



# Praying In The Spirit

**MEMORY VERSE:**

**I Corinthians 14:15,** *"I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding." (NIV)*

**TAKE HOME POINT:**

Praying in the spirit is when you allow the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers.

**▶ TO THE TEACHER:**

There are four points to make this week concerning "praying in the spirit."

1. What is "praying in the spirit?"
2. Allow the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers.
3. Praying in the spirit builds up our spirit man.
4. You can choose to pray in the spirit.

**What is "praying in the spirit?"** If you attend a Pentecostal church (like me), the words "praying in the spirit" are synonymous with "praying in tongues." For the purpose of this lesson, I am defining "praying in the spirit" as allowing the Holy Spirit to direct your prayer life. I realize that "praying in tongues" is the subject of much debate in the church world. For Pentecostals it is an important part of our prayer life, so I don't want to leave it out; however, it is very possible to pray in the spirit without praying in tongues. If you attend a church that does not believe in "praying in tongues," then my suggestion would be to teach on praying in the spirit, just don't talk about "tongues."

*My goal is to provide you with resources to help you disciple the children in your church. Our prayer is that our curriculum is flexible enough to work with the specific doctrines of your church.*

**If you allow the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers, then your prayer life will be more effective and**

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**fruitful.** The Holy Spirit will lead you to pray about things that God wants someone to pray about, so you know you are praying the perfect will of God. (Romans 8:26-27).

**Praying in the Spirit helps to build up our spirit man.** (I Corinthians 14:14) Sometimes in life, your spirit man (the man on the inside) may get drained. The Bible says that praying in the spirit will edify or charge up your spirit. This kind of prayer charges you up like a power cord charges a cell phone or an Ipod.

**You can choose to pray in the spirit.** The Apostle Paul said, "I will pray with my spirit and I will pray with my understanding." You don't have to wait for some special feeling to pray in the spirit. You can choose to pray in the spirit. On the other hand, don't spend all of your time praying in the spirit. Be led by the Holy Spirit.



# Praying In The Spirit

## LARGE GROUP SCHEDULE

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Lead Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

WHO	LESSON OUTLINE	WHAT
_____	1. Participation Awards	
_____	2. Praise & Worship	
_____	3. Announcements	
_____	4. Offering	
_____	5. Motion Comic:	Adventures of the Masked Hero #10
_____	6. Bottom Line:	Praying in the spirit is when you allow the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers.
_____	7. Memory Verse:	I Corinthians 14:15, "I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding." (NIV)
_____	8. Drama:	Dr. Rubenstein: "Holy Spirit GPS Translator"
_____	9. Object Lesson:	Charge Up Your Spirit
_____	10. Short Film:	"The Masked Do-Gooder: "The Stakeout"
_____	11. Inter-Active Lesson:	Follow The Spirit
_____	12. Digital Review Questions	

MOTION COMIC

# The Adventures of the Masked Hero

## Episode #10

➤ TO THE TEACHER:

**Goal:** get the kids to laugh and introduce the lesson.

- At the conclusion of the Digital Comic Book, Johnny asks the question “**What is the Bottom Line?**” Words pop up one at a time. Encourage your kids to guess the Bottom Line as the words pop up.

- Next Commissioner Thornton asks the question “What is the Memory Verse?” Again words pop up one at a time.

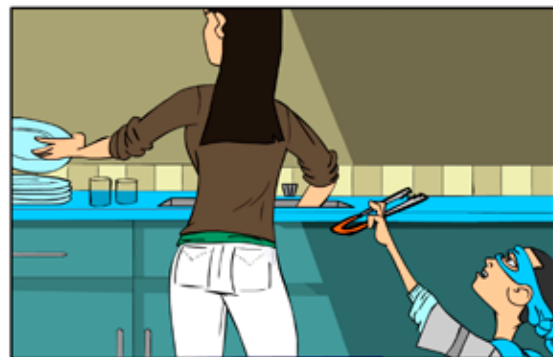
- It is motivating to reward the first child to guess the Bottom Line and Memory Verse.



Panel 1



Panel 2



Panel 3



Panel 4



**DRAMA**

***Dr. Rubenstein:  
“Holy Spirit GPS Translator”***

**TAKE HOME POINT:** Your spirit knows what to pray, even if your mind doesn't.

**CHARACTERS:** Dr. Rubenstein

**WHAT YOU NEED:** A GPS unit, or portable LCD screen (like a portable DVD player)  
Headphones

**Drama Script:**

Teacher: Kids, I'd like you to help me welcome today's guest...Dr. Rubenstein!

(Dr. Rubenstein enters.)

Dr R: Hello, hello. How is everyone doing today?

(Allow kids a chance to respond)

Teacher: We're great Dr. Rubenstein. Of course today we're learning about praying in the spirit, and that's why we've asked you to come and join us to talk about your new invention.

Dr R: Yes, yes, of course. My spirit language translator and GPS coordinator.

Teacher: Wow! It looks kinda like an iphone or something.

Dr R: Yes, even in the spirit we have an App for that!

Teacher: That's amazing! So how does it work?

Dr R: Vell, as you know, some people find it difficult listening to and understanding the Holy Spirit when he speaks to them.

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### ***Dr. Rubenstein: "Holy Spirit GPS Translator" Drama Script — Continued***

Teacher: Yeah, I talked to a kid just this morning that was praying and he knew the Holy Spirit was speaking to him, but wasn't really sure what he was saying.

Dr R: Yes, vell he would be a perfect guinea pig. . .

Teacher: Guinea pig?

Dr R: I mean test subject for this new invention of mine.

Teacher: Can you give us a demonstration?

Dr R: Of course, why not? Now, just hold this screen right here, and place these headphones in your ears.

Teacher: Okay, like this?

(Teacher does as asked.)

Dr R: Yes, yes, exactly. Now just begin to pray in the spirit.

Teacher: Okay.

(Teacher prays in the spirit)

Dr R: Now, is the Holy Spirit speaking to you?

Teacher: Yes, but I'm not sure what he's saying.

Dr R: Now, just look at the screen and vhammy!

Teacher: Wow! It actually translated it! The screen says that I prayed for Bill down at the hardware store, because he needs help finding his way.

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## ***Dr. Rubenstein: “Holy Spirit GPS Translator” Drama Script — Continued***

Dr R: Yes, but that’s not all. Vatch and see vhat happens next.

(Teacher looks down at the screen.)

Teacher: That’s amazing, now it’s giving instructions on how to help Bill.

Dr R: Vell, vhat do you think?

Teacher: It’s really great, Dr. Rubenstein, but it’s so important that each of us prays in the spirit and practices listening to God speak to us through the Holy Spirit. I don’t think we should replace that with some gizmo, no matter how cool it is.

Dr R: Of course, of course, and this vill never replace that. It’s only for beginners to help them learn how and vhy it’s so important to pray in the spirit.

Teacher: I get it! It’s kind of like how we have training wheels on our bike when we learn how to ride it, but it’s training wheels for praying in the spirit.

Dr R: Now you got it! But even if ve don’t understand vhat ve are praying, if ve are praying in zee spirit, ve know that it’s the perfect vill of God.

Teacher: We sure do! Hey, maybe one of the kids would like to try out your invention?

Dr R: Another time maybe, right now I think I should let you continue to teach zee class and I’ll go help Bill down at the hardware store.

Teacher: Okay, right, I almost forgot.

Dr R: That’s it! It’s brilliant!

Teacher: What’s brilliant?

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## ***Dr. Rubenstein: “Holy Spirit GPS Translator” Drama Script — Continued***

Dr R: I could invent a Memory Jogger so nobody ever forgets anything ever again! I'll call it the Remembery Discombobulator!

Teacher: Dr. Rubenstein?

Dr R: Yes?

Teacher: Did you forget about Bill at the hardware store?

Dr R: Oh right, I must help him first and then go verk on my new invention. The... now vhat vas it again? I can't remember!

(Dr. Rubenstein exits.)

Teacher: Good bye Dr. Rubenstein. We'll see you next time!

*The End*





**OBJECT LESSON** *Charge Up Your Spirit*

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** **I Corinthians 14:4**, *“He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself...”* (KJV)

**TAKE HOME POINT:** Praying in tongues charges up your spirit.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Nintendo video game (can substitute cell phone or computer)  
Power cord for Nintendo  
Extension cord if needed

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

- You can substitute a laptop, cell phone or iPod for this object lesson.
- Allow Nintendo game to run down its charge so it is empty when you begin this lesson.
- You will plug it in during your lesson so make sure your extension cord is plugged in and easily accessible for this lesson.

**OBJECT LESSON APPLICATION:**

(Hold Nintendo in hand at beginning of this lesson.)

Has this ever happened to you? You get all your work done, your homework, all of your chores are done, it’s not time for dinner, so you have a few minutes. You pick up your Nintendo for a few minutes of uninterrupted game time.

(Attempt to start Nintendo game.)

You push the “on” button and then nothing. Oh, no! It isn’t charged up. Okay, so fine. Then you begin the quest of finding the power cord.

(Hook up the game to the plugged in power cord.)

You look in your drawer, behind the dresser, under the bed. Oh, there it is in the bathroom. So, now let the fun begin. You plug in your power cord and now you are ready to go.

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## ***Charge Up Your Spirit*** Object Lesson — *Continued*

This reminds me about our spirit man. Just like your Nintendo can't go indefinitely without getting plugged in and charged up, your spirit man can't do indefinitely without getting charged up either. You charge your spirit man up by praying in other tongues. The Bible tells us that when we pray in an unknown tongue it edifies or builds up our spirit man.

When we get tired and our bodies are wore down, we have to rest and eat right to get our bodies charged back up. When our mind is like jello from too much homework, you have to take a rest. Our spirit man can get worn down too. People sometimes call it "burn out." That is when we are doing and giving and putting out, but not putting in and not connecting with God.

By praying in the spirit it will build up your spirit man. It will charge you up and then you are ready to go.



**INTER-ACTIVE  
OBJECT LESSON**

# *Follow The Spirit*

- **WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:** *If you let the Holy Spirit direct your prayers, then your prayer life will be more effective.*
  
- **WHAT YOU NEED:**
  - 12 eggs
  - 1 tarp
  - 2 blindfolds
  - Paper towels
  - 3 contestants
  - "Holy Spirit" sign
  
- **PREPARATION:**
  - Place tarp on floor in front of class.
  - Place eggs on tarp.
  
- **INSTRUCTIONS:**
  - Put blindfolds on 2 contestants.
  - Put "Holy Spirit" sign on 3rd contestant.
  - The 1st contestant walks across the tarp on their own with no assistance.
  - The 2nd contestant walks across the tarp with the assistance of the "Holy Spirit" guiding them to not step on any eggs.

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**SPIRITUAL APPLICATION:**

Life can be full of problems and potential disasters. We can't see the future, but the Holy Spirit can. We are kind of like the two kids who were blindfolded, but Joey here is like the Holy Spirit. He is not blindfolded and he can see what's ahead, what is in front of him. The blindfolded contestants were on their own, but the unblindfolded contestant followed the Holy Spirit, so he was able to avoid stepping on an egg. In your prayer life, you can learn to follow the Holy Spirit. The Apostle Paul said it like this, "I will pray with my spirit, and I will pray with my understanding." Paul prayed both ways. When you pray in the spirit, you can pray for problems that your brain doesn't even know about. You could pray for somebody in another country. You may not know them, but the Holy Spirit does, and He will lead you in your prayers. Take time to listen to the Holy Spirit when you pray.



# Praying In The Spirit

## DIGITAL REVIEW QUESTIONS

NEEDED: Review Prizes (penny candy for right answers)

### ▶ TO THE TEACHER:

The **Digital Review Questions** are a part of "The Masked Hero" download.

Once you get to the Memory Verse, then **PAUSE** the video.

After you have done your teaching then **PLAY** the Digital Review Questions.

You can turn this into a **Review Game** by rewarding kids for correct answers.

1. What is praying in the spirit?
  - a. Praying real hard
  - b. Praying real quiet
  - c. Allowing the Holy Spirit to direct your prayers**
  - d. All of the above
2. I Corinthians 14: 15 says, I will pray \_\_\_\_\_, but I will also pray with my understanding."
  - a. with my spirit**
  - b. with my feelings
  - c. with my nose
  - d. with my Bible
3. Why should I pray in the spirit?
  - a. It charges up my spirit
  - b. I can pray for things I don't know about
  - c. I can pray for the future
  - d. All of the above**
4. Praying in the spirit is like \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. my cat
  - b. a swimming pool
  - c. jumper cables**
  - d. my sleeping bag
5. The word "edify" means what?
  - a. Sunny side up
  - b. To tear down
  - c. To sing out loud
  - d. To build up**



# Praying In The Spirit

## PROP LIST (Props, supplies, costumes and characters)

\_\_\_\_\_ Participation Awards (Large candy bars or prizes)

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed?

\_\_\_\_\_ Review Prizes (penny candy)

### Dr. Rubenstein: "Holy Spirit GPS Translator" — Pages 5-8

#### Characters

\_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Rubenstein

#### Props

\_\_\_\_\_ A GPS unit, or portable LCD screen (like a portable DVD player)

\_\_\_\_\_ Headphones

### Object Lesson: Charge Up Your Spirit — Pages 9-10

\_\_\_\_\_ Nintendo video game (can substitute cell phone or computer)

\_\_\_\_\_ Power cord for Nintendo

\_\_\_\_\_ Extension cord if needed

### Inter-Active Lesson: Follow The Spirit — Page 11

\_\_\_\_\_ 12 eggs

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 tarp

\_\_\_\_\_ 2 blindfolds

\_\_\_\_\_ Paper towels

\_\_\_\_\_ 3 contestants

\_\_\_\_\_ "Holy Spirit" sign

### Small Group Club: Build Up Your Spirit

\_\_\_\_\_ One 10 lb. weight

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed

\_\_\_\_\_ Activity page

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed

### Special Edition: Pastoring Your Kids

\_\_\_\_\_ How many needed