



Riddle Rangers

The Truth about God the Holy Spirit

BIG IDEA: The Holy Spirit guides and helps us, so we can listen to His voice and do what He says.

BIBLE BASIS: John 14:15-30, 16:1-15; Galatians 5:13-25; Romans 8:9-17

KEY VERSE: “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25 (NIV)

SCHOOL AGE WILL GO INTO AUDITORIUM FOR WORSHIP. THEY WILL BE CALLED TO THE FRONT FOR PRAYER AND RELEASED TO NEXT GEN (FACTORY) OR SHED (WAREHOUSE) WITH THEIR LEADERS.

LARGE GROUP VIDEO

Kids will take a foam mat to sit on
Welcome / Introductions

*Hand out Riddles along with a clipboard and pencil for each child. Tell the kids they will be asked to solve the riddles during the video – pause the video at appropriate times to allow some time for the kids to solve the riddle

THE RIDDLE RANGERS ADVENTURE

Directions: There will be two times during the Large Group program that kids will be asked to turn to their groups to solve a riddle. Zack and Jada (aka the “Riddle Rangers”) will send a copy of the riddle from a mysterious cave in Peru. Keep the riddles out of sight until they’ve been “sent.” This will help to preserve the illusion that the riddles are actually coming from the Riddle Rangers. When directed, give each kid in your group a copy of the appropriate riddle, along with a pen or pencil. Unless you choose to work together as a group, remind the kids to refrain from shouting out the answer as soon as they solve it so that other kids have the opportunity to solve it for themselves.

For Younger Kids: Each riddle has a version that is geared toward younger children. Nevertheless, many of the riddles are letter and word based. Begin by reading the riddle to your group along with the instructions from Zack or Jada. If you have kids in your group who are still learning to read, you may want to work as a group on some of the riddles. Be prepared to assist the kids as needed. You may want to point the kids in the right direction, give them hints, and sometimes show them the answer. As the leader, you can determine the level of help to give your group.





GROUP ACTIVITIES

PHONE A FRIEND (Application Activity)

Say: Today we learned about the last part of the Trinity—the Holy Spirit. When Jesus rose up to Heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit in His place. The Holy Spirit now lives in the hearts of people who trust and follow Jesus. Even today, the Holy Spirit guides and helps believers, but you have to listen carefully to His voice. We're going to play a game right now that will help us think about that more.

Directions: Be sure that your group is seated in a circle. Tell the kids that the object of the game is to repeat at least three out of the five sentences exactly right. Begin by whispering one of the sentences listed below into the ear of the kid to your right. The kid that you whispered to will then whisper what they heard to the next kid, and so on until the last person in the circle receives the sentence. Have the last person in the circle say the sentence out loud for the whole group to hear. If the sentence remains unchanged, congratulate the group and give them a point. If the sentence is different from how it began, tell the group what the original sentence was. Keep track of how many sentences they get right and celebrate if they get three or more points.

“Phone a Friend” sentences:

- God loves you so much.
- Bad idea. You shouldn't do that.
- You should say something nice to that kid.
- You just messed up big time, so ask for forgiveness.
- This is the perfect chance to tell your friend about Jesus.

Say: Those things we just whispered are the kinds of things the Holy Spirit sometimes whispers to us. But just like in the game, we have to listen really carefully to hear what the Spirit is saying.

Question: Have you ever heard the Holy Spirit whisper something to you? What do you think He said?

Question: How do you think you could get better at listening for the Holy Spirit's voice in your life?

BATTLE FOR THE YOU-KNOW-VERSE (Bible Memorization Activity)

Directions: Lay the “Bible Verse Cards” face-up in the middle of the group. Each card contains only a small part of the Bible verse. Encourage the group to help you place the cards in the right order. Read the verse carefully with the group several times so they can begin to memorize it. Today's Bible verse says:

“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25

Next, divide the group into two teams. Choose one kid from each team to battle against each other by playing a round of “Rock, Paper, Scissors.” Have both kids chant, “rock, paper, scissors, shoot.” Direct the winning kid to remove one card from the Bible verse. The team that lost the round will then have to recite the verse with the missing words. Continue playing until all of the cards have been removed and the teams have recited the verse completely from memory.

Question: What are some ways that you can “keep in step” with the Holy Spirit”? In other words, how could you better listen to His voice and follow where He leads you?





REFLECT AND RESPOND STATIONS

Prayer Station prompt: Write a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to help you hear His voice.

Journal Station prompt: Have you ever heard the Holy Spirit whisper something to you? Write about it. For the rest of the week, listen for His voice and write down what you hear in this space.

Art Station prompt: What do you think the Holy Spirit might be asking you to do? Draw a picture of it.

ADDITIONAL TIME ACTIVITY—THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN

Simply ask the kids in your group to share one good thing that happened this week (thumbs up) and one not-so-good thing (thumbs down). This is a great way for your group to share celebrations and struggles with one another.

