



part 1 of 2—

Helping a Child Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

by Lorraine Mastrorio

There is no set age limit at which one may be baptized in the Holy Spirit. Any Christian can receive this baptism. So be ready and enthusiastic about helping your students accept this wonderful gift from God.

The Teacher

Before you can help your students accept the baptism in the Holy Spirit, you must have received this baptism yourself—with its initial physical evidence of speaking in an unknown language. You should also have the fruit and gifts of the Spirit active in your life.

If you have not received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with its evidence of speaking in tongues, now is the time to seek it. It is God's desire to give His Holy Spirit to every believer. "If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13, NIV).

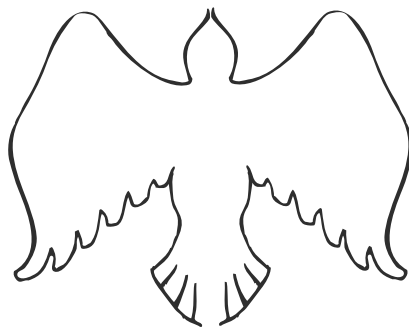
The Person

Make sure the students realize that the Holy Spirit is not an "it" and that the baptism is not

just an exciting experience or a ritual you must experience before you are really accepted in a Spirit-filled church.

The Purpose

Share the following simple Bible-based plan for understanding the Holy Spirit and His role in the believer's life.



1. The Holy Spirit Is God

He is not a presence or a mystery, but God. (See 1 Corinthians 2:11.)

2. The Holy Spirit Is for Every Believer

He is not just for Bible times or for adults or for certain Christians. (See Joel 2:28.)

3. The Holy Spirit Convicts Us of Sin

He is the One who first makes

a person want to accept salvation. He continues this work after salvation. (See John 16:8.)

4. The Holy Spirit Teaches Believers God's Way

He helps us understand who God is and what God wants us to do and be. (See John 16:13.)

5. The Holy Spirit Reminds Christians of What They Have Learned

He can help us remember a Bible verse or a lesson to encourage us or to help us conquer temptation. (See John 14:26.)

6. The Holy Spirit Gives Power to Witness

Witnessing is no easier for children than for adult believers. But the Holy Spirit can give boldness and the wisdom to know how to witness effectively. (See Acts 1:8.)

7. The Holy Spirit Gives Power to Pray

Because we do not know everything, we sometimes do not know how to pray. But the Holy Spirit is God and knows everything, including how we should pray. A Spirit-filled believer has the help of the Holy Spirit in praying as God wants. (See Romans 8:26,27.)

