

# C O M M O N G R O U N D

by Joseph Tkach

A young boy was flying his kite at a playground. The kite had risen so high in the wind that it had disappeared into a cloud. A man stopped next to the boy and peered into the sky. “What’s on the other end of that string?” he asked. “A kite,” the boy said. “I don’t see it,” the man said, squinting to find it. “How do you know it’s still there?” “I know it’s there because I can feel the tug,” the boy replied confidently.

It’s the same with the Holy Spirit. We can’t see it, but the Holy Spirit tugs at our hearts. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would be in his followers and with them forever—reminding them of all he had said. All that Jesus had been to his disciples outwardly, he would continue to be inwardly through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

The world tugs at us every day, exerting steady pressure, trying to pull us down. But the Holy Spirit tugs in the other direction, enabling godly living in a corrupt world.

The Holy Spirit is the living bond between us and God, helping us to grow in a deeper relationship with him. The Holy Spirit guides, admonishes, prods, encourages and reminds us all of the reality of sin. As we commit ourselves to the Holy Spirit’s guidance, he produces holiness by transforming us from within—writing righteousness on our hearts.

The presence of the Holy Spirit assures us of the strength we need to do God’s will. His ongoing work within us sanctifies and cleanses us.

And what’s our part in all this? It’s simply a matter of responding to the “tug.” □

