

# Adventures with GOD!

## THE GIFT OF THE POWER OF GOD IN OUR LIVES (C.3.WINTER.4)

Biblical Reference	1 Corinthians 12:4-12,14-31
Key Verse	1 Corinthians 12:4
Key Concept	I receive the gift of God's power in my life through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, in order that I might build up the church.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Name the spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible</li> <li>2. Tell who gives us these spiritual gifts and why</li> <li>3. Describe the results of putting these spiritual gifts into action</li> </ol>

### Life Application

The Holy Spirit came, not only to live in us, but to empower us for the building up of the body of Christ (the Church). The gifts of the Holy Spirit are given by God through the Holy Spirit to those who have confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior. These gifts are to be used for the benefit and good of others. We all have different gifts, but they are given by the same God. Today the children will learn about these important gifts.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Craft	Card stock, wrapping paper, glue, tape, scissors	10 minutes
Activity	Boxes, Bibles	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible, illustrations	15 minutes
Activity	See instructions	10 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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## INSTRUCTIONS

**My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review:** As children enter, take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets, and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials at [CovChurch.org/children/adventure-with-god](http://CovChurch.org/children/adventure-with-god).

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle. Light the candle, and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Bible Reading:** Explain that as we read the Bible, we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched, palms up, to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-12 two times, and ask children to respond.

**Question Examples:** What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you through the passage?

**Craft:** As you talk with the children about the "body of Christ", have them color/decorate the silhouette(s) found on page 5. Have them write the Key Verse on it.

**Activity:** Using 12 small decorative boxes or envelopes, put the name of one of the gifts of the Spirit on a slip of paper in each (Gifts of the Spirit are mentioned in Romans 12 and 1 Corinthians 1). Sit in a circle and pass the gifts/envelopes around the circle as music plays in the background. When the music stops, the children should stop passing the gifts/envelopes and open the one they have in their hands. Each child should share the gift on their slip of paper.

# Adventures with GOD!

**Bible Exploration:** Display a large piece of paper with the silhouette of a person. Ask each child to tape their slip of paper somewhere around or on the silhouette. Ask why they think the Apostle Paul used the analogy of the body to talk about the church. What would happen if we all had the same gift? For example, using the imagery of the body, what if we were all hands? How do these gifts that are given by the Holy Spirit help the church? What is the same about these gifts, and what is different about the gifts? (Given by the same God, for the same purpose, but the gifts are different.)

Read together 1 Corinthians 12:14-31. Ask what images in the verses stand out to them. What is the purpose behind these gifts? What are we supposed to do with these gifts? How do they know what gifts the Spirit has given them? How can they use the gift they've been given to serve the church?

**Activity:** To teach the Key Verse, create a gigantic puzzle with the words of the verse. Let them work together to complete the puzzle.

## **Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:**

**G=God's Word:** What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

**R=Relationships:** Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others. Give children a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

**O=Outward Action:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week.

**W=Worship:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? What would you like to say to God?

**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. The candle reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

# Adventures with GOD!

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen

## ILLUSTRATION

