





## FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
9	3	5	CHRISTIAN LIVING	RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT	31: In Baptism

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes  
(Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter – personal P2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [ copy this: ☒ ] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

**Prayer:** O heavenly King, O Comforter, the Spirit of truth, who art in all places and fillest all things; Treasury of good things and Giver of life: Come and dwell in us and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O good One.

**Starter: Ask children:** Do you know any of the sacraments or mysteries of the Church? How are we sealed with the Holy Spirit?

**Learning objectives:** To learn why and how Orthodox Christians receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament (Mystery) of Baptism.

### Core Activities and Learning

**Explain** what a sacrament (holy mystery) is: Sacraments are the means established by God to help us enter into the life of Christ. "A sacrament is a holy action, the visible material sign through which God manifests Himself to the believer."

**Ask children:** Which of the major feasts commemorates the baptism of Jesus? (Theophany)

**Review** briefly the story of Theophany at Matthew 3:13-17.

How do we receive the Holy Spirit during our Baptism and Chrismation? **Highlight** the following points:

- The Priest blesses the water and oil to make them holy.
- The Priest anoints the child with Holy Oil as a healing.
- The Priest puts the child in the water three times while saying: "The servant of God (name) is baptised in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen".
- The Priest anoints the child with Holy Myrrh while saying: "The seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit". This is the **Sacrament of Chrismation** and is usually part of the Baptism.

**Group Game:** "A Penny for your Thoughts": Players sit in a circle. Leader has 10-12 6x6 cards prepared in advance, each requiring the student to answer some question about baptism. Place a bowl in the centre of the circle and the cards upside down around it so they cover the surrounding floor. Players take turns trying to throw a penny in the bowl. If it lands instead on a card, they must answer the question on the card. The player who lands the penny in the bowl the most times is the winner and gets to keep the penny.

**Sample questions** might include: In whose name do we baptise? Who can perform a baptism? How many times do we immerse? What feast is Jesus's baptism? Who baptised Jesus? What is poured in the water? What sign does the priest make in the water? How do we receive "the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit?"

**Sing:** "As many as have been baptised into Christ have put on Christ, Alleluia!"

Explain to the children that this is the hymn that is sung after the child is taken out of the water during the Baptism.

**Resources: The Bible,** Scriptural basis: Ezekiel 36: 25-28, I Corinthians 10:1-2, Mark 1:4, Acts 19:4, Matthew 28:19, Romans 6:3-4, I Peter 3:21, Galatians 3:27, <http://www.orthodoxabc.com/faith-sacraments/>

**Review:** In Holy Baptism and Chrismation we are immersed into Christ's death and raised in His resurrection. We receive forgiveness of sins and new life. In Holy Chrismation we receive the Holy Spirit to energise our Christian lives and enable us to have a personal relationship with our three-personned loving God.

**Follow Up:** How do we receive the Holy Spirit during our Baptism?