

Finn's Upset Day

By Kay Mathwig

Finn stretched and got out of bed. Raindrops pattered against his window.

"That's okay," he decided. "I'll just have fun indoors with our video games or my race car track."

His sister Charlotte pounded on his door. "Bad news," she called. "I heard Mom talking on the phone."

Finn yanked his door open. His heart raced. "Did something happen to Dad?"

Charlotte shook her head. "No. But our whole day is ruined now. Mom just made plans to watch Annie and Avery today."

Finn groaned. Annie and Avery were sisters who lived nearby. They were rough with toys. They broke things and fought with each other. One time, they even messed up Finn and Charlotte's new tire swing.

Finn shoved his race car track under his bed.

At breakfast, Mom explained to Finn and Charlotte why she had offered to watch the neighbor girls.

"Their mom has to go to the dentist," she said. "Her mouth will hurt afterward, and she will need to rest."

Finn grumbled. "Why couldn't somebody else watch Annie and Avery?"

Mom handed Finn his gummy vitamin. "No one else wanted to," she said.

As Finn popped the vitamin into his mouth, he said, "I wish this was a magic pill that would help me like Annie and Avery."

Mom understood. "There's no such thing as magic, Finn," she said. "But you have God. His Holy Spirit lives in you. He has more power than you could ever imagine.



He can even help you like people who aren't nice to be around."

Charlotte squinted as she tried to remember something. "Our Sunday School teacher just talked about Him. God's Spirit comes to live in us when we trust Jesus as our Savior."

The doorbell rang. Annie and Avery bounded into the kitchen. Annie grabbed a handful of vitamins.

"Stop!" Finn yelled. "Those aren't candy!"

Avery opened every cupboard and drawer.

"Quit snooping!" Charlotte shrieked.

Mom swept into the room. "Please don't shout," she said. "How would all of you like to help make cupcakes?" She started setting out her mixing bowl and measuring cups.

Annie and Avery cheered.

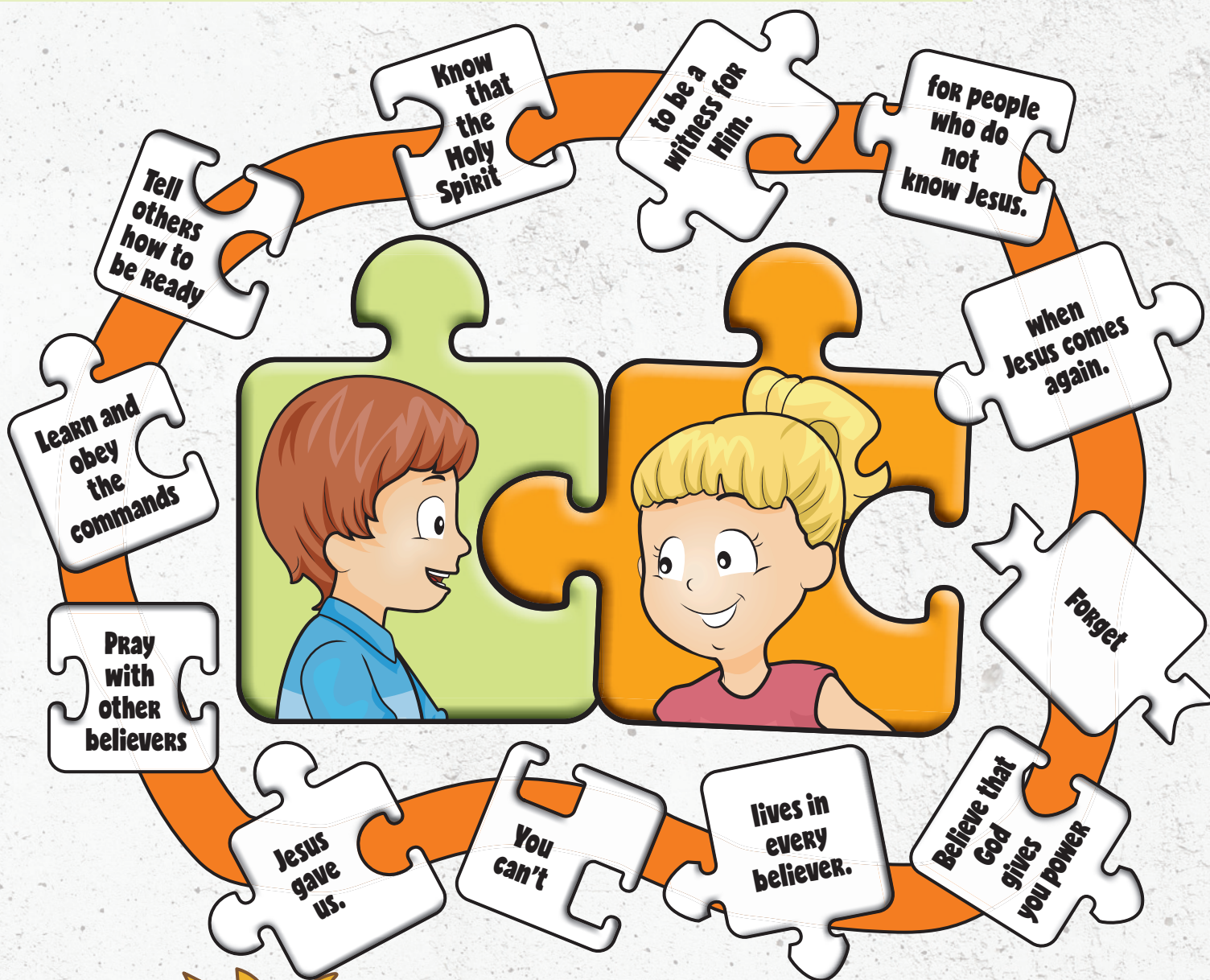
Finn sneaked away to his room and locked his door. He pushed around his cars, but he felt bad inside. He knew Mom was giving up her day she'd planned for herself. And now she was stuck in the kitchen with Annie and Avery. They'd probably break her baking utensils. But Finn knew his mom would be patient with them.

Finn shut his eyes. "I know its how I should be, too, God. But I don't feel like being around Annie and Avery. I need Your help."

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Ready to Be a Witness

Look at the puzzle pieces. When two pieces fit together correctly, they will make a sentence about doing God's will by sharing the gospel. Color the two pieces that fit together the same color. Put an **X** on pieces that do not belong with any other pieces.



MEMORY VERSE

"And I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another Comforter,
that he may abide with you for ever"
(John 14:16).

A Witness to the Nations

1. Look at the word bank. Write the number of each continent in the boxes on the map.
2. Draw an **X** on each continent where God wants people to know, love, and obey Him.
3. Circle the continent you live on.
4. Decide how you can be a witness for Jesus right where you live.

Word Bank

1. Africa
2. Antarctica
3. Asia
4. Australia
5. Europe
6. North America
7. South America

God wanted His disciples to tell others the good news of salvation. They started with their neighbors, and soon the gospel was spreading all over the world! God wants you to be a witness, too, so that everyone all over the world can know Jesus! Ask a family member to do this activity with you.

Measuring Growth

The Primary lesson for this week taught your child about the Holy Spirit and how He works to help them do God's will. It's encouraging to that even though we can't follow God under our own steam, God's Spirit is immediately available to help. The next time your child struggles to obey God, guide him to stop and pray, asking God to help him obey. If he is a believer, he can be confident that God will help him!

Measurables

Look for the following indicators that your child believes the Holy Spirit empowers him to do God's will.

1. My child understands the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in every believer at salvation.
2. My child prays for God's help to obey Him.
3. My child considers it important to obey God and His Word.
4. My child knows he needs the Holy Spirit's help to obey God.

Finn's Upset Day (continued)

Finn walked back down to the kitchen. There were eggshells on the floor and spills all over the counter.

Annie grinned at Finn. "Hey, where were you? You're missing out!"

Finn smiled back. "You're right, Annie. This is where the action is. And later we can all play some video games."

Finn's mom beamed. "Maybe I can get some scrapbooking done then," she said. ■

Answer the story questions.

1. Finn made plans about what to do on the rainy day. Why did he change his plans?
2. Who was willing to take care of Annie and Avery? Why?
3. Who helped Finn be nice to Annie and Avery and help his mom?



The Spirit's Powerful Arrival

Acts 2:1–11



Before Jesus ascended to Heaven after His resurrection, He told His disciples the work God had for them. Jesus told them to go into all the world to tell people about Him. This would be a bigger job than the disciples could do by themselves.

Jesus promised to send God the Holy Spirit to be with the disciples. The Holy Spirit would give them the power they would need. The Holy Spirit would be their comforter and helper as they

served God and did God's will. He would help the disciples know what to say about Jesus.

Soon after Jesus ascended to Heaven, many, many Jews from neighboring countries came into Jerusalem. They came for a celebration called Pentecost. The city was filled with people!

Jesus' disciples wanted to tell all those people about the Savior. But they couldn't speak the languages of people from other lands. They needed help. It was God's time to keep His promise about sending the Holy Spirit.

One day, while the disciples and other believers were gathered to pray, there came a sound like a rushing mighty wind. No one had ever heard that kind of sound before. Then something like fire separated into a flame over each disciple. God's Holy Spirit had come to dwell in every believer in Jesus!

When the Spirit of God filled Jesus' disciples, they were able to preach the gospel to the visitors in their languages. God's Spirit was giving them that power as they served God!

The Holy Spirit comes to live in every person who puts his trust in Jesus as Savior. He helps believers to know how to obey God and do His will. If you are a believer, God's Spirit helps you too! ■