

THE PROMISED SPIRIT

Complete the acrostic below by adding characteristics and activities of the Holy Spirit as revealed in the lesson text. One has been done to get you started.

H
knOwable (v.17)
L
Y

S
P
I
R
I
T



A PRAYER OF THANKS

After reviewing the activities of the Holy Spirit in today's lesson, compose a brief prayer to God that thanks him for the ways he has worked through the Spirit in your life.

WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Read each phrase below and determine to which of the three areas of *sin*, *righteousness*, or *judgment* it relates. Realizing that the Holy Spirit works through Christians as Christ's messengers, state your own responsibilities in regard to these three below.

<i>Sin</i>	<i>Righteousness</i>	<i>Judgment</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Make people aware of their guilt.
2. Help people accept the fact that no one is in the right on his or her own.
3. Make people realize that one day an accounting for evil will come.
4. Convict people of their need to be totally in the right before God.
5. Convince people something must be done about their evil condition.
6. Make people realize that the penalty for sin must be paid.
7. Convince people that Jesus is the only one who was ever totally in the right.
8. Convince people that there is a moral code.
9. Help people realize Satan has already been condemned.
10. Show people that God has the solution.

My responsibilities regarding sin: _____

My responsibilities regarding righteousness: _____

My responsibilities regarding judgment: _____

BIBLE READING PLAN

In order to take full advantage of the Spirit's power, Christians must be connected with the Word. Use the Internet to find a through-the-Bible plan you can commit to for 2015. Ask a friend to join you in this endeavor; set up weekly times to discuss your readings.

The plan I have chosen is _____ . The friend who will join me in this endeavor and hold me accountable is _____. We will begin our reading on _____ and meet together every _____ to discuss the week's texts.

SEEING THE LORD

See how quickly you can find 13 words that occur in today's lesson (vertically, horizontally, or diagonally) in the puzzle below. For a greater challenge, do not refer to the word list to the right.

F R K V Z B I C S B H M D
 A M A K K K D L R O O P I
 Z R C C M H O E O G L R S
 J E S U S R A B O S Y O C
 R N L U D T A J D N V H I
 I P P I H S J J A A N F P
 K F B E R N R T N E S U L
 X T D Z X I L E K I Y B E
 J E E O K S S Z H H R W S
 P F R M D D W X M T I Z P
 G E T G N I N E V E A I Z
 Q E A A A K Y X D G U F Q
 V X H C Y Y Q B U I P N D
 Z J H J E B P U M V S E Q

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|
| Breathed | Disciples | Doors |
| Evening | Father | Hands |
| Holy | Jesus | Lord |
| Peace | Sent | Side |
| | Sins | |



WHERE CAN I SERVE?

To “make our mark” for Christ, we need to see where our spiritual giftedness lies for kingdom work. Conduct an Internet search for a spiritual gifts inventory. Take the inventory and record the results below. Schedule a meeting with one of your church’s leaders to discuss the results of your inventory and where you can best serve within your congregation.

I took my inventory and discovered my spiritual gifts to be these:

I have set up a meeting with a church leader on

_____.

As a result of the meeting, I will begin to serve by

_____.

TRIUMPHING OVER THE MIX-UP

The verses of today’s text have gotten mixed-up! See if you can put them in the correct order without looking at your Bible. Designate your choices from “1” to “11” as the verses are enumerated.

- A. verse ____: As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples,
- B. verse ____: Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.
- C. verse ____: They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go.
- D. verse ____: “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!”
- E. verse ____: When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it.
- F. verse ____: saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here.”
- G. verse ____: Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, “Hosanna!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
- H. verse ____: They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it,
- I. verse ____: some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?”
- J. verse ____: Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields.
- K. verse ____: “If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

A COMMITMENT TO SERVE

Last week you took a spiritual gifts inventory and made a plan to use your giftedness in service through your congregation. This week, peruse your local newspaper or conduct an Internet search for possible places of service in the name of Christ within your community. Make a plan with others in the class to serve in one or more of those areas.

Some possible places of community service for my class are:



Creatas

FIRSTS, IMPORTANT AND OTHERWISE

Identify “the first” in each of the questions below.

1. Who was the first person born in the world?
a. Adam b. Eve c. Cain d. Abel
2. Who was the first athlete to appear on a box of Wheaties?
a. Lou Gehrig b. Babe Ruth c. Mickey Mantle d. Jim Thorpe
3. Who was the first president born in a hospital?
a. John F. Kennedy b. Gerald Ford c. Jimmy Carter d. Herbert Hoover
4. Who was the first postmaster general appointed by the U.S. Continental Congress?
a. John Hancock b. Alexander Hamilton c. Thomas Jefferson d. Benjamin Franklin
5. Who was the first president to die in office?
a. Abraham Lincoln b. Warren G. Harding c. Franklin D. Roosevelt d. William Henry Harrison
6. Who was the first person sent into space?
a. Alan Shepard, Jr. b. John Glenn c. Yuri Gagarin d. Gus Grissom
7. Who was the first African-American to win an Oscar for acting?
a. Sidney Poitier b. Hattie McDaniel c. Denzel Washington d. Bill Cosby
8. Who was the first woman to be pictured on a U.S. postage stamp?
a. Betsy Ross b. Martha Washington c. Eleanor Roosevelt d. Abigail Adams
9. Which is an important “first” (in importance) in 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, 20-22?
a. the gospel message passed along
b. the priority of the Lord’s Supper
c. identifying the foremost apostle
d. a 1,000 denarius offering for the poor
10. Which is another important “first” (in importance) in 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, 20-22?
a. the risen Christ as firstfruits
b. the apostle Peter (Cephas) as first baptized
c. the position of the church at Corinth
d. James as the first of the Lord’s brothers to believe.



iStockphoto®

iStockphoto®

WHAT ADAM RUINED, JESUS RESTORED

Using Romans 5:15-19 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, unscramble words below related to the damage caused by Adam’s sin and the counteracting blessings brought about by Jesus’ death and resurrection.

ADAM

ADEHT _____
 SONEBIDIDECE _____
 TUGDENJM _____
 DNATEMCONOIN _____

JESUS CHRIST

FLIE _____
 BEENIDCEO _____
 EEGHINORTUSSS _____
 FINOSATUJICTI _____

What hymns or choruses can you name that praise the Lord for what he did for us through his resurrection? Jot some titles below and use these in your personal worship time this week.

RIGHT WAY/WRONG WAY

Look *vertically and horizontally* for words associated with those who follow John's instructions in 1 John 3:11-24. Words related to those who don't follow John's teachings are on the *diagonal*. Search only for words listed to the right.



iStockphoto®

G E W A R E R S I S D E A Y S
 N J V P K N S E P I R E C W U
 I O F I D E A E S Y E B O I O
 S P W N L R U O T U R L N G E
 A B O I N G B Q M A R W F C T
 E H T G C E O U E N H E I E H
 L I R H Y K R L O T R K D C G
 P U U A C D E E V I E C E R I
 M Q T C E T S D S L D H N Y R
 D Y H R Y I I F I S U A C B H
 V L E T E R N A L L I F E T Y
 I R R P V I H T L R P O A S E
 L A H O R P U R O B S E R U L
 T G O U W S R W V E D W O R A
 A N M E D R E V E I L E B O S

- Believe
- Confidence
- Death
- Disobey
- Eternal Life
- Evil
- Hate
- Love
- Murderer
- Obey
- Pitiless
- Pleasing
- Receive
- Righteous
- Spirit
- Truth
- Wicked
- World

HELPING THE HURTING

For how many of the following categories can you think of a Christian you know personally who is experiencing difficulty? For at least one of these, write in the person's name and state one thing you will do for him or her this week to express love in action.

- Extended unemployment
- Long-term illness
- Limited mobility (shut-in)
- Recently lost a family member
- Single parent
- Depressed and discouraged



Digital Vision

David Sacks

iStockphoto®

This week, I will help _____

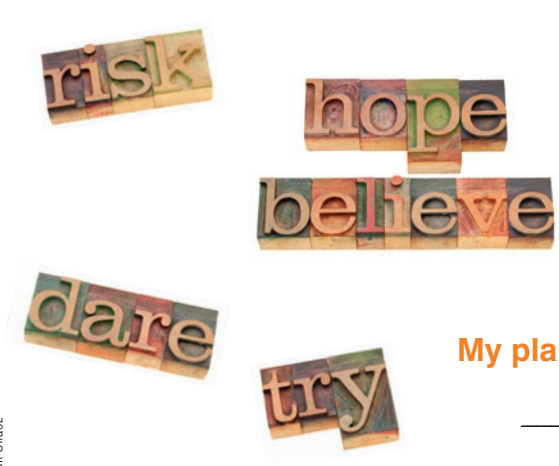
THE TRUTH ABOUT LOVE

Circle either *True* or *False* for each statement below, as revealed in 1 John 4:13–5:5. Then indicate in the (____: ____) at the end the chapter and verse number that supports your conclusion.

- True / False 1. We don't fear the Day of Judgment because God's love is made complete (____: ____).
- True / False 2. Loving someone means loving that person's child as well (____: ____).
- True / False 3. God loves us because we first loved him (____: ____).
- True / False 4. Those born of God overcome the world (____: ____).
- True / False 5. A person can hate a fellow Christian and still love God (____: ____).
- True / False 6. We can't really be sure that God lives in us until the Day of Judgment (____: ____).
- True / False 7. Believing that God is love results in being born of God (____: ____).
- True / False 8. God commands those who love him to love their fellow believers as well (____: ____).
- True / False 9. There is no fear in love (____: ____).
- True / False 10. Because John was such a loving person, he would never call anyone a liar (____: ____).
- True / False 11. The one who lives in love also lives in God, and vice versa (____: ____).
- True / False 12. God's command to love others is a heavy burden (____: ____).

THE FEAR FACTOR

Fear can keep us from showing love for others in the way we should. On the scale from "0" (no fear) to "5" (extreme fear), indicate to what extent the stated fear is a factor in hindering you from showing God's love. Identify your worst fear that must give way to love and make a plan to do so.



My fear of . . .

Insufficient means	0	1	2	3	4	5
Rejection	0	1	2	3	4	5
Being inadequate	0	1	2	3	4	5
Overinvolvement	0	1	2	3	4	5
Being taken advantage of	0	1	2	3	4	5

My plan to overcome my worst fear is . . .

Marek Ullasz

TRUTH IS . . .

John's second epistle affirms the importance of truth. How many personal affirmations can you make about truth? Use as few words as possible for each affirmation, in the concise and simple style of John.



Truth is _____

Truth is _____

Truth is _____

Truth is _____

Truth is _____

LOVE IS . . .

Now try the same thing for affirmations about love.



Love is _____

Love is _____

Love is _____

Love is _____

Love is _____



Finally, read Ephesians 4:15; 1 Peter 1:22; and 1 John 3:18. How are *truth* and *love* connected in these? Jot your ideas below:

FACE-TO-FACE JOY

John concludes his letter by stating his desire to see the recipients soon. Whom do you hope to see soon? How can you include John's motivation in yours?



JOHN + JOHN = ?

The apostle John has some important things to say on the topic of Christian hospitality in his two brief epistles we call 2 John and 3 John. See how much of the table below you can fill in regarding the who, what, when, where, and why of extending and denying hospitality to others. (You might not be able to put something in every box.)

	2 John	3 John
A. Who extends hospitality and who does not?		
B. Who is offered hospitality and who is denied?		
C. When is hospitality extended or not extended?		
D. Where is hospitality extended or not extended?		
E. Why is hospitality extended or not extended?		

THRIVING, BODY AND SOUL

John’s great desire for his Christian friend is expressed in 3 John 2. Drawing from that letter and other biblical principles, write several short expressions you could use to address your friends in cards, notes, e-mails, etc. To get you started, two examples are given—one based on 3 John and the other on general biblical principles.

May you earn a good report from all you meet! (See 3 John 12.)

Wear grace as a daily blessing!



Choose one or more of your expressions, select an appropriate friend in Christ, and communicate your loving wish for him or her in a note this week!

THE MANIFEST GOD

Idols were common in cities of the Greco-Roman world (Acts 17:16), and Corinth was no exception (1 Corinthians 8:1). People eagerly sought direction from their idols, which were incapable of speech (compare Psalm 135:15-17; Jeremiah 10:1-16; 1 Corinthians 12:2; etc.). By contrast, the Spirit of God manifests himself! One way he does so is through the affirmations of Christians (1 Corinthians 12:3). See if you can draw other contrasts between idol-gods and the real God by completing the statements below.

1. Alleged messages from idol-gods were often vague and indefinite—capable of multiple interpretations; but messages from the real God _____ (example: Acts 10:19, 20).
2. Alleged messages from idol-gods were often in support of the hearer’s predisposition; but messages from the real God _____ (compare Ezekiel 13:1-17).
3. Alleged messages from idol-gods were often proved wrong by subsequent events; but messages from the real God _____ (compare Isaiah 48:3-5).



TOOLS, NOT TOYS

Some in the church at Corinth seemed to have had a “toys, not tools” attitude toward the Spirit’s gifts. See if you can relate each of the following childish comments to the truths in today’s text in 1 Corinthians 12.

I didn't get a single present I wanted!

Father always did like you best! He always gives you better gifts!

Ah, this is just what I wanted! Now they'll respect me!

iStockphoto®

PARTS OF THE WHOLE

Where in 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 do you find the following truths regarding body parts?

1. ___ A body needs a variety of parts to be fully functional.
2. ___ An honor given to one part is an honor to all the others.
3. ___ The human body is a good analogy to the church, the spiritual body.
4. ___ Each body part has a God-given purpose and design.
5. ___ Some parts considered less honorable are given greater honor.
6. ___ When one part hurts, all hurt.
7. ___ The various body parts have differing responsibilities.
8. ___ The one is constituted by many.
9. ___ The body is designed by God for unity.
10. ___ God's design for leadership within a body cannot be denied.



Which of the above has been the greatest “learning experience” for you recently? Jot reflections below:



A BIT OF SELF-COUNSELING

What do you hear yourself saying or thinking about “the other parts” of your church’s body? Are your words hurtful or helpful? Do they tear down or build up? Do you ever use humor to disguise attacks on other parts of the body? Jot the results of your self-counseling below.

1. When I have recently spoken to edify a part of the body of Christ:
2. When I have recently thought or spoken in a way that diminished a part of the body of Christ:
3. My plan to do more of #1 and eliminate #2:

CLARIFYING

Each statement below is written in what might be called “a different language,” each having a different key to “interpretation.” After you crack each code by writing the interpretation on the line beneath, identify which verse or verses of today’s text are being reflected or summarized by entering the verse matches, which are at the bottom, in the blanks on the far left.

___ 1. Wope wopant opoopur propaopisope topo opelopicopit opan “opAmopen” fropom opothopers.

___ 2. Un Pinticust thi epustlis spuki on anliernid lengaegis.

___ 3. .ecived gnitteg-noitnetta s’doG saw dniw gnorts a fo dnuos ehT

___ 4. Eht fgit fo ginsu adeelnnru aegglnsu asw abdeeln by eht iiprSt.

___ 5. 13-1-14-25 12-1-14-7-21-1-7-5-19 23-5-18-5 19-16-15-11-5-14 .

___ 6. better: confusing five is or sounds? ten thousand understood, Which words

A–Acts 2:2 B–Acts 2:4 C–Acts 2:6 (use twice) D–1 Corinthians 14:16 E–1 Corinthians 14:19

EDIFYING

Thinking about Paul’s stress on the need for the gift of tongues to edify, what modern innovations in communication technology can the church use to edify her members? How can these innovations end up doing more harm than good for the church as misuse of tongues did at Corinth? Jot ideas below.



Communication Innovations

Misuse Dangers



IF I . . .

Paul's four uses of the phrase *If I* preface some of his thoughts on failure to love. Find those four uses of *If I* and summarize what follows them.



IF I _____ !

IF I _____ !

IF I _____ !

IF I _____ !

What other skills, accomplishments, practices, etc., have you seen people take great pride in? In what ways does a lack of Christian love minimize or negate their value? Jot your ideas below.



Even if someone were to _____ !

Even if someone were to _____ !

Even if someone were to _____ !

After you finish, compare and contrast your conclusions with classmates.

LOVE IS . . .

Many call 1 Corinthians 13 “the Bible’s love chapter”—with good reason! Even so, the Bible has much to say elsewhere about the nature of love. What loving actions should the texts below compel us to do?

Scripture compels me to . . .

Proverbs 10:12 _____ Jeremiah 31:3 _____

Hosea 11:1-4 _____ John 3:16 _____

John 13:34, 35 _____ John 15:13 _____

Romans 5:8 _____ 1 John 3:1 _____

1 John 3:16 _____ 1 John 4:8 _____

Note: Lesson 1 for spring is included as the last lesson of the winter quarter because the winter quarter has only 12 Sundays while the spring quarter has 14.

Lesson 2

The Promised Spirit: Possible entries among many: teachHes (v. 26); dweLls in you (v. 17); requested by Jesus' praYer (v. 16); Sent by the Father (v. 26); Personal (v. 26); Is the Advocate (v. 26); enables Remembrance (v. 26); sent In Jesus name (v. 26); Truthful (v. 17).

Lesson 3

Work of the Spirit: Expected responses: 1. sin; 2. righteousness; 3. judgment; 4. righteousness; 5. sin; 6. judgment; 7. righteousness; 8. sin; 9. judgment; 10. sin.

Lesson 4

Seeing the Lord

+ + + + + S B H + D
 + + + + + L R + O + I
 + + + + + O E O + L + S
 J E S U S R A + O + Y + C
 + + + + D T + + D + + + I
 + + + + H S + + + + + P
 + + + E + N R T N E S + L
 + + D + + I + E + + + + E
 + + + + S S + H + + + S
 P + + + + D + + + T + + +
 + E + G N I N E V E A + +
 + + A A + + + + D + + F +
 + + H C + + + + + I + + +
 + + + + E + + + + + S + +

Lesson 5

Triumphing Over the Mix-Up: A-1, F-2, K-3, H-4, I-5, C-6, E-7, J-8, G-9, D-10, B-11.

Lesson 6

Firsts, Important and Otherwise: 1-c (since neither Adam nor Eve was "born"); 2-a; 3-c; 4-d; 5-d; 6-c; 7-b; 8-b; 9-a (see 1 Corinthians 15:3); 10-a (see 1 Corinthians 15:20).

What Adam Ruined, Jesus Restored: Adam—death, disobedience, judgment, condemnation / Jesus Christ—life, obedience, righteousness, justification

Lesson 7

Right Way/Wrong Way

G E + + + + + S + + D + + + S
 N + V + + + S + + I + + C + U
 I + + I + E + E S Y E B O + O
 S + W + L + + O T + + + N + E
 A + + I + + B + M A + + F + T
 E + T + C E + U + + H + I + H
 L I R + Y K R + + + + D + G
 P + U + + D E E V I E C E R I
 + + T + E T + D + + + + N + R
 D + H R + I + + + + + C + H
 + L E T E R N A L L I F E T +
 + R R + + I + + L + + + A + +
 + + + O + P + + O + + + E + + +
 + + + W S + + V + D + + + +
 + + + + + E V E I L E B + +

Lesson 8

The Truth About Love: 1 true (4:17); 2. true (5:1); 3. false (4:19); 4. true (5:4); 5. false (4:20); 6. false (4:13); 7. false (5:1); 8. true (4:21); 9. true (4:18); 10. false (4:20); 11. true (4:16); 12. false (5:3).

Lesson 9

Connections between truth and love in Ephesians 4:15; 1 Peter 1:22; and 1 John 3:18 are in terms of speaking and doing. All other answers in the activities call for personal reactions.

Lesson 10

John + John = ? (Responses may vary.)

	2 John	3 John
A.	vv. 10, 11	vv. 5, 9
B.	vv. 7, 10	vv. 6-8
C.	v. 10	vv. 7, 8
D.	v. 10	
E.	vv. 8, 11	v. 7

Thriving, Body and Soul: many responses are possible.

Lesson 11

The Manifest God: 1. are precise, definite, etc.; 2. speaks his mind, not ours, etc.; 3. always prove true, etc.

Tools, Not Toys: Present-v. 11, the Spirit decides the gifts, not us; Father-v. 4, no gift is superior to any other; Respect-v. 7, gifts are for the profit of everyone. (Responses may vary.)

Lesson 12

Parts of the Whole (other answers possible): 1-v. 20; 2-v. 26; 3-v. 13; 4-v. 18; 5. v. 23; 6-v. 26; 7-vv. 15-17; 8-v. 14; 9-vv. 18-20; 10.-vv. 28-30.

Lesson 13

Clarifying:

1. The letters OP have been inserted in front of all vowels: *We want our praise to elicit an "Amen" from others.* [1 Corinthians 14:16]

2. Each vowel has been replaced by the vowel that follows it in the alphabet (thus the letters *a, e, i, o, u* should convert back to *u, a, e, i, o*, respectively): *On Pentecost the apostles spoke in unlearned languages.* [Acts 2:6]

3. The sentence is reversed from beginning to end: *The sound of a strong wind was God's attention-getting device.* [Acts 2:2]

4. Letters within each word are given in alphabetical order: *The gift of using unlearned languages was enabled by the Spirit.* [Acts 2:4]

5. Letters are replaced by the number indicating place in the alphabet (a = 1 to z = 26): *Many languages were spoken.* [Acts 2:6]

6. The words are rearranged in alphabetical order: *Which is better: five words understood or ten thousand confusing sounds?* [1 Corinthians 14:19]

Lesson 14

If I . . . : the four are in verses 1, 2a, 2b, and 3.

Love Is . . . : many responses are possible.