

gateway  
**KIDS**

# **FAMILY DEVOTION BOOKLET**

**Term 3 Series**

**POWERED**

*by the*  
*Holy Spirit*



Dear Families,

At Gateway Kids, we are passionate about growing a generation of courageous followers of Jesus. Our heart is to help every kid know God's Truth, experience His presence in a real way, and follow Jesus every day.

This Devotion Booklet has been designed to help families delve into God's Word and discover its timeless truths. The Bible is God's Word given to us to guide us, encourage us and teach us how to live God's way. Open it up and dive in as a family to go deeper with God together.

Your devotion time doesn't have to be extravagant or perfect – life and faith is messy and a little bit chaotic. But God understands. We encourage you to dedicate one night per week to complete the devotion that is linked to our Sunday curriculum series. Read the passage together, talk about what you heard, complete the activity, and pray.

Our prayer is that as we partner together this term, God's Word would come alive, that He would move powerfully in your family and that your kids would continue to grow as courageous followers of Jesus.

*The Gateway Kids Team*

# POWERED *by the* Holy Spirit

What do a toaster, lamp, iPad charger and television all have in common? They need to be plugged into a power source so they can operate the way they were designed to. You can't enjoy vegemite on warm toast if the toaster isn't plugged in and you can't watch your favourite show on TV if it's not connected to a power source.

In Gateway Kids this term, we are learning about who the Holy Spirit is and how He empowers us to follow Jesus courageously. The Holy Spirit is the ultimate power source sent from God to live in all people who believe in Him. As we journey through the book of Acts, we'll discover how the Holy Spirit filled, guided and empowered the first disciples. They spoke boldly, shared extravagantly, and walked courageously into new places to spread the Good News about Jesus.

And we can too!

As you complete these devotions as a family, remember that the same Holy Spirit who was in the first disciples, also lives in you. When we are connected to God's ultimate power source, we can do great things!

Have fun!

# Devotion Guide

## **READ**

Each devotion contains a passage from the Bible that connects with the teaching topic for that week. Read it together as a family out loud. To reinforce the story, you could act it out or watch the suggested video on YouTube. We encourage you to read the passage with a physical Bible to help your kids develop the discipline of reading the Bible and navigating its pages.

## **SHARE**

There are 4 discussion questions each week to prompt conversation about the passage and topic of the devotion. The first three questions are the same each week. These questions are intended to help your family draw out the key concepts of how God is at work in the passage, what He is teaching us, and how it applies to our lives today. The final question is a unique question that aims to help kids apply the lesson to their lives today.

## **DO**

Each devotion includes an activity or challenge for the entire family to practically get involved. Whilst these activities are largely aimed at primary aged families, they can be easily adapted for younger kids as well. There is also a simple activity, suitable for younger kids each week.

Some activities can be done at the time of the devotion, whilst others are challenges to take into the week and reflect on as a family at a later time. We encourage you to glance over this section before your family devotion time to check if any resources are needed for the activity (all resources are regular household items).

## **PRAY**

Finish your family devotion time in prayer. Prayer is one of the most important things we do as followers of Jesus and praying with your kids out loud is powerful. Your kids will learn to follow your example of prayer. Prayer does not have to be complicated with big words. When we pray, we deepen our friendship with Jesus and experience the presence of God in our lives.

## **REMEMBER**

Bible memorisation is a powerful way to embed God's Truth in your kids' hearts. Each week includes a 'know it verse' for the family to remember and memorise that week. Why not make it a friendly family competition to see who can memorise the quickest or challenge each other at random moments throughout the week to recite it. There are many ways to help encourage Bible memorisation: you could use the Gateway Kids Truth Card, print out the verse and hang it on the back of the bathroom door or in a common area, say it out loud together in the car on the way to school, write it out multiple times or say it each night before dinner.

# Week 1

## *Jesus Promises to send the Holy Spirit*

Have you ever said goodbye to a friend who was moving away? It can be really hard to see them go. Perhaps you made a promise to write or Facetime each other regularly. That way you can still stay in touch even though you can't have sleep overs or playdates anymore.

Jesus understands how hard goodbyes are. He said goodbye to his best friends before leaving the earth and He knew He wouldn't be able to send a letter or Facetime them to stay in touch. But Jesus did make a promise to them – He promised to send them a special friend who would never, ever leave them. (You can read about this promise in John 14 and 16)

Let's read about what happened in the final days Jesus spent with his friends and what He said would happen after he left.

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 1:1-11*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit by Saddleback Kids](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do?
4. God promised to send the Holy Spirit so we wouldn't be alone. What other promises has God made to us?

### **DO**

Write a letter, draw a picture or put together a special package to send to someone you don't see very often (or not at all). It could be a friend, a relative, a child you sponsor or someone else. Let them know that you care about them just as Jesus cared for His friends after he left them.

### **PRAY**

Pray and thank Jesus for promising to send the Holy Spirit to be with us

forever. Spend some time praying for friends who live far away from you.

## **REMEMBER**

*[Jesus said] "But when the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth..."*

*John 16:13a*

# Week 2

## *The Holy Spirit comes*

Are you good at waiting? Sometimes, it's really hard, especially when we're waiting for something really good, like a birthday or Christmas, or for a friend who lives a long way away to come visit. Jesus' disciples had to wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised to send. They didn't know what would happen when the Holy Spirit arrived, but they waited. And waited. And waited.

When the Holy Spirit arrived, their lives changed FOREVER!! God sent the Holy Spirit to fill the disciples with His power so they could share His truth and love in extraordinary ways.

Let's read about what happened on the day when the Holy Spirit arrived.

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 2:1-14 & 2:32-41*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [God sends the Holy Spirit by Saddleback Kids](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What did Peter say the people listening should do?
4. Why do you think the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the ability to speak different languages?

### **DO**

Fill a balloon with air then release it inside a room – watch it fly around the room and listen to the sound of the air rushing out. Repeat as many times as you want or do it with multiple balloons at once.

### **PRAY**

Spent some time in prayer – say sorry for the times when you have chosen to go against God's best plan, thank Him for His forgiveness and ask Him to fill you with the Holy Spirit.

## **REMEMBER**

*Peter replied, "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

*Acts 2:38*

# Week 3

## *Empowered by the Holy Spirit*

If you could have any superpower, what would it be? We love stories about superheroes because they can do incredible things that no one else can do. Some superheroes can fly, others are super strong or fast, some can freeze water while others can control electricity. What makes superheroes even more amazing though (and better than the bad guys), is that they use their superpowers to save the world!

Did you know that you can have superpowers too? When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we have the incredible power of God inside of us. We can use this power to share God's love in extraordinary ways.

Let's read about how the Holy Spirit empowered Peter to do something amazing!

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 3:1-16*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Peter heals a beggar who can't walk by Saddleback Kids](#) (scan QR codes to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What special power did the Holy Spirit give Peter?
4. What can the Holy Spirit empower you to do this week? Or, in what situations do you need the Holy Spirit's power?

### **DO**

For everyone: Draw yourself as a superhero (God's superheroes empowered by the Holy Spirit). Make sure you put lots of detail into it – superhero clothing, muscles, special logo/symbol. Share your picture with everyone else and talk about what Holy Spirit powers you would like to use to share God's love with your friends.

## **PRAY**

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you courage and boldness to share God's love in extraordinary ways. Pray for opportunities to share the Truth about Jesus with other people just like Peter did.

## **REMEMBER**

*[Jesus said] "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you..."*  
*Acts 1:8a*

# Week 4

## *The Holy Spirit is a gift*

Do you like gifts? Of course you do! Everyone likes gifts. We receive gifts for our birthdays and Christmas. Sometimes we even receive gifts when it's not our birthday or Christmas, like when someone comes back from a holiday and gives you a souvenir, or when Grandma and Grandpa come to visit and bring special treats. A gift is something we receive without having to pay or do anything first. It's free! And normally, a gift is something we never even asked for!

This week, we're learning about how the Holy Spirit is a gift. You can't buy Him, instead the Holy Spirit is given to those who entrust their whole heart to God.

Let's read about a man named Simon who had to learn this truth the hard way...

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 8:9-25*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Simon the Sorcerer by Bible Heroes of Faith](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What did Simon want to buy and why?
4. The Holy Spirit is a gift given to us by God. What other gifts has God given you?

### **DO**

Give a gift to someone who doesn't know Jesus and commit to praying for them this week. It could be handmade or store-bought.

A little extra: Purchase a bible to give away. There's something incredibly special about giving someone a bible so they can read God's Word for themselves.

## **PRAY**

Thank God for giving you the Holy Spirit (and many other blessings too). Pray for your friends or family members who haven't yet accepted this special gift from God.

## **REMEMBER**

*"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!"*  
*2 Corinthians 9:15*

# Week 5

## *Guided by the Holy Spirit*

Do you remember your very first day of school? It can be scary, especially if it's a really big school. There are lots of different pathways and it can be hard to remember the right one to take to get to where you need to go (kind of like in Bunnings). In these times, it's great to have a buddy or guide who will show us the way and make sure we don't get lost.

This week we're learning about how the Holy Spirit guides us. The Holy Spirit knows everything! He knows what will happen to us tomorrow and next week and next year. He also knows what's best for us which is why He is the best guide ever!

Let's read about a man who let the Holy Spirit guide him to a place where he could share about the Good News of Jesus.

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 8:26-40*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Phillip and the Ethiopian by Saddleback Kids](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What did the Holy Spirit tell Philip to do? (There are 2 answers)
4. How can we learn to listen to the Holy Spirit and let Him guide us?

### **DO**

Let someone guide you. Cover your eyes with a blindfold and listen to someone else's voice as they guide you in a trip around the house or yard. It isn't always easy going to places we can't see, but we can trust the Holy Spirit. Swap around so everyone has a turn at being guided.

### **PRAY**

Pray for listening ears and obedient feet to hear and follow the Holy Spirit's guidance as you live like Jesus.

## **REMEMBER**

*“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.”  
Romans 8:14*

# Week 6

## *Living by the Holy Spirit*

Have you ever run out of food at home and not had enough money to buy more? There are lots of people in this world, even in our own country, who don't have enough money for essentials like food, soap, clothing and even toilet paper! At the same time, there are many people, who have more than enough money for food, fancy clothes and special toys.

Every year at Gateway we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. This is a time when we give thanks for all God has given us. It's also a time when we share what we have to help people who don't have as much.

Let's read about what the believers did when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. They knew a thing or two about sharing.

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 2:42-47*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [God's Story: Generosity by Crossroads Kids](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What did the believers all do together?
4. Share about the people you know or have heard of who are in need. How could you help them?

### **DO**

Share your possessions with others. Go through your clothes and toys and pull out any items you don't use. Or pull out any items that you have more than one of and then share these with others. You can donate to Gateway so that these items can be given to people in need through Gateway Care Ministries or to another organisation near you.

### **PRAY**

Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you be more generous. Pray for

opportunities to share with people who are in need.

**REMEMBER**

*Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

*Galatians 5:25*

# Week 7

## *The Holy Spirit is for everyone*

Have you ever been part of a special group – like a drama club or technology group? Maybe you were selected for an elite sporting team or advanced choir. When we're in a special group, we might think that we're better than everyone else who isn't in the group and deserve special privileges. Kind of like how when you're the oldest in your family, it means you can stay up later at night and eat the biggest piece of cake (ok, maybe not...).

When the disciples were first filled with the Holy Spirit, they thought He was a gift only for their type of people – people who were from the Israelite or Jewish nation. But that isn't what God thought.

Let's read about who else God wanted to give the Holy Spirit to.

### READ

*Passage: Acts 11:1-18 (full story in Acts 10)*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Peter visits Cornelius by LifeKids](#)  
(scan QR code to watch)



### SHARE

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. Why were the apostles and believers upset with Peter initially?
4. Share about people you know who come from a different country or faith background. Is it easy to welcome and be kind to them?

### DO

Have a multicultural day. Choose one night this week and eat food from a different culture. You could also dress in multicultural outfits, speak words in a different language (if you know any) and share about places in the world you would like to visit.

## **PRAY**

Choose a specific country or cultural group and pray that people from that place/group would hear about and choose to follow Jesus. You could choose a different country/group to pray for each night.

## **REMEMBER**

*"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*

*Romans 10:13*

# Week 8

## *Convicted by the Holy Spirit*

No one likes getting in trouble! We don't like it when people tell us we've done the wrong thing, especially when it means we will be punished. But did you know that sometimes, our parents and teachers tell us what we've done wrong because they love us and want the best for us? Like when we get in trouble for riding our bike without a helmet or running on the concrete – it's because they want us to be safe and not get hurt.

This week, we're learning about how the Holy Spirit convicts us. That means that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise when we're doing things that go against God (this is called sin) and prompts us to turn back to Jesus.

Let's read about a man who was convicted by the Holy Spirit and turned his whole life around!

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 9:1-22*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Paul's Ministry by Saddleback Kids](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. What was Saul doing that went against God's plan?
4. Have you ever sensed the Holy Spirit convicting you? What was it like? What did you do?

### **DO**

After Saul heard from Jesus on the road to Damascus he didn't eat or drink for three days while he waited to hear what God wanted him to do. This is called fasting.

Choose a day or time this week and commit to fasting from something you enjoy to instead spend time reading God's Word or praying for others. It could be fasting from devices, sweets, or maybe even talking.

## **PRAY**

Pray a simple prayer asking the Holy Spirit to reveal the attitudes, behaviours or choices you've made that aren't good for you. Then, spend time in silence listening to the Holy Spirit. At the end, thank the Holy Spirit and pray that He will help you change to be more like Jesus.

## **REMEMBER**

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me."*

*Psalm 51:10*

# Week 9

## *Encouraged by the Holy Spirit*

Have you ever gone on a road trip? You know, a really, really, long drive where you stop at different places along the way to use the toilet, stretch your legs, eat a snack or take some photos of the cool sights? Road trips are fun, especially if it means making new friends along the way.

This week we're learning about the long road trips Paul went on to share the Good News about Jesus and encourage the believers. It wasn't always easy for Paul, but the Holy Spirit kept encouraging him to speak the Truth to those who were ready to listen. And so he did.

There are lots of accounts of Paul's journeys in the book of Acts but let's just read one (or two).

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 18:1-11 (Optional: Acts 19:1-12)*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Paul's Missionary Journeys by the Bible Project](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. Imagine you are Paul – how would you feel if people tried to attack you for what you said?
4. Who encourages you to keep going when it's hard? How do they encourage you?

### **DO**

Recreate Paul's journey. Use Lego or blocks to build different churches then use your fingers or a toy person to travel from church to church just like Paul did when he encouraged the followers of Jesus in different towns. You could also draw a picture of this if you don't like building.

## **PRAY**

Pray for courage to keep following Jesus, even when others may laugh at you or say mean things. Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to be with you all the time.

## **REMEMBER**

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

*Romans 15:13*

# Week 10

## *Sustained by the Holy Spirit*

Have you ever had something bad happen to you? Maybe you broke your arm when playing in a playground, or your pet got sick and died. Maybe someone at school was really mean to you and didn't let you play tag with everyone else. Life can be really hard sometimes but that doesn't mean that God isn't with us. In fact, the bible says that God is with us all the time and will help us as we face challenges.

This term we've learnt a bit about Paul. He was a man called by God to tell lots of people about Jesus. It was a special and important job but it was also very hard at times. During these hard times, the Holy Spirit sustained Paul, giving him the strength and confidence to keep doing God's work.

Let's read about what happened during one of Paul's journeys across the sea.

### **READ**

*Passage: Acts 27:13-44*

1. Read the passage aloud.
2. Then, as a family, retell the passage from memory in your own words.
3. Video option: [Paul and the shipwreck by Sharefaith Kids](#) (scan QR code to watch)



### **SHARE**

1. What stands out to you in this passage?
2. What does this teach you about God?
3. How did Paul encourage the other people on the ship?
4. What do you think is challenging about following Jesus and sharing the Good News with other people?

### **DO**

Shipwrecked! Create a boat out of paper or recycled items then float it in a bath or tub of water. How long does it stay afloat? Try again with different materials or use a plastic boat and stir up the water so the boat rocks like in a storm. If you each have a boat, which one will stay afloat the longest?

## **PRAY**

Pray and thank the Holy Spirit for always being with you and sustaining you when you face challenges. Pray that you would be able to keep trusting God's plan no matter what happens.

## **REMEMBER**

*In the same way, the Holy Spirit helps us when we are weak. We don't know what we should pray for. But the Spirit himself prays for us...*

*Romans 8:26a*



Every week we release a new episode of KTV just for kids. It's jam packed full of fun and our hosts love putting on a great new episode of KTV week in and week out.

You can check out this week's new episode, future episodes and every other episode ever filmed right here on YouTube in our specially curated playlist. Why not check it out now!

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