



BACKGROUND

In John 14:15–17, Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit. The text reads:

“Jesus said to his disciples: If you love me, you will do as I command. Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you.”

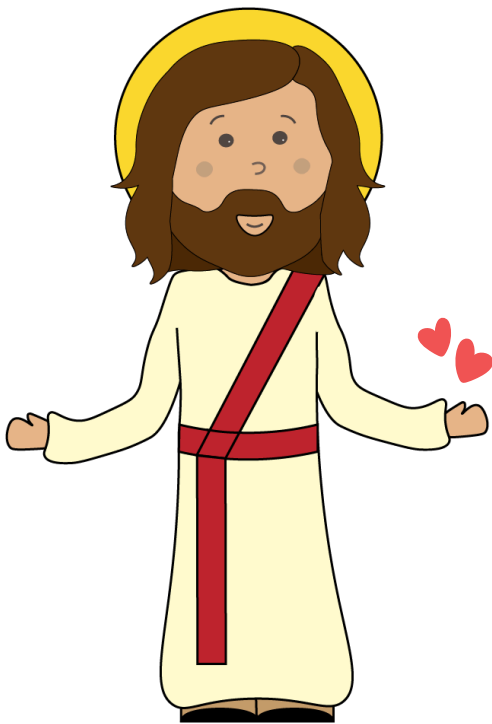
Here, Jesus assures His disciples that the Father will send an Advocate to be with them always. But, this promise was not only for the disciples so long ago! Jesus' promise is as real for us today and is fulfilled in our lives, and in the life of the Church, through Confirmation.

INTRODUCTION

In this activity, we reflect on God's love. In the scripture Jesus also talks about the love the disciples have for him. This reminds us that being a disciple of Jesus means knowing that God loves us and loving God in return - our relationship with God forms the foundation of the Christian life!

Begin this activity by reading the scripture with the children. Then discuss Jesus words, 'If you love me, you will do as I command'. There are some questions below to get the conversation started. Then introduce the mobile activity as a way for the children to reflect more deeply on the loving relationship God invites us to share.

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - JOHN 14:15-17



Jesus said to his disciples: If you love me, you will do as I command. Then I will ask the Father to send you the Holy Spirit who will help you and always be with you. The Spirit will show you what is true. The people of this world cannot accept the Spirit, because they don't see or know him. But you know the Spirit, who is with you and will keep on living in you.

Question for discussion

- In this scripture Jesus says, 'if you love me, you will do as I command. What do you think this means?
- How did Jesus show his love for others?
- Jesus was 'God with skin on' - what does Jesus love teach us about God?
- Why do you think Jesus wants us to 'follow his commands'?



MOBILE 1

As a reminder of God's love for us and our love for God, children have the opportunity to make a heart mobile to take home

YOU WILL NEED:

- Ribbon
- Hearts template
- Pink paper
- Stapler or glue
- Scissors

INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare before the session:

- Cut 1 metre of ribbon or string for each child
- A sheet of hearts for each child, printed on pink paper (template)

At the session:

1. Children are given a sheet of pink hearts and the piece of ribbon or string.
2. Cut out the hearts.
3. Attach them to the piece of string using staples or glue.



MOBILE 2

YOU WILL NEED:

- Red, orange, yellow paper
- Paper cutter
- Scissors
- Staplers

INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare before the session:

- Stack two yellow, two red and two orange sheets of A4 paper on top of each other
- Cut with a paper cutter 1cm wide strips down the length of the paper.

At the session:

1. Children are given 6 strips of paper – two each of yellow, red and orange.
2. Turning the ends together, staple in the shape of a heart. Repeat for all 6 pieces.
3. Crease the bottom of the paper to form the heart shape.
4. Lay hearts on a flat surface so they are touching at the side.
5. Staple them together where they touch.



