



## **Digital Borrowing Box for 17 May, 2020**

### **Bible Stories:**

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:13-22

**John 14:15-21**

Hello and Happy Sunday!

Our borrowing box as normal for you this week, enjoy the activities!

- A Parent's Brief for you to read before reading John 14:15-21 with your children
- A Word Search and Code Breaker tied to John 14:15-21. Steve always enjoyed finding OTHER words in the Word Search -- can your children find all his bonus words?
- A few Activity Ideas for the afternoon, and midweek.

**Sunday Club** has been great fun! If any of your P7-S2s want to hop on for a chance to socialise and play some lighthearted games from **1-2pm** on Sunday, we use Zoom (*Room Number: 403-383-3163*).

On the recommendation of our Safeguarders, we have put a weekly password on the Zoom Room, which you'll need in order to log your child into the call. Please reach out to Steve Chaffee by email, text, call, or otherwise, and he will get the password to you.

### **Before Livestream:**

Print off materials (pg 3-4), prepare markers and paper for drawing throughout the service.

### **During:**

Have markers and paper to hand for your children through the service.

### **After:**

Give some of our activities a try! We've divided them up into Craft, Activity, and Game ideas.

Steve Chaffee and the Young Church Team

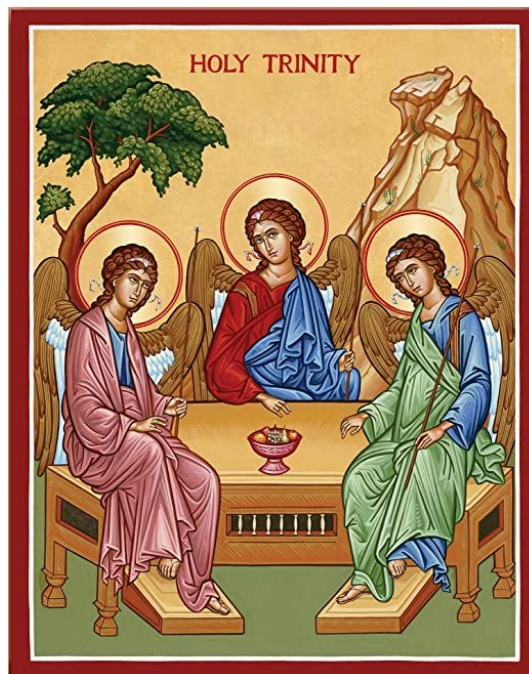
## Parent's Brief: John 14:15-21

This week's selection is from one of my favourite sections of the Gospel of John. In Chapter 13 we have John's rendition of the Last Supper. Chapters 13-18 is, frankly, a wall of text. It contains long speeches attributed to Jesus, and might reflect his final conversations with the disciples as they left the house where they celebrated the Passover meal, walked across Jerusalem, and climbed to the Garden of Gethsemane. We continue walking along with Jesus this week through v15-21.

It is easy to see God as a distant figure. Yet as we saw last week Jesus is doubling down on a close, imminent God. A similar move occurs this week, with the declaration that following the way of Jesus *will* put the Holy Spirit within you. Before this sounds too spooky or magical, it's worth remembering that the word 'spirit' has a root with the verb 'to breathe'. [It's why 'to ex-spire' means 'to die', as one's 'breath' (or spirit!) has left. This is especially poignant today, given COVID-19's respiratory effects.]

Jesus is speaking about the future here, but it isn't some airy-fairy, far away future. Pentecost had already occurred when the gospel writers began writing. They are setting the stage for it here. No, this is a future that has already arrived (I can hear Matthew's Jesus saying 'the kingdom of God is at hand!').

Christians believe that all are invited into the life of God. The invitation to 'breathe in' the divine life, to realise it in our very bodies, pervades these chapters. This helps make sense of John 20:22 'When he had said this, he *breathed* on them and said to them 'Receive the Holy Spirit'. I can't recommend breathing on each other today -- but the theological point remains: God has opened up the way into God's very heart. The icon above is famous for this theme, where the Trinity is 'opened up' for our approach into it, to live its life as our own.



How on earth do we talk about this with younger kids though?

I like to think about it like windmills. They do not move themselves, but rather are moved in response to the wind. The Holy Spirit describes the close presence of God which we can feel when it moves. Having that Spirit within us moves us toward greater love of our neighbours and ourselves -- love made real in how we act this day and every day.

# Jesus Describes the Holy Spirit

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

TRUTH  
LOVE  
HOLY  
LIVE  
SPIRIT  
BREATHE  
JESUS  
FATHER  
HELPER  
COMMANDS  
PROMISE  
ONE

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1156503/>

Steve's Bonus Words: Ire, Pit, Reboot, Toy, Eel, Are, App, Use, Teen, Map, Ten, Toe

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Code breakers

Break the code using the information below. Find each coded letter on the top row, and read down to break the code.

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

WMB

VXWOYPB

ZYGB

DKSHBX

HWZA

IXBKSHB

TBPCP

HBZVBX

SXCSH

ZWGB

NWOOKMUP

PVYXYS



## Activity Ideas:

**(Activity) Breathing the Presence** - This activity builds on some of the skills from last week's 'Practicing the Presence'. It works just as well if you use the same quiet spots as you had last week too, and might take as many days! The key is to ensure whatever place or position you take, your body isn't creating tension in itself by its position. For example, letting the backs of your palms rest on your knees or in your lap and your fingers find their natural point of openness, rather than with clenched hands.

Over the course of the time set, participants inhale slowly through their nose for five seconds, then exhale slowly over the next five seconds. After everyone is used to the rhythm and doesn't need to count, they can begin to think about 'breathing in' the presence of God, and about what things might be leaving them as they exhale.

Contemplative practice often brings up all sorts of things that we might not realise are actually on our minds. If you as a parent or carer volunteer something that came up for you during the exercise, it can help open up all sorts of conversation.

**(Game) Tabletop Football:** This one needs some straws (plastic, paper, or metal), and a light ball, like a ping-pong ball, set onto a table.

Set goals on either side of the table, and players have to move the ping-pong ball using their breath, through the straws. They can't touch the table or the ping-pong ball.

Be mindful of the players, as younger kids can quickly try to win too quickly--and get quite winded! If your family is large enough, having rotating players on a team helps too. Also: be ready to wipe down the tabletop after!

**(Craft) Windcatchers:** Using craft supplies and a pattern from the internet (Pinterest is always a good shout!), make a windcatcher or pinwheel to hang in the back garden! This one takes some scissors and pins though, so best to be careful!

While you're working, it's a good chance to chat about different ways to love people who have different needs, and even for kids to learn to vocalise ways that they feel and perceive being loved.