

Holy Spirit or Mothers' Day Craft

Simply by changing the card on this box you can use it for either the promise of the Holy Spirit, or for a Mother's Day, Grandparents' Day or Father's Day gift.

Thanks to Allenby Gardens/ Flinders Park Evening Fellowship for this craft idea. First published in **KUCA News** March 2001 page 21 and used at KCO (SA).

Mother's Day: Gift Of Love Boxes



Materials:

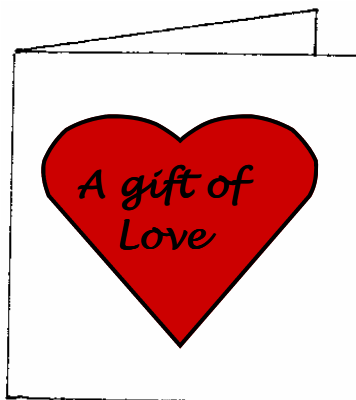
- ♦ cubes of wood (about 3-4cm cubed) or small cardboard boxes – whichever is easier for you to find (or make)
- ♦ wrapping paper
- ♦ curling ribbon
- ♦ coloured cardboard for gift tags
- ♦ Scissors, sticky tape, small hole punch

Preparation:

- ♦ Cut the wrapping paper into squares big enough to wrap the cubes or boxes in. Make sure you have a variety of wrapping paper designs, including some that will appeal to boys. If making this for Father's Day, have paper with golf balls, etc.
- ♦ If you wish to make boxes, see attached pattern.
- ♦ Cut lengths of curling ribbon that will be long enough to tie up the present and have enough left over to curl the ends (about 70cm long). Smaller extra bits can be tied on to add a contrasting colour.
- ♦ **Gift tags:** Aim to make tags approx 11cm by 5 ½ cm, with a fold in the middle. You should get 5 down an A4 page, with 2 more placed sideways down the side.
- ♦ **Photocopy** the verses onto the A4 sheets of card before guillotining to make the tags or onto plain paper to cut and paste onto the tags.

You may wish to prepare the following as well, if time is short in the actual craft session or you have younger children. Older children can do this for themselves:

- ♦ Fold the tags in half.
- ♦ Punch a hole in the top LH corner of the back half of the card.
- ♦ On the front of the card draw a heart shape (see diagram).
- ♦ Write the words "A Gift of Love" inside the heart.
- ♦ If children are drawing their own hearts, have a few heart templates they can trace around. (Cut templates out of plastic ice-cream lids – they last longer).



Front of tag ▲

Method:

- ♦ Wrap the box or cube in a piece of wrapping paper as you would a present.
- ♦ Secure with a couple of small pieces of sticky tape.
- ♦ Tie with curling ribbon.
- ♦ (If children are making their own cards, get them to do it here).
- ♦ Thread the card onto one piece of the ribbon and tie it on.
- ♦ Use the scissors to curl the ends of the ribbon.

If you are using empty boxes, you can give the children a heart to put in the box, but as it is a gift that is not meant to be opened, there isn't much point, as only the giver will know it is there!

Gift Tag:

Inside the card:

This is a very special gift
That you can never see.
The reason it's so special is
It's just for you from me.

Whenever you are lonely
Or ever feeling blue,
You only have to hold
this gift
And know I think of you.

• You never can unwrap it,
Please leave the ribbon tied;
Just hold the box close to
your heart,
It's filled with LOVE
inside.

To:

From:

Poem: (Photocopy)

This is a very special gift
That you can never see.
The reason it's so special is
It's just for you from me.

Whenever you are lonely
Or ever feeling blue,
You only have to hold
this gift
And know I think of you.

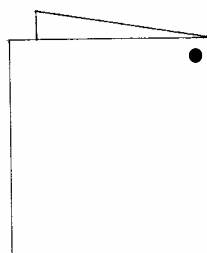
You never can unwrap it,
Please leave the ribbon tied;
Just hold the box close to
your heart,
It's filled with LOVE
inside.

To:

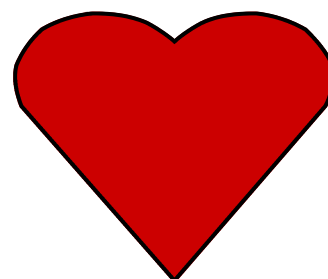
From:

Alternative: You can also make gift bags out of pretty material scraps, or material with heart shapes on it. Stuff them with cotton wool balls. (For an added touch, put some perfume or lavender seeds in with the cotton wool). You would then have to change the 3rd verse rhyme to: **Just hold this gift/bag close ...**

Back of tag ▼



Heart template ▼



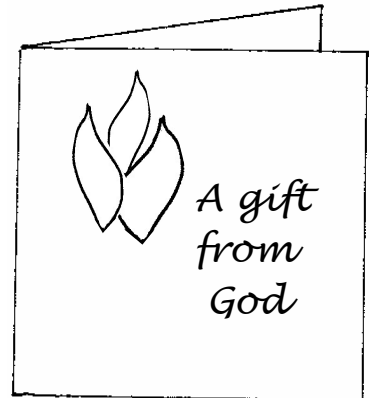
Holy Spirit Gift Craft

John 14: 15-21: Holy Spirit Gift Boxes

In the weeks leading up to Pentecost, the Lectionary readings frequently feature Jesus' promise to his disciples that when he was no longer with them, God would send a Helper so they wouldn't be left alone, to fend for themselves, bereft of his guidance.

This craft can be used as a reminder to children that God's promise is still true today, and it is for them too.

May be used for any of the passages where Jesus promises the Holy Spirit as a helper for his disciples.

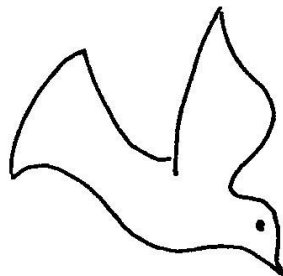


What to do:

- ♦ **Poem:** Simply substitute the rhyme on this page for the Gift of Love rhyme, and change the picture and greeting on the front of the card.
- ♦ **Picture:** Use either a dove, a wind or a flame motif, as all of these have symbolic connections with the Holy Spirit.
- ♦ **Write:** *A Gift from God* on the front of the card.



▲ Flames for front of tag



Or represent the spirit, breath or wind like so... ►



This is a very special gift
That you can never see.
The reason it's so special is
It's just for you from me.

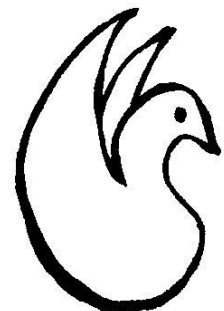
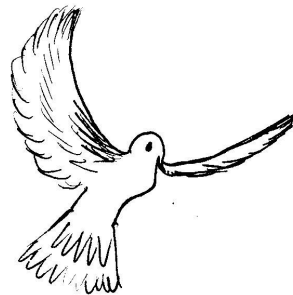
Whenever you are lonely
Or ever feeling blue,
You only have to hold
this gift
And know I'm close to you.

- You never can unwrap it,
Please leave the ribbon tied;
Just hold read this verse,
remember me,
And know there's HELP
inside.

To:

From: *God* (as Jesus promised)

Dove Clip Art



...Or draw or download your own.

Poem: (photocopy)

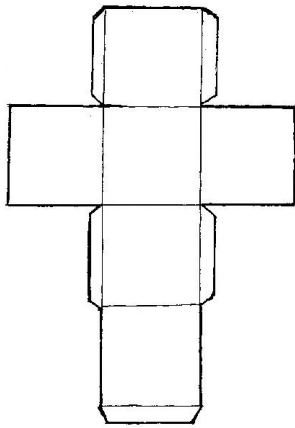
This is a very special gift
That you can never see.
The reason it's so special is
It's just for you from me.

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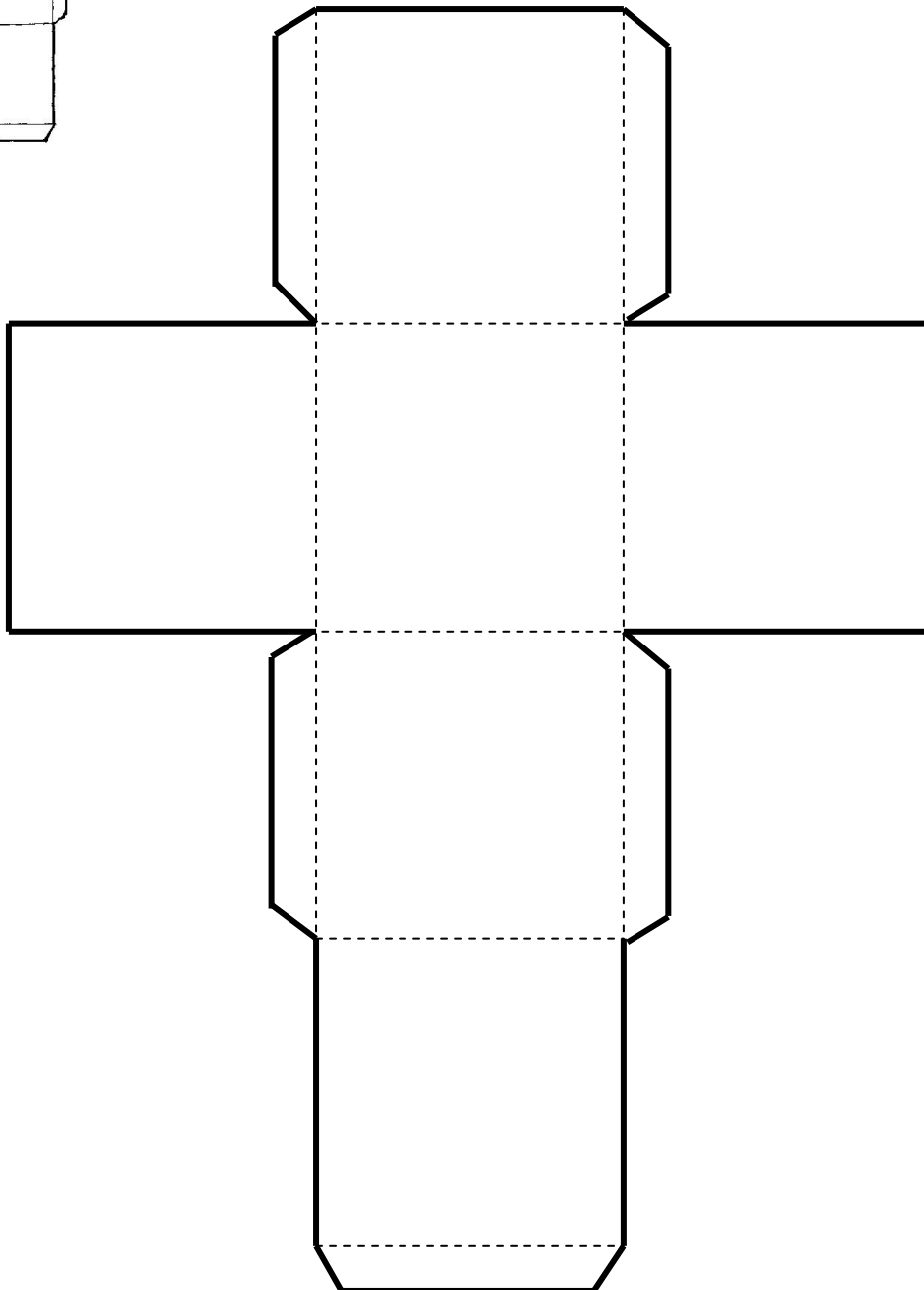
From: *God* (as Jesus promised)

Gift Box Template



Instructions:

- ♦ Cut around bold outline.
- ♦ Fold on dotted lines.
- ♦ Glue tabs to sides and top.
- ♦ For a box that will open, don't glue bottom tab.



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