

# Exiles

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## The First Gift

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit so that we could received the first gift of the Holy Spirit: to know what it is to be loved by the Father.

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## Discussion Questions

1. If you have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, what was that day like for you? Can you still see the effects from it in your life today? How so?
  2. The first gift of the Holy Spirit is this depth of knowledge that you are loved by God. We all (hopefully) have heard and have been told that we are loved by God. But is *knowing* that fact something that comes easy for you? Why or why not?
  3. Have you ever thought about your having a home in the Father's Heart? There may be seasons where you may find yourself in exile, away from home. But what is it about that home that makes you want to stay there, or return back to it?
  4. In the Gospel of John Jesus prays, "I pray for them, Father, that the love with which You love Me may be in them." What strikes you about that prayer? Please share.
  5. You are a temple of His love. Knowing that His love and power and His very self abide in you, how does that change your approach to your day-to-day life? When do you see that love and power most at work?
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## God in Real Life

This week, spend some time reflecting on which of these gifts of the Holy Spirit need to be renewed in you. Being specific, ask Him for that renewal.

### *The Gifts of the Holy Spirit:*

Wisdom

Understanding

Counsel

Fortitude

Knowledge

Piety

Fear of the Lord

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## To the Heart

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you." John 20:21