

LEGACY

WEEK 5

BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's Family.

BIBLE

Life in the Spirit: Romans 8:12-17;
(John 3:5-7)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT?

MUSIC | Worship ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids sing about their freedom in Jesus with songs like, "[Alive](#)" during your worship time.*
- The Bible says in II Corinthians 3:17 that the Holy Spirit gives us freedom. That means we are accepted just as we are into God's family, and we are invited to live in freedom! Let's celebrate that as we worship today!

POLL | Family Trivia ▲

- One way families are different is that they have different rules. Have you ever been to a friend's house and learned they have a totally different set of rules than the ones at your house?
- Let's see how much we know about different rules around the world. Help each other by guessing what is true and what is false.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *The kids can guess what the laws of different places are – feel free to research and add your own. Tell them to give a thumbs up if they think it's true, and a thumbs down if they think it's false.*
- In Rome, goldfish cannot be kept in bowls but must be in full-sized aquarium. (True.)

- In Switzerland, people are not allowed to flush the toilet after 10 p.m. (*False.*)
- In Georgia, there is a law that forbids people from eating fried chicken with anything other than their hands. (*True.*)
- Chewing gum has been banned in Singapore since 1992. (*True.*)
- Children cannot eat ice cream in front of their parents in Montgomery, Missouri. (*False.*)
- The city of San Francisco banned feeding pigeons. (*True.*)
- In Vietnam, everyone must enter a room backwards. (*False.*)
- It is illegal to drive a dirty car in Russia. (*True.*)
- It is illegal to pee in the ocean in Portugal. (*True.*)

SCRIPTURE | Romans 8:12-17 ▲

- Let's time travel one last time! Today we are going to go hear what Apostle Paul had to say about being in God's family.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *On your time travel device, point your arrow to the plate with the corresponding Scripture and play this [sound effect](#). Read Romans 8:12-17 or ask a volunteer to read for you.*
- Paul said we were all born with a nature that has a certain set of rules, but those rules actually harm us and make us sin.
- But when Jesus came to Earth, the rules changed. Jesus came to help us form a great relationship with God and be a part of God's family.
- When we are part of a new family, we no longer have to follow the rules that we had before. Instead, we embrace the way our new family lives!
 - Say you are a citizen of Italy — you have to follow the laws of that country. But if you go to another country and become a citizen of that country, such as the United States, you no longer need to follow the rules of Italy, but it is important that you follow the rules of the United States.
- We have been invited to a new family, with laws that help us love, forgive, be patient, put others first, and have joy in times of trouble! And the Holy Spirit helps us follow those rules so we can love our family better!

THE BIG IDEA | The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family. ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Inside the legacy pod canister, add an envelope with an invitation inside.*

- Okay! I have an invitation here . . . let me see who it is from and who it is for!
- It says from the Holy Spirit, to . . . every one in (*your ministry's name*)!
- The Holy Spirit is giving *us* the best invitation we could ever have . . . an invitation for us to be a part of God's family! Do you want in?
- **The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.**

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 5



- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's [teaching video](#).

REFLECTION | Helpful Holy Spirit

- We know who God is. God created us.
- We know who Jesus is. Jesus saved us.
- **What do we know about the Holy Spirit?** Let's talk about it in terms of the Big Ideas we've learned this month.
 - **The Holy Spirit helps us want to know God.**
 - **The Holy Spirit helps us love everyone.**
 - **The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work.**
 - **The Holy Spirit is for everyone.**
 - **The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.**
- **What word appears a lot here?** That's right – help! It's no wonder that the Holy Spirit is sometimes called the "Helper."

- **What is something you need the Holy Spirit's help with so you can do your part in God's family?**

ACTIVITY | Birth Certificate ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a Birth Certificate printable and a pencil or pen. Have them fill in their name and "God's family" in the spaces provided. Then allow them to go around and sign other people's certificates where it says "witness" – get leaders involved, too!
- When you were born, your parents received a birth certificate, which is an important document, with your name on it that proved you were born and in which city you were born.
- If you were adopted, on the day your parents finalized your adoption you were given a new birth certificate with their names and your new name on it.
- When you are a part of a family, no matter how you came to be a part of that family, it gives you a sense of belonging.
- **The Holy Spirit makes us a part of God's family.**

SCRIPTURE | John 3:5-7 ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read John 3:5-7.
- In this story, a guy named Nicodemus asked Jesus about being a part of God's family.
- Jesus answered Nicodemus and told him he needed to be born again. Now, we know Jesus doesn't actually mean being born again like a baby.
- What it means is when you become a follower of Jesus, you get a chance to start life over again because you are forgiven. Just like we talked about earlier, when we are part of a new family, we no longer have to follow the rules that we had. We can embrace the way our new family lives!

NOW WHAT?

ACTIVITY | Family Photo Puzzle ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids a puzzle to work on together. This can be done as a large group or you can split the kids into groups with several puzzles. You can either use a purchased puzzle, or make a puzzle from a photo of the kids in your ministry. Hide one piece of the puzzle, preferably one with a face on it.
- If we are missing one piece, the puzzle is not complete.
- The same thing happens in God's family. We all play an important role.
- Together, we make up this incredible picture.

REFLECTION | Faith Family Tree ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Draw a tree on a piece of poster board and hang it up in your space. Ask the kids to think of someone in their life who is a part of God's family – not necessarily their own – who has shown them what faith looks like. Encourage them to write that person's name or draw them on the Faith Family Tree.
- All month long, our series has been called, "Legacy." The Holy Spirit is the legacy that Jesus gives us.
- Our journey with God doesn't happen alone. God has given us people – parents, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles, friends, and your leaders here at church who show us what it means to follow Jesus.
- You may be the only person in your family who goes to church, or you may come from a family that goes to church together all of the time.
- Whoever brought you here, you can thank God for those people for showing you that you are a part of God's family.

PRAYER ▲

- Dear God, thank you for making us a part of your family. No matter where we come from or where we have been, you give us the Holy Spirit. Thank you for the people in our lives whose legacy has been shared with us. Amen.

DISCUSSION ▲

- **What good news did Paul give the Romans?**
- **How can we be children of God?**
- **How do God's children live?**
- **Think about our memory verse this month. How do we know who God's children are?**
- **What is your favorite part about belonging to God's family?**
- **How can you show others you are part of God's family?**
- **How can you invite others into God's family?**

ACTIVITY | Family Frame ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a cardboard frame and a handful of steampunk decorations (e.g., [steampunk stickers](#), [small craft gears](#), brads, feathers, etc.). Let kids decorate their frame by gluing on items around their frame. If possible, supply a photo of their small group that fits the frame, or give them a piece of paper and have them draw their small group family.*
- **What has the Holy Spirit taught you about God's family?** Everyone is welcome. Everyone is accepted. Everyone is loved. All of us are a part of God's family because of the Holy Spirit.