

WHO IS THE HOLY GHOST?

WHO IS THE HOLY GHOST ADULT EDITION

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON:

Target Time: 45 to 50 Minutes Total (4 Segments, 10 to 12 Minutes Each)

Text: King James Version (KJV) Only

INTRODUCTION:

- **God is the Uncreated Creator** who, by His infinite power and wisdom, brought all creation into existence.
- **Jesus, as God manifest in the flesh**, entered into His own world to become the Savior of the created creation. By His death and resurrection, He offers the only path for the created to be born again as a **New Creation**, fully redeemed from the power of sin.
- **The Holy Ghost, as God in us**, takes up residence within every New Creation, empowering them to actively do God's will and guiding them daily in the ways of the Lord.

Scripture Focus

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

John 16:12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth**, is come, **he will guide you** into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and **he will shew you** things to come.

John 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, **and shall shew it unto you.**

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, **of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,**

Acts 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, **after that he through the Holy Ghost had given** commandments **unto** the apostles whom he had chosen:

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SEGMENT 1: THE PROMISE OF THE INDWELLING

Estimated Time: 10 to 12 minutes

Theme: "Jesus went to the Father so the Holy Ghost could come to us."

Scripture Focus

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- **after that**
- **he through the Holy Ghost**
- **had given** commandments **unto** the apostles
- whom he had chosen:

The Physical Limitation vs. Spiritual Presence: When Jesus walked the earth in His earthly ministry, He was localized. If He was in Galilee, He was not bodily in Jerusalem. He taught His disciples face-to-face (STANDING IN FRONT OF THEM), yet they repeatedly stumbled, failed to comprehend His mission, and scattered in fear.

The disciples' greatest struggle was **relying on a Jesus they could see**, rather than **the Truth they could hear through the Spirit.**

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The Expediency of His Departure:

Jesus told them plainly that it was **expedient** (NECESSARY – it would be better for them) that He depart. Why?

Because His **physical departure** made way for **His Internal Arrival** through **the Holy Ghost** (HE COULD THEN BE INSIDE OF THEM).

- **From Stone to Flesh:** Under the Old Covenant, the law **was outside of man**, written on Hardened tables of stone, demanding obedience that fallen flesh could not render.
- Through the Spirit, God writes His commandments **internally** upon the fleshy tables of a softened heart (2 Corinthians 3:3).

2 Corinthians 3:3 *Forasmuch as ye are* manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, **but in fleshy tables of the heart.**

- **Class Discussion / Takeaway:**

He traded His Physical Proximity *with* them for His Eternal Indwelling *in* them.

John 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

WHAT IF HE IS WAITING ON AN INVITATION FROM YOU?

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SEGMENT 2: A KNOWER WHO KNOWS

Estimated Time: 10 to 12 minutes

Theme: "The Holy Ghost is our Internal Teacher who illuminates the Word."

Scripture Focus

John 14:26 But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

1 Corinthians 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

1 Corinthians 2:10 But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Teaching Outline

- **The Living Interpreter:** Natural human intellect cannot discern spiritual realities. Without the Spirit, Scripture remains letters on a page.
- The Holy Ghost serves as the authoritative Teacher who quickens the understanding, making the truth come alive within our conscience.
- **Bringing to Remembrance:** The Holy Ghost does not introduce a competing gospel or private revelations contrary to Scripture.
- He anchors the believer in what Christ has already commanded, quickening Scripture in the exact moment of trial, temptation, or decision.
- The Holy Ghost's "Remembrance" is not just nostalgia—it is *authority*. When He brings a command to mind, it is not a suggestion; it is the King's directive being applied to a specific situation in the believer's life.

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The Triune Operation in Redemption:

- **The Father:** The Architect and Creator who ordained the plan of salvation before the foundation of the world.
- **The Son:** God manifest in the flesh who purchased redemption by His blood, dying for our sins and rising from the dead.
- **The Holy Ghost:** God indwelling the believer, applying Christ's victory, teaching divine truth, and conforming the new creation to His will.

Class Discussion / Takeaway:

When you read the Bible and conviction strikes or a verse suddenly comes to your memory and provides absolute clarity during a trial - that is not mere memory - that is the comforting work of the Holy Ghost.

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

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SEGMENT 3: THE ONE WHO HOLDS THE LINE

Estimated Time: 10 to 12 minutes

Theme: "The Holy Ghost convicts the world and establishes Christ's absolute standard."

Scripture Focus

John 16:8 And when he is come, **he will reprove** the world

- of sin,
- and of righteousness,
- and of judgment:

John 16:9 Of sin, because they believe not on me;

John 16:10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

John 16:11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

Teaching Outline

The Meaning of 'Reprove' (Convict):

The Greek term behind reprove carries legal weight. It means to cross-examine, expose, convict with undeniable evidence, and pronounce a verdict.

The Spirit acts as the prosecuting attorney against a fallen, rebellious world.

The Threefold Conviction:

- **Of Sin:** Not merely breaking social rules, but the ultimate sin of unbelief: rejecting Jesus Christ as Lord and King. The Spirit exposes the world's self-righteousness as worthless filth.
- **Of Righteousness:** Because Jesus ascended bodily to the Father and is seated at His right hand, the world can no longer see Him. The Holy Ghost vindicates Christ's absolute righteousness, demonstrating that He was not an executed criminal, but the spotless Son of God whom heaven received.
- **Of Judgment:** Satan, "the prince of this world," stands stripped of power and judged at the Cross. The Spirit warns men that all who remain aligned with the world and its spiritual ruler will share his damnation.

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Application to the Believer:

- Before the Spirit could be our Comforter, He first had to Convict us of our sin.
- He broke our stubborn rebellion and showed us our desperate need for a Savior.
- In our witness today, we rely on His conviction, not our own clever arguments, to break hard hearts.

Class Discussion / Takeaway:

How does knowing the Holy Ghost convicts the world change how we pray for unbelieving family members, neighbors, and our nation?

When praying for family, emotional ties can make us feel desperate, leading to prayers that focus on changing their behavior or wishing they would just see our point of view.

The Shift:

Knowing the Holy Spirit convicts allows you to stop praying for "winning the argument" and start praying for the **softening of their hearts**.

How to Pray:

Instead of asking God to make them stop specific behaviors, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal their deep spiritual need for a Savior.

Pray for the Spirit to break through generational blind spots and bring a quiet, irresistible awareness of God's love and truth to their private moments.

Segment 4: The Intercessor in Our Weakness

Suggested Time: 10–12 minutes

Theme Statement: When we do not know how or what to pray, the Holy Ghost steps in to pray through us and perfectly align us with God's will. He also transforms weak men into bold witnesses for Christ.

Scripture Focus

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our **infirmities**:

- for we know not what we should pray for as we ought:
- **but the Spirit itself**
- maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Ephesians 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication **in the Spirit**, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Discussion/Teaching Points:

"**Infirmities**" refers to our human limitations and weaknesses.

Reassure the class that even when they are too overwhelmed to find the words to pray, the Holy Ghost communicates their heart's cry directly to God.

He sees our tears, our pain, and hears our groans and shows them to God.

Theme:

FINALLY – HE GIVES US POWER TO DO WHAT WE CAN'T

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power,

- **after that the Holy Ghost** is come upon you:
- and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem,
- and in all Judaea, and in Samaria,
- and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 4:31 And **when they had prayed**, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and **they were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Romans 8:11 But if **the Spirit** of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies **by his Spirit that dwelleth in you**.

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From Cowards to Conquerors:

Compare Peter before and after Pentecost.

Before Pentecost, Peter cowered before a servant girl and denied his Lord three times.

After being filled with the Holy Ghost in Acts 2, Peter stood before the very rulers who crucified Christ and boldly proclaimed His resurrection and lordship without fear of death.

The Nature of the Power (*Dunamis* = *Dynamite*): This is not emotional hype or selfish power for display.

The shift to *Dunamis* (power) is the perfect closing note. You have moved from:

1. **The Promise** (Indwelling)
2. **The Process** (Illumination/Remembrance)
3. **The Proof** (Conviction of the World)
4. **The Purpose** (Empowered Witness)

This transition from "Inward Comfort" to "Outward Conquest" is essential. The Holy Ghost is not just for our private peace; He is the **ENGINE** of the Church's mission to stand against the darkness and **PROCLAIM** the Kingship of Christ in a failing, fallen age.

Sanctification and Mortification:

Romans 8 teaches that we cannot defeat the deeds of the flesh in our own strength. The Holy Ghost supplies the governing power to mortify sinful desires, stand fast against worldly corruption, and walk in holiness.

Class Discussion / Takeaway:

The Christian life cannot be lived in the power of natural flesh.

Are we relying on human willpower and worldly programs, or are we walking in the active, daily power of the Holy Ghost?

1 John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

FILL MY CUP LORD – I LIFT IT UP LORD