

# God Gives Us the Holy Spirit

Unit 5  
Chapter  
17

Grade 2

## Background: The Holy Spirit

Christians believe in a Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Neither the Old nor the New Testament clearly defines the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity, but both speak of God's Spirit.

In the Old Testament this Spirit stirs the waters of creation and enlightens kings, prophets, and priests. The Spirit of Yahweh was among his people, guiding them, enlightening them, and strengthening them.

In the Gospel of Luke, the angel Gabriel announces that the Holy Spirit will come upon Mary and that she will conceive the Messiah. Matthew, Mark, and Luke all tell us the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus at his Baptism. At Pentecost that same Spirit was poured out upon the followers of Jesus, helping them recall all that Jesus had taught them and giving them gifts to help them spread the Good News.

The Church teaches that the Holy Spirit bestows the same gifts on us at our Baptism and our Confirmation. It is the Holy Spirit who guides the Church and helps all of us witness to the coming of the kingdom.

## Getting Ready

1. Before introducing Chapter 17 to your child, read the Take Home pages 193 and 194 of your child's book. To help develop this chapter's theme, gather the family at a convenient time during the week to participate in the Activity on page 193.
2. With your child, read about Saint Catherine of Siena, the Saint of the Week. Learn more about her at [SaintsResource.com](http://SaintsResource.com).



3. Read and discuss with your family Corinth at the top of page 194. You will read a portion of 1 Corinthians 12 later in this session.
4. Read Our Catholic Tradition. To learn more about the Hagia Sophia, go to [hagiasophia.com](http://hagiasophia.com).

## Focus

The Holy Spirit guides us in our daily lives and prompts us to go forth and live our faith as followers of Jesus.

## Pope Francis Says

We can study the whole history of salvation, we can study the whole of Theology, but without the Spirit we cannot understand. It is the Spirit that makes us realize the truth or—in the words of Our Lord—it is the Spirit that makes us know the voice of Jesus.

## Prayer

Holy Spirit, help me use the gifts you have given me as I prepare to share this lesson with my child. Help us together call upon you to always be our helper, our teacher, and our guide. Amen.

## Exploring the Chapter

### Share

1. Light the candle. Pray together the Scripture verse at the top of page 195.
2. Invite your child to read aloud the share paragraph and the sentences below the three photographs. Ask your child to talk about the gifts he or she has been given, and name the gifts you see present in your child. Then invite your child to complete the writing activity.

### Hear and Believe

3. Look at and talk about the illustrations on pages 196 and 197. Explain that the Apostle Paul wrote letters to Jesus' followers on scrolls like the one shown on page 196. The followers would then gather together to hear what Paul had written, as is shown on page 197.
4. Read aloud The Spiritual Gifts on page 196. Talk about which of the gifts you see evident in your child's life and in your own life. Also talk with your child about people you both know who show the gifts of wisdom, healing, knowledge, and faith. Repeat the last portion of the Scripture as a reminder that we are called to share our gifts with others.
5. Review the Faith Word, **spiritual gifts**, with your child. Then invite your child to complete its definition in the Write-in Glossary in the back of his or her book. Read aloud Gifts to Share and the We Believe statement, which also speak about spiritual gifts.
6. Invite your child to read aloud Our Church Teaches. Review all the things this paragraph says about the Holy Spirit.

### Respond

7. Read aloud The Gift of Wisdom on page 198. Take time to review the second paragraph, discussing with your child what it means to see with the eyes of God, to hear with God's ears, and so forth. Give examples from your own life and from the life of your child.
8. Read aloud the directions to Activity 1, and give your child time to color and complete the banner.
9. Review the directions for Activity 2, and complete this activity with your child. Together, brainstorm several other examples of loving with God's heart and not loving with God's heart.
10. Pray A Prayer to the Holy Spirit. Take the part of the Leader, and invite your child to join you in saying the parts of Groups 1, 2, and 3, and the response marked All. You may wish to conclude by singing the Unit Song on page 192.
11. Have your child complete the Chapter Review. See page 48 of this guide for the answer key.
12. Work with your child to complete Faith in Action on page 202. It highlights the Catholic Social Teaching of **Life in Community (Call to Family, Community, and Participation)**.

*We really liked . . .*

*We want to learn  
more about . . .*