relationships & prioritizing safety for our youngest children.*

Our goal, first and foremost, when serving babies and young toddlers is to prioritize building trusting relationships and the feeling of safety. We build trust with our littlest kids by meeting needs and helping them learn that church is a secure place where they are loved, known and safe.

**The 4 Ss are a simple way to keep our hearts and minds focused on this:**

When a child feels...(most of the time)

**SAFE:** physically and emotionally  
**SEEN:** known and understood  
**SOOTHED:** calmed and supported  
 They can become **SECURE.**

## EXPLORE ACTIVITY

(10 minutes)

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

### DISCUSS: The Holy Spirit is with us

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how the Holy Spirit is with us.

**Say:** The Holy Spirit is God. There are 3 parts to God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Today we will be talking about the Holy Spirit. Jesus lived here on the earth for a while. After He went back up to heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to be our friend. Do you remember how Jesus loves children? He played with them and laughed with them. The Holy Spirit is part of God just like Jesus. He loves children too!

### PLAY: We Can't See the Wind – Holy Spirit!

**Supplies:** feathers

**Directions:** Give each child a feather to hold as you describe the wind. Encourage them to take the feather home after as a reminder that the Holy Spirit is God and God is with us!

**Say:** Have you ever been outside on a really windy day? Imagine you're outside right now and it's very windy. What do you see? What do you hear? What do you feel? What do you smell? We can't actually see the wind, but we can see what it does.

#### While you are working with each child:

- Hold your hand in front of your mouth.
- Blow on your hand. Do you feel your breath?
- Now let's hold our feathers by our mouth. Blow on your feather. See it move? Now hold your feather on your palm. Blow it – ooh there it goes. Let's do that again. \*have children blow on their feathers again\*

## CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

*Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.*

*Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."*

## LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

*After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time. .*

### WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

## WORSHIP

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children through the power of music!*

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex (Miss Mindy) to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s folder.

- *My God is so Big*
- *Thank you, God*

## READ A BIBLE STORY

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children in a meaningful way by teaching God's word!*

This week, we are going to watch a video about our friend, the Holy Spirit. Look on Plex to find it.

### **BIG IDEA:**

**After Jesus went back up to Heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. God loves us. Jesus loves us, The Holy Spirit loves us.**

### BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)

**THIS WEEK'S LESSON: *The Holy Spirit is With Us***

*Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.*

***Invite Hamilton to come out and see the class. Hamilton is holding a feather.***

**Say:** Hi Hamilton. I see you have a feather, too. Let's all blow toward Hamilton. Can we all blow his feather? God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit are a little bit like our breath. We can't see our breath but we can see what it does. We can't see the Holy Spirit but we can feel Him comfort us. Let's watch a special video with our friend Hamilton to learn more about this!

**Watch the video on Plex entitled God Sends the Holy Spirit by Saddleback Kids OR read the story in the Jesus Calling: Storybook Bible pg. 228-231.**

**Say:** God loves us, Jesus loves us, and the Holy Spirit loves us. The Holy Spirit came to the disciples and He comes to us, too, when we love and accept Jesus into our lives.

**Say:** We can't see the Holy Spirit. We can feel His love and peace inside of us. We can't see our breath but we could see our breath blow the feathers.

**Say:** Hamilton, we're glad you shared our story with us. See you next time. ***Put Hamilton back in his house.***

### **SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)**

*This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.*

We are learning that "The Holy Spirit is with us!" (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times).

### **WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)**

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

***Encourage class to sit quietly.***

**Say:** We can't see God or Jesus or the Holy Spirit. When we sit quietly, sometimes we can hear the Holy Spirit speak to us.

**Say:** Let's sit very quietly right now. Listen. Do you hear the Holy Spirit say anything to you? If yes, let kids share. If no, say, "That's ok. Maybe another time."

### **BLESSING (1 minute)**

*Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.*

**Say:** *Friends, always remember that the Holy Spirit came to comfort us. He loves us.*

## **CLOSING ACTIVITIES**

**(Until parents pickup)**

**PLAY: Make a Kite**

*Supplies: colored construction paper, yarn, straw, tape, crayons*

**Directions:**

1. Cut corners off of rectangle construction paper to make kite shape.
2. Let kids color and decorate their kite.
3. Tie the yarn to the straw.
4. Tape a straw across the kite.
5. Show kids how to pull their yarn to make the kite fly.

**While you are working with each child:**

- Talk about how we can't see the wind but we can feel it.
- The wind moves the kite through the air.
- We can't see the Holy Spirit but we can feel His love.

**PLAY!**

*Purpose: Engage our youngest children by playing games and having fun!*

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class. This is a great opportunity to introduce kids to classroom games and encourage interaction and participation with others.

**Suggestions of activities:**

- Hide an object and let kids find it
- Name and count parts of the body
- Discuss colors & numbers
- Turn on music and play freeze dance
- Have kids follow simple instructions (hop, sit down, clap, etc.)
- Read a board book
- Build a tower and let kids knock it down
- Play with a ball

**CHECK-OUT****(end of service)**

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in free play. Follow the check-out procedures for your classroom, making sure to send all of the child's belongings (diaper bag, bottle/sippy cup, pacifier, blanket, etc.) with the parent.

Give the parent encouragement about how the child did in your class and say "Bye (child's name)!"