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Pentecost , The Holy Spirit Comes

Scripture: Acts 2:1-41

Theme: God sends the Holy Spirit to empower His people

1st-3rd Grade (Ages 6-8)

Free curriculum for small and rural churches

Lesson Overview

This Sunday school lesson introduces young children to the powerful and transformative work of the Holy Spirit through the story of Pentecost in Acts 2. Students will discover that God sent the Holy Spirit to empower His people, filling them with His presence and enabling them to share His message boldly. The passage shows how the disciples, gathered in Jerusalem, were waiting in the Upper Room when the sound of a mighty wind filled the room, then they were suddenly filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages (tongues), revealing God's power in a way everyone could understand. They shared the good news about Jesus to thousands of visitors, and many believed and were baptized, proving that the Holy Spirit's work brings people closer to God. The key verse, Acts 2:4, Optional reflection: children can draw a picture of Jesus helping their friends, then share one way they can help someone else this week. This extra activity supports the lesson's theme and gives teachers a simple, lowprep option for extending the discussion.

Bible Story

One bright morning in Jerusalem, just a few days after Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples gathered together in an upper room. Peter, John, James, and the other eleven were sitting together, full of wonder after watching Jesus take His last breath on the cross. Suddenly, the day after the Sabbath, as the disciples waited for Jesus to return, something amazing happened: a mighty wind rushed into the room so forcefully that it made the walls shake. A bright, glowing light filled the space, and they all felt a strange, warm presence like none they'd ever experienced before.

Then, from the sky, they heard a loud noise like a mighty rushing wind. Suddenly, a group of men dressed in white robes stood before them. One of them, speaking in their own languages, said, 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, listen to this! Today, in this very city, I will command my presence to fall upon you.' Peter stood up and addressed the crowd, 'Friends and neighbors, today we look at this wonderful sight and hear these strange sounds.

This is what God promised through His prophets long ago!' The crowd gathered outside was filled with confusion, but Peter continued, 'What are you looking at? Why do you stare so hard?' The people replied, 'We hear that God has given you the power to speak with wisdom, and we see that everyone here speaks in their own languages!'

Peter smiled warmly and said, 'It is not because of wine or drunkenness that you are seeing this! No, this is what God planned to do. We all were in Jerusalem when the promised Messiah was crucified, but God raised Him from the dead and has filled you with His Holy Spirit today. This is what the prophet Joel spoke of: 'And it shall come to pass afterward, in those days,' says the Lord, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.' You heard that in your own languages!' The crowd burst into loud cheers, and many believed Peter's words as he explained the truth about Jesus.

Peter called out again, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt world and repent! Turn to God and baptize your sins away.' As they listened, many hearts were changed. Thousands of people from different nations joined them, believing Jesus was the Messiah. Peter and the disciples gave their answers in the name of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit was at work in their hearts. Peter announced, 'How can we resist the mighty power of God? Let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, and you will receive forgiveness for your sins. Those who believe are saved!' The crowd responded with joy, and as they were baptized, the Holy Spirit filled them with courage and power.

Key Verse

Acts 2:4 , 'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'

The key verse (Acts 2:4 , 'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.') calls us to respond to God's truth.

>> Missions Spotlight

In Brazil, the Pentecostal movement is one of the fastest-growing in the world. Millions of Brazilians have experienced the power of the Holy Spirit. Pray that the Brazilian church would continue to grow in both Spirit and truth.

-> To the Cross

The Holy Spirit could only come because Jesus went to the cross. Jesus said, 'I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Advocate' (John 14:16). The cross made the way for the Spirit to live in every believer. We are never alone.