

#### **READ**:

Acts 8-12

Romans 8

"REPENT and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus CHRIST for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the GIFT of the Holy SPIRIT."

Acts 2:38

# Making it Mine

A Bible study for kids ready to grow a faith of their own.

### Month 2 Week 2

The Purpose of the Spirit

The purposes of the Holy Spirit are opposite to the desires of our sinful nature. Romans 8 describes how our sinful nature tries to get its own way without even recognizing its sinfulness. Therefore, the sinful person is against God, and can't obey His Spirit, and so is unable to please God. Living according to the sinful nature brings death.

Choosing to be controlled by the Spirit, however, brings life and peace. It is the only way by which we have the same resurrection, the same glory, and the same inheritance as Christ. It is only the mind controlled by the Spirit that can submit to God and please Him. It is by what the Spirit says about us that we are claimed as God's children. The purpose of the Spirit is to guide us into the salvation that was purchased for us by Christ. It is the Spirit of Christ in us that makes us belong to Christ. The Spirit that Christ received when He was baptized (Mark 1:9-13) was the evidence and seal of His Sonship. The same is true for us. The Spirit's work is to bring us into life with God our Father instead of death apart from Him. We can't do that on our own. He speaks for us when we are talking to God and don't know what to say. He shows us the way to heaven, like our own personal travel guide.

Matt. 10:18-20 says that the Spirit of God will speak through us when the need arises. How?
Describe an event from <b>Acts 8 - 12</b> where you think one or more of the believers was given words by the Spirit:
How does the Spirit help us worship according to <b>John 4:21-24</b> ?

## **LACKING THE SPIRIT** Acts 8 What did the baptized believers in Samaria lack (Acts 8:14-17)? Why? \_\_\_\_\_ in our hearts? What did Peter and John do about it? \_\_\_\_\_ What did Simon want? What was the response of the disciples? "GO AND JOIN THAT CHARIOT" Acts 8:26-40 Philip got a very clear command from the Spirit to "Go join that chariot." How do you think that command was delivered? Does the Holy Spirit still give us such clear instruction? Do we ever miss His voice because we don't know what we are listening for? How did the Spirit carry or "snatch" Philip away? Think about it! THE GIFT TO THE GENTILES Acts 10:44-48 Why do you think the Gentiles that Peter preached to received the Holy Spirit before their baptism? Can you name a situation and purpose when the Holy Spirit might still act

that way today?

#### A PROMISE AND A SEAL What purpose does 2 Cor. 1:22 give for the

presence of the Holy Spirit

What does 2 Cor. 5:5-10 say is a result of this deposit?

What is needed to receive this deposit in Eph. 1:13,14? \_\_\_\_\_

The Greek word translated as a deposit to guarantee is "arrabon". It means that something valuable is given, to prove that the deal will go through. (Key Word Study Bible 1594) The Holy Spirit is the initial payment of what was purchased for us by Christ. In heaven, we will enjoy the fullness of that redemption, but in the meantime we can enjoy the deposit of God's Spirit in our hearts as a seal of the bargain that has been made.

Another Greek word used about the Holy Spirit is "sphraegiein" which means to seal. A seal was placed on a document or product as a sign and proof of ownership. (Barclay 58) The presence of the Holy Spirit is God's mark of ownership on the believer. It is the marked proof of our identity in Christ. God's mark is on His children to show everyone who we belong to!

For example, what is a mark of God's ownership in Eph. 4:29-32?

Why would it make the Holy Spirit sad if we didn't act that way? \_\_\_\_\_