****

**At Home Program**

**Week # 13 December 10, 2023**

*“Keep a clear eye toward life’s end. Do not forget your purpose and destiny as God’s creature. What you are in his sight is what you are and nothing more. Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take nothing that you have received…but only what you have given; a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice, and courage.”
-* ***St. Barbara***

**Gospel…John 1:6-8, 19-28…John the Baptist Prepares Us For Jesus**

6 A man named John was sent from God.

7 He came for testimony,[\*](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/1#51001007-1) to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

8 He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.

19 And this is the testimony of John. When the Jewsfrom Jerusalem sent priests and Levites [to him] to ask him, “Who are you?”

20he admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, “I am not the Messiah.”

21So they asked him, “What are you then? Are you Elijah?”And he said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” He answered, “No.”

22 So they said to him, “Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?”

23 He said:

“I am ‘the voice of one crying out in the desert,

“Make straight the way of the Lord,”’

as Isaiah the prophet said.”

24 Some Pharisees[\*](https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/1#51001024-1) were also sent.

25 They asked him, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet?

26 John answered them, “I baptize with water;but there is one among you whom you do not recognize,

27 the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.”

28 This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,where John was baptizing.

One of the plans for each of our lives is to make Jesus known to others. Like John we are to live our lives in such a way that others will ask about how we live. A specific way in today’s society is to live a life of modesty and purity. We dress in a way that honors our body because it is so holy. When we dress modestly, we are keeping covered that which is only for our future spouse.

**Questions for Discussion:**

1. What does my clothing say about how I feel about my body?
2. Look in culture today. Do people dress modestly?
3. Are there some changes I need to make in how I dress?

**Gifted WithThe Spirit Lesson # 5b Receiving the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (THIS IS THE FIRST WEEK USING LESSON # 5) … (pages 1-3 are being used this week)**

1. Do the “We Pray” with at least one other person in your family. Below is the reading, Acts 1:1-8.
2. Complete Activity 1 on page 2…telling about one gifted, holy person you know, what their gifts are, and how they share them.
3. Read pages 2 and 3…”Receiving the Gifts of the Holy Spirit”, “What Do the Gifts of the Holy Spirit Do” and “Cooperating with the Holy Spirit.”
4. Watch this video clip on the gifts of the Holy Spirit <https://www.thereligionteacher.com/gifts-of-the-holy-spirit-lesson-plan/>
	1. List the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit and give a word or words that describe the meaning of the gift.
	2. How do the gifts of the Holy Spirit affect our lives?
		1. They sustain the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
		2. They complete the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
		3. They allow us to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Acts 1:3-8

3 He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty daysand speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Fatherabout which you have heard me speak;

5 for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the holy Spirit.”

The Ascension of Jesus.

6 When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

7He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority.

8But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you,and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”