



The Holy Spirit and the Church Sacraments

Code: 9/FE/3

1. General Aims of the unit

To understand and live the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church Sacraments

2. Special aims of the lesson

1. To check the teens understanding of the events of the day of Pentecost
2. To highlight the role of the Holy Spirit in the Church life.
3. To brief the sacraments of the church and their values in the life of the believers.
4. To concentrate on the role of the Holy Spirit in every sacrament of the seven sacraments of the church.

3. Outcomes:

By the end of this lessons the teens are able to:

1. List the role of the Holy Spirit in church and in the life of the believers.
2. List the seven sacraments of the church and the value of each one to the believers
3. Analyse the role of the Holy Spirit in each sacraments and the medium used in each sacrament suitable to the descend of the Holy Spirit.

4. Verses : John 14: 26 ; 15:26-27 ; 16:8 ; 16:14 ; Acts 13:2-3 ; James 5:14 ; Rom.6:3-4 , Eph.5:31-33

5.References :

1. The Holy Spirit H H Pope Shenouda III
2. Articles in the Study Orthodox Bible (N.T and Psalms) about sacraments
3. Articles on the church Sacraments H.G.B. Moussa

Introduction:

1. To The Servant:

- The Holy Spirit will take what is Christ's and declare it to us (Jo 16:14). So all the life, power, crucifixion, death, resurrection and ascension of Christ is given to us through the Holy Spirit.

⁵ "But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?'" ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you

- He is the other Helper- the Comforter Jo14:16. Sent to be with us in this world as Jesus Christ s ascended to heaven. It does not mean that Christ is not with us now, but the Holy Spirit has the role of guiding, comforting and helping the church in the journey of this world.

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

- He proceeds from the father only (Jo 15:26), and is sent to us through the request of the Son (Jo 14:16)
- The spirit represented by the water (Jo7:37-39) and the Lord asks all the thirsty people to come and drink from Him.
- The spirit is one of the 3 Hypostasis (1Jo5:7); and the three are one.

2. To the Teens:

- Ask if some of the teens were about at the time of Christ's incarnation to tell us what was happening?
- How do we know that the stories about Christ are true? (The answer is the Holy Spirit, who inspired the Holy books " Old and new Testament", and who still up till now gives us all what Christ has promised us.
- Ask about the sacraments of the church and are they essential to our salvation or not?
- Put on the board or use it temporarily to write on it the main parts of the life of Christ, and ask the teens about the relation between the sacraments and the life of Christ? What is each sacrament concerned with?
 - Jesus authority to forgive sin - Repentance and Confession
 - Jesus authority to make disciples and fill them with the Holy Spirit - .Priesthood
 - Jesus authority to heal the sick - Unction
 - Jesus body & blood on the cross - Eucharist
 - The power of his death and resurrection - Baptism
 - Jesus authority to ask the father to send the Holy Spirit - Chrism
- Jesus teaching about marriage and authority for unification of man and woman - Marriage

Lesson:

1. Subdivide the group into 2 &3 small groups, each group supervised by a servant, study 2 or 3 sacraments and then report back to the group.
2. Type a sheet for each sacrament and give it to the teens let them workout the questions after reading the verses or the stories in it.
3. Try to emphasis that each time we share in any of the sacraments, the spirit will give us a part of the life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Explore practical methods to highlight the fact of “He will take what of His and declare to you” as some flyers concerning our most practice sacraments “Repentance & Eucharist” and display them in the church.

• **Baptism**

Read the story of conversion of St Paul Acts 22:6:16

Read Rom 6:3,4&9

Read the story of baptism of 2 kids by St Peter the seal of martyrs 310AD:

The wife of a noble man for Antioch, had 2 children and was eager to baptize them at Alexandria.

She sailed and in the middle of the journey storms and wind struck the boat. The lady was frightened that she would not be able to baptize her children and they might perish.

So, She wounded her breast and anointed with her blood the 2 kids and put them in the sea water 3 times in the name of the Trinity. Praying to the Lord to accept her children as Christians if the boat sank.

The boat sailed safely to Alexandria. She approached Pope Peter to baptize her children.

When the pope started to baptize the first child the water became like ice, so he tried another child from Alexandria, so the water became normal. When he tried again with same child the same phenomena happened again. Then he asked the mother and she told him the story.

The Pope glorified the Lord and said to her Jesus himself baptized them. Then he anointed them with the holy oil (Myron) for Charisma.

* Please answer the questions:

1. Read Acts 22:16, state what is the relation between the baptism and the wash from sin? How does this occur?
2. What is the only substance that is able to wash and clean the sins?
3. Do you believe that you (or any other friend) were without any sin at any day of your life?
4. Why did the water changed to solid when the pope tried to baptize the two children?
5. What is the relation between baptism and Jesus Christ?
6. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in baptism?

• **The Holy Chrism (Myron)**

Read Jo 15:26, Jo 16:7, Acts 8:14-23 – Then answer these questions:

1. Why were the apostles upset with Simon?
2. Were they right or wrong?
3. Who is the only one who has the authority to send us the Holy spirit?
4. How is it practiced now in our church? Who now has the authority? How would they get it?

• Repentance and Confession

Read the following: Ep 1:7, Co 1:14, Luke23:34 & Jo 20:22-23 and also this story:

When St Moses the black converted and repented each time he confessed a sin to his confession father "St Esedoros" in tears and in true regret his father noticed that there was a board full of the sins of Moses, each time he confess it an angle was dipping a hyssop into the blood of the cross and wipe out the sin till the board became totally white. Then he said to Moses now you are completely clean, do not stain again your life into sin.

Then please answer these questions:

1. What is sin?
2. Who is the only one who can forgive the sin?
3. How can he do this?
4. Can you highlight the mechanism of forgiveness of sin?
5. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in this process?
6. What is my role?

• Eucharist

Read the following 1Cor11:23-31, Jo 6: 48-59

Please answer the questions:

1. What happens to the bread and wine during the Holy Liturgy
2. When we participate in the Holy Communion, are we just remembering what Jesus did at the last supper some 2000 years ago (ie is it just a drama we play out at each liturgy), or are we actually partaking of the body and blood of Christ?
3. What obligation is there on us when going to participate in the Holy Communion.
4. What happens if we fail in this obligation.
5. What is the role of the Holy Spirit on the transformation of the bread and wine? At what point of the mass does this transformation occur.

• Marriage

Read Eph.5:31-33, Col3:18, 1 Pe 3:1-2,7

Answer the following questions:

1. Why is marriage an honourable sacrament?
2. Is it better to be married or to be unmarried?
3. What role does the Holy Spirit play in the sacrament of marriage? Is this a role which He undertakes only at the time of the wedding, or is it a continuing role?
4. Would you consider that the obligations/commitments on each spouse are reciprocal, or is marriage one sided in favour of the man (or the woman)?
5. Are these obligations/roles of each spouse too burdensome, or does the Holy Spirit support each spouse in fulfilling these obligations? In what circumstances may we not recognise this support, and fail in our obligations?

• Unction of the Sick

Read James 5:14; Mat 10:8

Answer the following:

1. What is the role of this sacrament? (seeking God's forgiveness and healing of the soul)
2. Who carries out this sacrament? Who has the authority to heal?