**The Spirit with us**

**Bible story**

John 14.15-21:

One day, Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. Although I am going away in a little while, I will not leave you on your own. I am going to ask God the Father to send an Advocate, his Holy Spirit . It is the Spirit of truth and it will stay with you for ever.’ He continued, ‘The world is not ready for the Holy Spirit, because it does not see or know God’s Spirit. But you will know the Holy Spirit because it will live in you.’

Jesus said, ‘The world will not see me once I have gone away. But you will see me. On that day you will know that I have returned to my Father. And you will know that I live through you and you live through me.

‘There are other people,’ he added, ‘who also love me and keep my commandments. They are loved by both me and my Father and I will show myself to them.’

Glossary

**commandments** rules to follow in life, given by God  
**Advocate** the Holy Spirit who speaks for God.

### Talk together with children

* What do you think Jesus means when he says that the Holy Spirit will ‘live in you’?
* Can you think of an example where you’ve kept a rule because you love someone?
* If we love Jesus and try to show his love, what difference might that make to the other people we know?

### Talk together with young people

* What does Jesus ask of us?
* What does Jesus promise us?
* Do you find this passage reassuring or challenging? Why?

## Heart Biscuits

Ingredients

* 200g unsalted butter, softened
* 200g golden caster sugar
* 1 large [egg](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/glossary/egg)
* ½ tsp vanilla extract
* 400g plain flour, plus extra for dusting

[Method](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/easiest-ever-biscuits#recipe-method)

* 1. Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and line a baking sheet with baking parchment. Put the butter in a bowl and beat it with electric beaters until soft and creamy. Beat in the sugar, then the egg and vanilla, and finally the flour to make a dough. If the dough feels a bit sticky, add a little bit more flour and knead it in.
  2. Pull pieces off the dough and roll them out to about the thickness of two £1 coins on a floured surface. The easiest way to do this with small children is to roll the mixture out on a baking mat. Cut out shapes using a 9cm biscuit cutter, or a use the rim of a small glass and peel away the leftover dough around the edges. Press some clean toys gently into the biscuits, making sure you make enough of a mark without going all the way through. Re-roll off-cuts and repeat.
  3. Transfer the whole mat or the individual biscuits to the baking sheet and bake for 8-10 mins or until the edges are just brown. Leave to cool for 5 mins, then serve. Will keep for three days in a biscuit tin.

Recipe from Good Food magazine, [April 2017](https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/search/recipes/date/1491001200)

#### **Praise God with colour**

Paint a big heart outline on a large piece of paper and place a selection of coloured paint and paint brushes around it. Encourage the children to use colour to praise God. Ask them to use the colours in the heart to show how it feels to be loved by God. Use glitter as a reminder that like God’s love, it gets everywhere.

#### **Heart prayer**

Take a shallow tray and pour in salt or fine sand. Smooth it out to make the surface flat. Invite everyone to use a lolly stick or finger to draw a heart and a plus sign, as you say:

Lord,  
may we always love you and follow your commandments.  
**Amen.**

You may wish to play the song [Little life (for you Jesus)](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lcgxg12EG_Q), Hillsong Kids on Can you believe it? as you do this.

#### **A prayer to end with**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have called us to love God  
and love our neighbours as ourselves.  
Give us the Holy Spirit  
to help us follow your commandments  
and to live in peace, hope and love.  
**Amen.**

**Song John Bryden: The Spirit lives to set us free**

The spirit lives to set us free,

Walk, walk in the light.

He binds us all in unity,

Walk, walk in the light.

Chorus: Walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light, walk in the light of the Lord.

The spirit lives in you and me,

Walk in the light.

His light will shine for all to see,

Walk in the light. Chorus.

## **Sing and listen**

Preview songs on YouTube, buy online and download.

[Key to abbreviations for hymn book titles](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/worship-and-learning-support/music-support/abbreviations-for-hymn-and-song-books)

[The ten commandments song](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2q32Q9dtOM)  
Be careful, little hands, what you do (CJP 312)

I’m gonna clap my hands (CJP 555)

Lord I give you my heart  
[Until the whole world hears](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ln0T26aTXJE), Casting Crowns on *Until the whole world hears*

[Are we not one,](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxd22B7NURI) Young Oceans on Suddenly (or the nuclear sunburst of the truth revealed)  
[Intermission](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sItC2RIlRVU), Lucy Grimble on Intermission  
[One way](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Re-ssqcIM9s), Hillsong United on With hearts as one

See also [*Same Boat @ HOME*](http://www.sameboatmusic.com/pages/sameboatmusicathome)

[**Live your faith action**](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/lectionary/2020/107-may-june-2020-a/easter-6/send-out/live-your-faith-actions-cyp) **and a** [**Children’s Sheet and Colouring Sheet**](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/lectionary/2020/107-may-june-2020-a/easter-6/send-out/live-your-faith-sheet-cyp)**.**

[*activity sheets for children*](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/lectionary/2020/107-may-june-2020-a/easter-6/familiesathome#children)