



Central Kids

Summer Field Guide

Week of July 5th

Over the next several weeks we are encouraging families to use this Field Guide to interact with your kids on Sunday morning or mid-week to learn catechism, a *collection of biblical truths in a question and answer format*. We will be using The New City Catechism curriculum to help construct a fun and creative way for your kids to memorize doctrine. *Check out <http://newcitycatechism.com/videos> to learn more.* These Field Guides are designed for family worship or devotional time. However, they can be used individually for older children.

HOW CATECHISM WORKS: Read the question and answer with your child and repeat. Then ask your child the question and have them give the catechism answer. The Field Guide offers additional activities to make learning fun and to help your children memorize God's Word.

MEMORIZATION TIPS: The key to memorizing is repetition. Be creative: turn it into a song, write it down, cut out the words and place them in order, use funny voices, or make up actions.

FAMILY WORSHIP: "We are One" by Austin Stone Worship: Kids <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mjm64dremNU>

Catechism Question #36

QUESTION: What do we believe about the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: That he is God, coeternal with the Father and the Son. (Coeternal means: equally always existing)

Activity: True or False

Explain to your children that you will read a statement about the Holy Spirit and they must decide whether the statement is true or false. Stand on the left side of room if true or right side if false. Read any coinciding scripture *after* they choose and applaud or correct their answer.

1. The Holy spirit first appears in the New Testament. (Gen. 1:1-2) T F
2. The Holy Spirit is the promised helper. (John 14:16-17) T F
3. The Holy Spirit lives in all people. (Romans 8: 9-10) T F
4. The Holy Spirit is equal to the Father and the Son in the Trinity. T F

Conclude activity by finishing these statements:

- The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is _____.
- The Son is not the Father, the Father is not the Holy Spirit, the Holy spirit is not the _____.

Craft

Design and cut hearts out of construction paper. While making the hearts, talk about love. We usually associate love with Valentine's day, puppies, our favorite sports teams, or other things that make us feel good. Some things and people are easy to love but some are not. Ask your kids to describe a situation in which it is hard to show love. Tell children that one reason God has given us the Holy Spirit is to help us learn to love when it isn't easy. The Holy Spirit has always been in a relationship with the Father and Son. They have a perfect relationship of love, even though they are three different persons with different roles. Take a couple of the scenarios your children mentioned in which it is difficult to show love and imagine with the children some of the ways the Holy Spirit, our helper, might coach them through a loving response to a difficult person.

Scripture (John 14:16-17)

Fill in the blank

"And I will ask the _____, and he will give you another _____, to be with you _____, even the _____ of truth, whom the world _____ receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he _____ with you and will be _____ you."

Catechism Question #37

QUESTION: How does the Holy Spirit help us?

ANSWER: The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sin, and he enables us to pray and to understand God's Word.

Activity: Investigate

Read or have your children read the following scripture references. Help them investigate what each verse says about the role of the Holy Spirit. Some verses will have two roles listed.

John 14: 16 - Helper

John 14: 27 -

John 15: 26 -

John 16: 7-8 -

John 16:13 -

Romans 8:11 -

Romans 8:26 -

Read

Remember that God the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and he has a vital role in bringing people to faith in God and helping God's people live for him. The Spirit enters Christian believers the second they put their trust in Jesus and from then onward he works in Christians, helping them to understand more about Jesus and to become more like Jesus.

Activity: Memorize

Write out one or both catechism questions and answers on pieces of paper or sticky notes. Have extra pieces of paper on hand. Read through the questions and answers several times. Gradually start covering up the words, encouraging your children to fully memorize the catechism. Try letting your children teach you the catechism. Catechism learning is for all ages!

Watch

Watch this additional resource by "What's in the Bible": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtokHQOmFu0>

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending the Spirit to dwell in God's people. I praise you that he is my helper and counselor. Thank you that he shows me more of Jesus as I study your Word and helps me understand it more. Thank you that the Holy Spirit helps us to learn to love even when it's not easy.

Discussion - Sometimes you or your child may have additional questions. Here are some possible questions that may come up:

Why do I need the help of the Holy Spirit? Without the Holy Spirit's help, humans would be inclined to live in ways that focus on themselves and not on Jesus. The Holy Spirit helps Christians understand the Bible.

What is the difference between the Holy Spirit and my conscience? Every person has a conscience, but only those who trust in God have the Holy Spirit living in them. A conscience can alert us when we have broken God's law, but the Holy Spirit has the power to change our hearts.



**MAIN POINT: THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME TO THE APOSTLES
ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST.**

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Spirit Switch

INSTRUCTIONS: Find and circle the twelve differences between the top and bottom picture.



KEY PASSAGE: Philipians 2:13

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What does the Holy Spirit do? The Holy Spirit helps Christians follow Jesus.

BIBLE STORY:

THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME

- Jesus' disciples were waiting for the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit came to the apostles on the Day of Pentecost.
- With the Holy Spirit, Peter spoke bravely about Jesus.
- The church grew and obeyed Jesus' commands.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- How did the disciples behave before the Holy Spirit came?
- How did they behave after the Holy Spirit came?
- How does the Holy Spirit help us today?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- If weather permits, fly a kite with your family. Talk about the Holy Spirit; we can see His work, but cannot see Him.
- Work with your family to develop a "generosity plan" to bless the local church.

