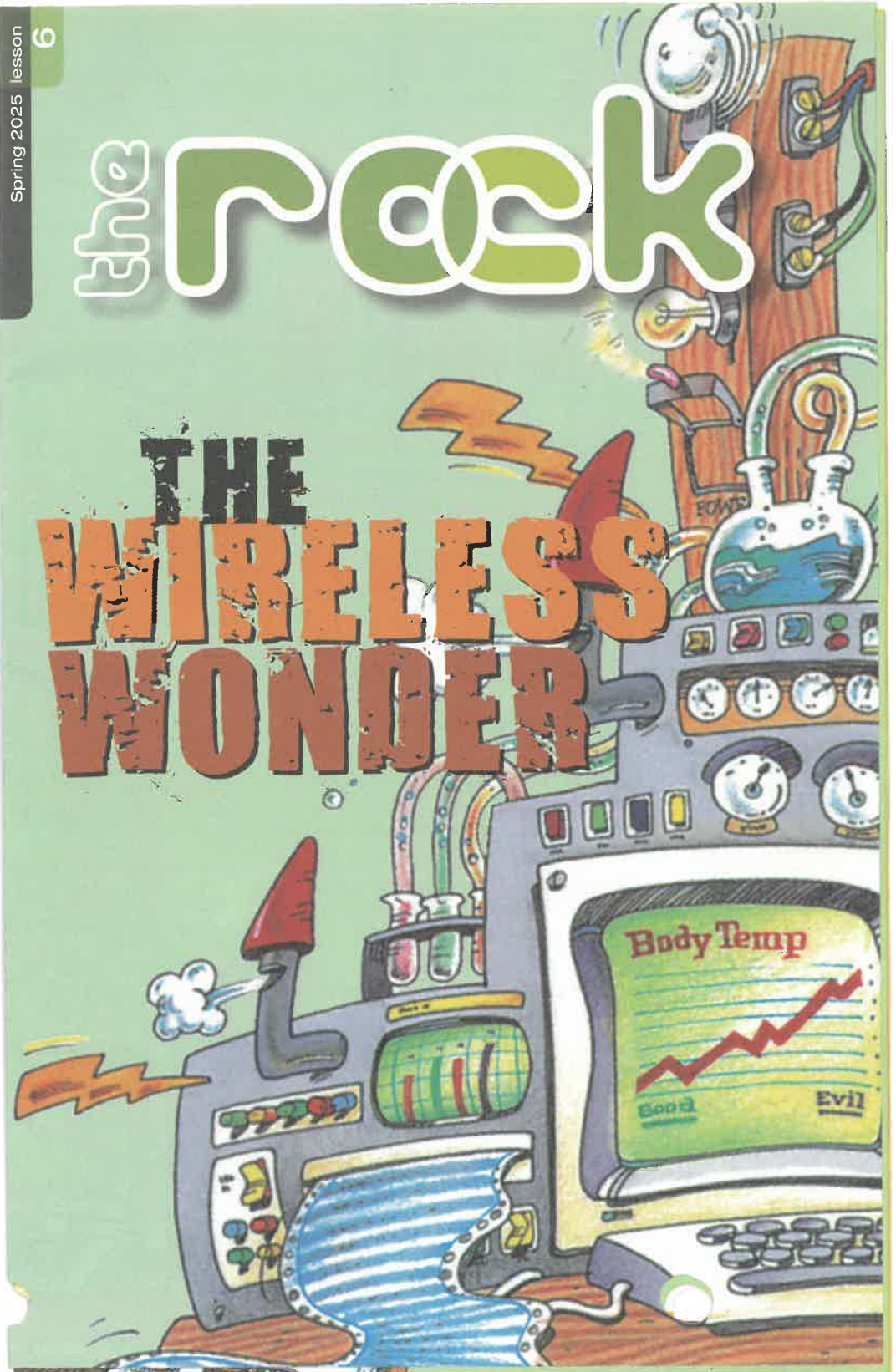


the rack

THE WIRELESS WONDER



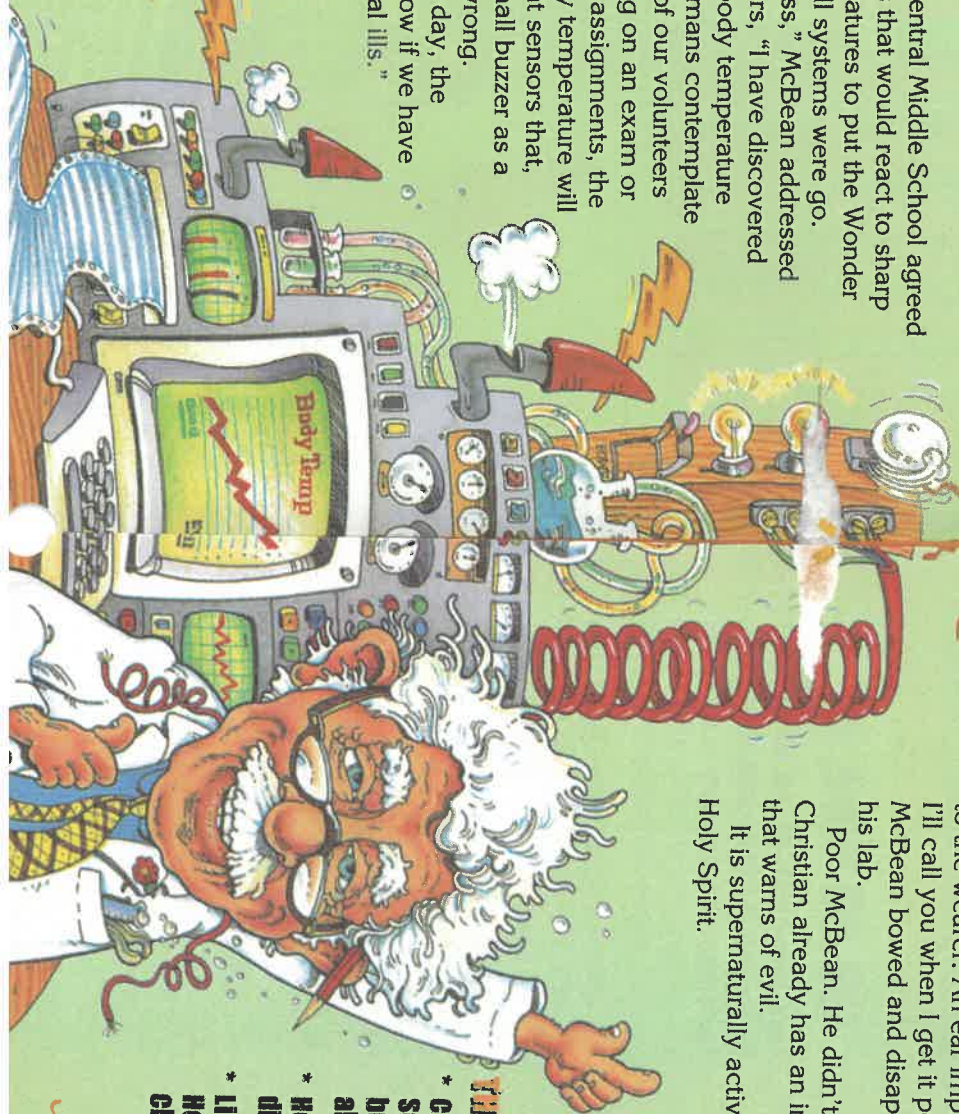
THE WIRELESS WONDER

James Pheeneey McBean thought that after years of research he had invented the answer to correct all of the world's moral problems — The Wireless Wonder.

Volunteers from Central Middle School agreed to wear heat sensors that would react to sharp rises in body temperatures to put the Wonder to the test. At last, all systems were go.

"People of the press," McBean addressed the gathered reporters, "I have discovered that a sharp rise in body temperature occurs whenever humans contemplate evil. Whenever one of our volunteers thinks about cheating on an exam or lying about overdue assignments, the subject's rise in body temperature will be monitored by heat sensors that, in turn, will ring a small buzzer as a reminder not to do wrong.

"At the end of this day, the waiting world will know if we have a cure-all for its moral ills."



But when the test ended, James Pheeneey McBean discovered he still had some bugs in his invention.

One volunteer complained, "My buzzer went off 17 times in one class period. I was mortified!"

Another complained that the buzzer was too loud, so he figured out a way to disconnect it so it wouldn't bother him.

James Pheeneey McBean hurriedly called another press conference. "The concept behind my invention is valid. However, I am going to start working on a way to make the buzzer audible only to the wearer. An ear implant, maybe. I'll call you when I get it perfected." McBean bowed and disappeared into his lab.

Poor McBean. He didn't know that the Christian already has an inner buzzer that warns of evil.

It is supernaturally activated—by the Holy Spirit.

THINK ABOUT IT:

- * Compare the Holy Spirit and McBean's buzzer. How are they alike?
- * How are they different?
- * List some ways the Holy Spirit can help Christians.

Bible Study

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

JOHN 14:15-21, 26

¹⁵If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help and be with you forever—¹⁷the

Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹Whoever has my commands and keeps them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.

²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Holy Helper

If you were asked to list all the things you knew about Jesus, you would probably have a fairly long list. If you made a second list for God the Father, it would probably still be pretty long. What about a list for the

READ JOHN 14:15-21, 26.

Read John 14:15-21, 26. Write five things you can learn about the Holy Spirit from this passage.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Holy Spirit? If you're like most people, your list probably isn't something to brag about. It's too bad that Christians know so little about the Holy Spirit, who is with them every day of their lives.

GROUP 1

What part does the Holy Spirit play in the Christian's life? What are some of the things He does? Make a list of as many things as you can find in these verses.

Check out John 15:26; Romans 8:9, 14-16; Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:7, 11; and Titus 3:5.

You probably know that the Bible talks about the Holy Spirit, but how does He work in you? Why is the Holy Spirit so important to living as Christians?

GROUP 2

What can you find out about the Holy Spirit? List as many qualities as you can.

Check out 1 Corinthians 2:11-12; Romans 8:15, 26-27; 15:30; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:30; Isaiah 11:2; John 20:21-22.

We've Come TOO FAR

There's a gospel song sung in many an African-American church that goes like this:

*We've come too far to turn around.
We've come too far to turn around.
Don't you know that Satan is on our track,
Trying hard to turn us back.
We've come too far to turn around.*

Satan does appear to be on the track, attacking the urban community, its families, our youth, and particularly young African-American men. The situation appears overwhelming. However, there are those who have a hope for our cities, our families, our youth, our young black men. Their hope is in Jesus Christ, and they are sharing this hope with others. They are willing to fight in the battle against Satan. They have come too far to turn around—they know that there is victory in Jesus Christ. They have been and will continue spreading the Word.

Joyce A. Jackson, youth worker, Concord Baptist Church, Chicago, is one of the "army of the Lord" who seeks to provide a better vision for the young and old in her community. Here Joyce talks with a young man in her church about an upcoming service in which they will be involved.

Photo by Steve Jenkins

Background illustration: Thinkstock

I call for Him

He will arrive
and for our Savior
we will strive

He died for me
we live for Him
and may our faith
not go dim

for the man's eyes
will we serve

and may we obtain
what we deserve?

No! for God we must see

And faithful servants we must be
whoever loves Him will not die
even slaves who intently cry
for they are powerful we do think
according to God's wonderful wink
from the graceful birth of space
we knew about God's expression of grace
especially for the death of His Son
He calls us saying "Well done."

— Joel Northam, age 12

every day devos

So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:16

IF you took a hike through the wilderness, you'd need a guide to show you the way. Life sometimes can seem like a hike through a wilderness. But Jesus promised to give us a guide for the journey.

MONDAY Read Galatians 5:16. How can you "live by the Spirit"? Write a short prayer, asking God to help you live by His Spirit.

TUESDAY If your conscience bothers you about something, chances are it's the Holy Spirit working in you to remind you of something wrong you've done. Ask God for forgiveness and His help in correcting the situation today.

WEDNESDAY Read Romans 8:9 and Galatians 5:16. Is there a sin that keeps popping up in your life? With the Spirit's help, trust God to help you overcome the temptation to give in to that particular sin.

THURSDAY Draw a picture of someone living by the sinful nature; then draw another picture of the same person, this time living by the Spirit. What are some of the differences between your two drawings?

FRIDAY In John 14:16 Jesus calls the Holy Spirit an Advocate. Think of the problems you're struggling with right now. Ask the Holy Spirit for direction and wisdom in dealing with those problems.

SATURDAY Celebrate Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit and His work in your life. Write a praise poem or song about the Holy Spirit, or create a banner that expresses thanks for the guidance the Holy Spirit gives.

