



## **SPIRIT-EMPOWERED KIDS**

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

#### **MINISTRY DIRECTION**

*"But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: and On my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy" (Acts 2: 16-18, KJV).*

- a young boy intercedes in the Spirit for the unsaved children who attend his elementary school.
- a young girl lays hands on a woman and prays in the Spirit. The woman is healed.
- The Holy Spirit speaks through a young boy challenging the other children to love God with all their hearts. Many children begin to weep as the Holy Spirit brings conviction.

Are these things happening in your children's worship services or among the children in your adult worship services? They can! The children in your ministry can experience a genuine Holy Spirit baptism. This initial experience can lead them into a supernatural walk with God. As a minister to the children, the following are things you can do to help the children in your ministry experience the fullness of Holy Spirit baptism and empowerment:

- Covet God's anointing. Don't just teach, but minister to the children with the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The anointing can do much, much more than your methods and programs can do. Read Isaiah 61:1-3 and Isaiah 10:27.
- Study the Scripture to know what the Holy Spirit baptism offers to the believer, even children. Many teach children about the baptism of the Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, but stop there. The Spirit is received by the children but soon forgotten. The baptism of the Holy Spirit should initiate each child into a Spirit-filled life.
- Pray with and for the children continually that they would experience a mighty baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- Teach the children about the Holy Spirit—who He is, how He comes into their lives, what He does.
- Act on God's Word. Invite the children to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit then provide them opportunities to exercise His gifts.

## **IDEAS YOU CAN USE!**

### ***Who Is the Holy Spirit?*, an object lesson**

*Preparation:* You will need ice cube, water, and, if possible, a burner to produce boiling water.

*Presentation:* Allow the children to experience the three forms of water. Help them discover that ice, steam, and water are different forms of the same thing: water. Read Matthew 28:19 with the children. Whose name are we to be baptized in? (Allow a child to circle each name with a marker). This Scripture tells us that God, the Father, Jesus, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are three different persons of one person, God. When you desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit, you are desiring more of God.

### ***What Does the Holy Spirit do?* a science experiment**

*Preparation:* Provide a sugar cube, matches, metal tongs, and ash from a fire. John 16:8 written on a chart or poster.

*Presentation:* When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you have the power to tell others about Jesus' love for them. You are like this match. (Strike match.) You are "on fire" for God and want to spread His love to everyone. But some of your friends may be like the sugar cube. (Touch burning match to sugar cube.) When you tell them about Jesus, nothing happens. It seems as if they didn't even hear you. Don't stop telling them about Jesus, but here is something else that you need to do. (Read John 16:9.) This verse tells us that it is the Holy Spirit's job to convict the world of sin. The Holy Spirit causes a person to realize that he is a sinner and needs Jesus' forgiveness. SO...before you witness, remember to pray for the Holy Spirit to do His job... to convict of sin. (Rub ash on sugar cube to represent the work of the Holy Spirit then touch the flame of the match to the sugar cube.)

### ***The Holy Spirit Reminds Us*, an object lesson**

*Preparation:* Collect the following objects: a string around the finger, a "post-it" note, and a timer.

*Presentation:* Show each object. Discuss with the students why you might use each object. Draw the conclusion that each object is a reminder, it helps us remember rather than forget something important. Have you ever taken a test and could not remember the answers to some of the questions? Perhaps you had studied the night before and knew the answers, but when you began to write down the answers, you couldn't remember what you had learned. That's a pretty tough spot to be in. Jesus knew that His disciples would be in tough spots like that. They would have to stand in front of religious leaders, in front of government officials and even kings. He told them not to worry about what they would say. He said the Holy Spirit would be their teacher and would remind them of all Jesus had told them while He was here on earth. (See Luke

12:11 and John 14:26.)

The Holy Spirit will do the same for you. He will remind you of God's Word when you are tempted to sin. He will help you know what to say when you are witnessing to a person who does not know Jesus.

### ***The Holy Spirit Gives Power***, a skit

*Preparation:* hair dryer, wall socket nearby.

*Presentation:* Have a person run in with wet hair. He/she turns on the dryer, but nothing happens. He/she tries several things to get the dryer to work, such as flipping the switch, cleaning out the vent, shaking it, etc. The dryer will not work! At this point, the person looks at the children and shrugs. The children will be quick to point out that the dryer is not plugged in. The actor plugs in the dryer and happily begins drying his/her hair. Read Acts 1:8 with the children. Share with the children that we have a big job to do—being Christ's witnesses, but we can't do it without the power of the Holy Spirit.

### ***The Holy Spirit Helps by Giving Good Gifts***, a skit or object lesson

*Preparation:* Cut out three large lip shapes. Label: tongues, prophecy, and interpretation. Cut out three large flame shapes. Label: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, discerning of spirits. Cut out three large barbell shapes. Label: faith, working of miracles, gifts of healing. Attach a string to each so that it can be worn around the neck. Wrap each shape in a gift box. Put a large gift tag on each box that says, "To: the Spirit-Filled Believer From: the Holy Spirit."

*Presentation:* If you are doing this as a skit, have an actor come and open each gift. Before opening the gift, he/she reads the nametag. After opening the gift, he/she takes out the shape, reads it, then briefly discusses the meaning of that gift and gives an example from the Bible or real life.

Conclude by reminding the children of the following:

- 1) The gifts of the Spirit are given to every believer.
- 2) They are not given for us to use selfishly. They are given to help do God's work.
- 3) The verbal gifts (lip-shape) help us to talk like God. The inspirational gifts (flame-shape) help us to think like God. The power gifts (barbellshape) help us to act like God.

### ***How to Lead a Child to Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit***

- Assurance of salvation, John 1:12, 14:7
- Encourage the child to give himself as a gift to God. Romans 12:1
- Encourage the child to ASK God to fill him with the Holy Spirit. Matthew 7:7-11
- Direct the child to...
  - Close his eyes so he can focus upon God totally.

- Begin praising to Jesus aloud.
- Stop speaking in English when he feels the Holy Spirit filling him.
- Allow the Holy Spirit to give him a new language with which to praise God.
- Yield his lips to the Holy Spirit and begin speaking as the Holy Spirit prompts. Acts 2:4 "...they began to speak as the Spirit prompted them."

***Tips for the Children's Minister Who Is Praying for a Child to Receive the Holy Ghost***

- Ask the Holy Spirit to baptize that child.
- Enter into praise with the child.
- Encourage the child as he praises the Lord.
- Speak in your heavenly language as the child is praising the Lord.
- As the child moves into stammering lips, encourage him to yield to the Holy Spirit and speak in a heavenly language.
- When the child begins speaking in a heavenly language, encourage him to continue. Don't allow the child to be satisfied with just a few words of the heavenly language, if the Spirit is moving.