FOR KIDS AGES 5–11

Special Gifts from the Holy Spirit

How God gives different helps so we can love each other

Overview

God gives every person who trusts Jesus a special gift. These gifts are like different tools or abilities that help the whole church family work well together. Some people are good at teaching, some at helping, some at encouraging, some at praying, and some at other things. The Holy Spirit decides who gets which gift. Not everyone has the same gifts, and that is good — just like a body needs different parts. The most important thing is love. We use our gifts to help and encourage others, not to show off.

Big Ideas

- **Everyone who belongs to Jesus has at least one gift.** The Holy Spirit gives it.
- **Gifts are different on purpose.** Some help by teaching, some by serving, some by encouraging, some by giving, some by leading, and some by other special helps.
- **Gifts are for helping the whole family of God.** They are not for making yourself look better than others.
- **Love is the most important thing.** Even the best gift is not helpful if it is not used with love.
- **Speaking in special languages is one gift, but not everyone has it.** It is not a test of how much God loves you or how close you are to Him.
- **The goal is knowing and loving God.** The gifts help us do that together.

Fun Questions to Think About

1. If the church is like a body, why do we need different gifts instead of everyone having the same one?
2. What is one way you like to help people? Could that be a gift from God?
3. Why is love more important than any special ability?
4. How do you feel when someone encourages you or helps you? How can you do that for someone else?
5. Does God love you more if you have a certain gift? (Hint: No!)

Things You Can Do This Week

- Ask a parent or trusted grown-up what they think you are good at that could help others.
- Do one kind thing for someone in your family or class without being asked.

- Thank God for the ways He has made you able to help.
- Pray a simple prayer: “Holy Spirit, help me use what You have given me to love others.”
- Notice one gift in someone else and tell them you see it.

Fun Group or Family Talk Ideas

- Go around and name one way each person helps the family or group. Celebrate those differences.
- Act out a scene where someone needs help and another person uses a gift (encouraging, teaching, serving, etc.).
- Talk about a time someone used a gift well to make the group stronger. What made it good?
- Finish this sentence: “I can help others by…”
- Pray together and thank God for the different gifts in your family or group.

God gives different gifts so we can love and help each other. Use yours with love.