

WEEK 1: The Holy Spirit Helps

Big Idea: The Holy Spirit helps us.

HANGOUT

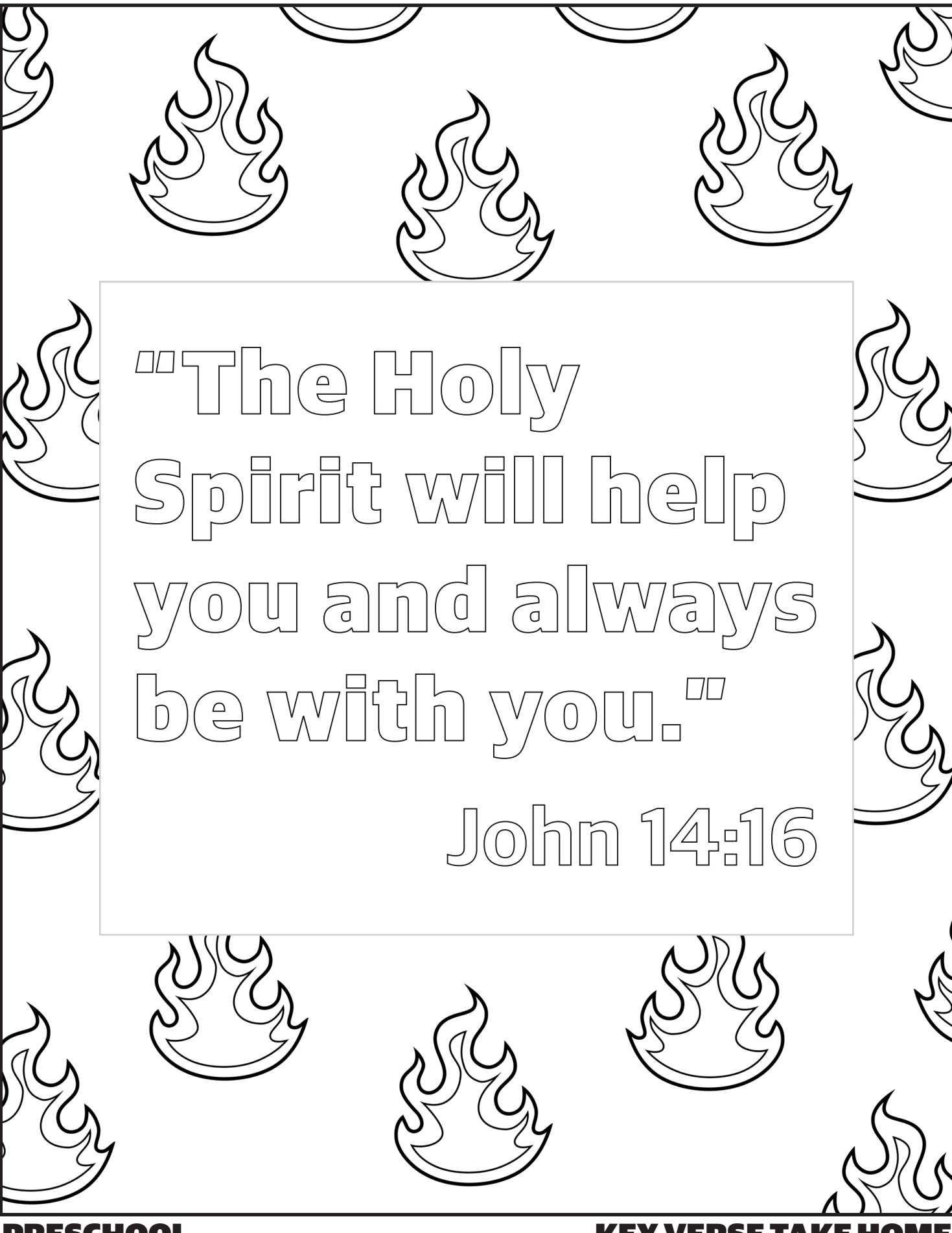
1. Before the children arrive, cut out 10 large triangles from coloured paper. Hide them all around your group's space. Keep one triangle to show the children.
2. Gather everyone together. Hold up the triangle and tell the children that it can help us remember what the Trinity is: God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Point to the corners of the triangle as you name each part of the Trinity.
3. Encourage the children to search for the hidden triangles. When they're all found, congratulate the group for being such great finders!
4. Point to the corners of a triangle again and review the parts of the Trinity.
5. Introduce today's Big Idea: **The Holy Spirit helps us.**
6. If there's time and the children are interested, guide them to take turns hiding the triangles while the rest of the group waits out of sight. Continue finding the triangles and hiding them again until everyone gets a turn.

HEAR

7. If possible, make a "house" out of a blanket over a table or between a few chairs. Gather everyone inside for story time.
8. Let the children know that today's story from the Bible is about the Holy Spirit. Emphasize that the Holy Spirit helped the disciples and still helps us now.
9. Use a children's Bible to read about the Holy Spirit and Pentecost from Acts 2.
10. Discuss:
 - Who was gathered in the house? (people who believed in Jesus)
 - What sound did they hear? (a whooshing, roaring wind)
11. Lead the children to make windstorm sounds together.
12. Ask: What appeared over the believers' heads? (little flames)
13. Guide everyone to use their hands to make pretend flames over their heads.
14. Discuss:
 - After the wind and the flames, what filled the believers? (the Holy Spirit)
 - What's your favourite part of this story?

HUDDLE

15. Review the Key Verse for this series ("The Holy Spirit...will help you and always be with you." John 14:16b, CEV). Line up the children against a wall. Make sure there's enough room in front of them to move without hitting any obstacles. Let everyone know they should hop forward one time for each word of the verse. Say the words slowly, pausing to prompt the children to hop. When you complete the verse, lead the group to say it together. Repeat the game and use a different fun way to move forward (e.g., crawling or wiggling like a worm).
16. Gather everyone together. Model how to sit in a prayer posture, with closed eyes and folded hands. (It's okay if anyone doesn't want to do this.)
17. Pray, "Thank you, God, for giving us the Holy Spirit to help us every day. We love you! Amen."



"The Holy
Spirit will help
you and always
be with you."

John 14:16