

# **April 21, 2024**

## **Grades 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>**

**Bible Teaching: Pentecost**  
**Bible Passage: Acts 2:1-41**

### **Bible Teaching Summary**

The disciples were gathered for the Pentecost celebration when there was a sound like a mighty rushing wind and flames of fire-like tongues appeared above each person's head. They began speaking in other languages. People heard them and were confused. Peter preached about what Jesus had done and encouraged people to repent. Three thousand people believed in Jesus and the Church was born.

**Brite Idea: The Holy Spirit lives inside followers of Jesus.**

**Memory Verse: Romans 8:31b**

*If God is for us, who can be against us?*

**Focus Verses: John 14:16-17, John 14:26, Romans 8:26-27**

### **He Question: Who is the Holy Spirit?**

There is one God. He is also three distinct persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God and dwells within believers.

### **We Question: How does the Holy Spirit help us?**

When we trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, guides us to truth in God's Word and glorifies God.

### **Me Question: What does God want me to know about Him and what does this mean for my life?**

Kids will be given the opportunity to reflect on the truth they learned about God and respond accordingly.

## Welcome

**Supplies:** Printable page, video player

**Prep:** Print the printable page and cut out (1 card per kid).

### Instructions:

**Slide 1: Say:** Hi everyone! Have you ever explored another country or talked to someone who speaks a different language?

**Say:** In our game today, we are going to be saying “hello” in different languages! You will each be given a card with the word “hello” written on it. Let’s practice them first together. The words are “jambo” (pronounced JHAM-boh) from Swahili, “barev” (pronounced BAH-rev) from Armenian, “shalom” (pronounced shuh-LOHM) from Hebrew, “hola” (pronounced OH-la) from Spanish and “aloha” (pronounced uh-LO-hah) from Hawaiian. When I say “go,” you will walk around the room saying the word on your paper. You will have to find the other kids who are using the same language as you are. Stay in a group once you find each other.

*Pair non-readers with a reader if needed. Start the game. If there’s time, collect the cards and pass them out to play again.*

**Say:** Wow! You guys did a great job finding each other! In today’s story, we are learning about how the Holy Spirit came to the disciples and empowered them to speak new languages!

## Intro Video (5 minutes)

*Play the Intro Video (4:04), then follow the script below.*

**Say:** Monica was in a tough spot! She really wanted that cruise, but also knew she hadn’t really won.

**Say:** Today we are learning very good news that God doesn’t leave us to figure out life on our own. **Today’s Brite Idea (slide 3) is: The Holy Spirit lives inside followers of Jesus.**

**Slide 4: Today we will answer these two questions:**

Who is the Holy Spirit?

How does the Holy Spirit help us?

**And at the end of our time today, the question you will be able to answer is:**

What does God want me to know about Him, and what does this mean for my life?

## Find It in the Bible (1 minute)

### What is the Bible?

The Bible is real and true. God gave us the Bible so that we could know Him. The Bible is filled with many books and stories, but it's all a part of one BIG story—God's Story.

### Slide 5: What is God's Bigger Story?

**Creation:** God is the Creator of all things, and He is very good.

**Fall:** Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God. Sin broke the world, and people were separated from God.

**Redemption:** People could not fix their sin problem on their own. God sent His Son, Jesus who died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins.

**Restoration:** When we trust in Jesus as our Savior, our relationship with God can be made right again through His grace. One day, Jesus will return and make the broken world new again.

### Slide 6: Where is today's Bible story?

This week's story comes from the book of Acts. The New Testament tells the story of God's redemptive work through Jesus Christ. Acts takes place after Jesus has died on the cross. It covers the birth of the Church and the spreading of the Gospel.

*Open a Bible and show the kids the title page for the book of Acts. Then show them how to get to today's Bible passage (Acts 2:1–41).*

Last week we learned about how Jesus was taken up into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God. He promised the disciples that He was sending a Helper to them. Today, we are learning about that Helper.

## Bible Teaching: Pentecost

### Bible Passage: Acts 2:1–41

**Supplies:** Bible, table, blow-dryer, permanent marker, empty plastic bottle, large red balloon, funnel, red food coloring, eye dropper, small bowl, baking soda, white vinegar, large baking tray with an edge

**Prep:** Draw a smiley face on the bottle. Using the funnel, fill  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the base of the deflated balloon with baking soda. Fill  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the bottle with vinegar and food coloring. Stretch the balloon over the mouth of the bottle. Do not get baking soda in the vinegar. Fill a bowl with vinegar and food coloring.

### Instructions:

**Say:** After Jesus returned to heaven, the disciples gathered together on the day of Pentecost, which was a traditional Jewish feast.

**Read Acts 2:2a directly from the Bible:** "And suddenly there came from heaven a

sound like a mighty rushing wind...”

*Turn on the blow dryer and point it at the kids.*

**Read Acts 2:2b–3 directly from the Bible:** “and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.”

*Tip the balloon up so that all the baking soda pours into the vinegar. Show the kids how the gas fills the balloon, just as the Holy Spirit filled the disciples.*

**Read Acts 2:4 directly from the Bible:** “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

*Turn off the blow dryer.*

**Say:** Jews from many other places gathered around. They were shocked that they could hear the disciples talking about the great things God had done in their own languages that they could understand. They were amazed and confused, not sure what was happening. Some were skeptical, not believing that anything important was happening.

**Say:** Peter stood up and began to preach.

*Scatter 2 inches of baking soda on the tray. Use the eyedropper to drop vinegar on the baking soda tray.*

**Say:** Peter shared that they weren’t crazy, but God was fulfilling His promises.

*Drip vinegar on tray.*

**Say:** He preached that Jesus was the promised Savior who had been crucified and buried but rose again.

*Drip vinegar on tray.*

**Say:** The people listening wanted to know how to follow Jesus too. Peter told them to repent and be baptized, trusting Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins.

*Drip vinegar on tray.*

**Say:** 3,000 people chose to trust in Jesus as their Savior, and this was the beginning of the Church.

*Pour remaining vinegar on the tray.*

**Say:** In our illustrations today, the chemical reaction is like the Holy Spirit. Like the chemical reaction, the Holy Spirit fills us, shows us the love of God and empowers us to follow God forever. When the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, they had the ability to do amazing things like speak in other languages and share their faith! When the Jews that gathered around heard the good news, the Holy Spirit sparked a fire in their hearts to trust Jesus as their Savior. When we poured all the vinegar over the baking soda, it represented the Holy Spirit filling their lives and the beginning of the Church.

**Say:** Throughout the Old Testament, one way God showed His people He was with them was with fire. He spoke to Moses through the burning bush. He led the Israelites through the wilderness with a pillar of fire. He sent fire from heaven when Elijah prayed. At Pentecost, God the Holy Spirit appeared as tongues of fire, showing that He was present with them and always would be! The Holy Spirit is God living and working through believers.

## **POINT TO JESUS**

Because of Jesus, God's presence could be with His people all the time! When Peter preached, he shared the Gospel, or the good news about what Jesus had done. That same powerful Gospel is good news for us too. When we believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead to pay the price for our sins, we can repent and believe too, just like the three thousand people in the story. We can trust in Jesus as our Savior and live forever with Him.

## **Bible Teaching: Wrap-Up**

**Supplies:** Bible, teaching slides, video player

**Brite Idea:** The Holy Spirit lives inside followers of Jesus.

### **Slide 15: Memory Verse**

Choose an older kid to look up the verse and read it aloud to the group. Have the whole group repeat it together.

*If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31b)*

## Teaching Wrap-Up

### **Slide 16: He Question: Who is the Holy Spirit?**

There is one God. He is also three distinct persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God and dwells within believers.

### **Slide 17: We Question: How does the Holy Spirit help us?**

When we trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, guides us to truth in God's Word and glorifies God.

### **Prayer**

Dear God, thank You so much for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank You that we are never alone and always have You with us. Help us to follow and listen to You.

## ***DISMISS TO SMALL GROUP ROOMS***

Optional idea: when kids regather after small groups, before pick up, show- [Bible Story Review Video 2:04](#)

<b>SMALL GROUPS-SCHEDULE</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Service</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Service</b>
<b>Large Group Worship</b> Welcome, Singing, Announcements, Baptisms, Communion, Offering, Belong Questions (forming small groups)	9:00-9:20	10:30-10:50
<b>Large Group Teaching</b> Teaching Intro, Today's Questions, Brite Idea, Prayer, Find it in the Bible, Bible Passage, Point to Jesus, Memory Verse, Teaching Wrap Up	9:20-9:40	10:50-11:10
<b>Small Group Experiences</b> Believe, Become, Small Group Wrap Up	9:40-10:05	11:10-11:35
<b>Regather in Large Group for Dismissal</b>	10:05-10:10	11:35-11:40

Lesson extras such as videos, teaching slides & printables go to:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14N7PBTUHELlfpRoqTh462aGE1euxxGwa?usp=sharing>

For Worship Videos and Actions go to:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-75tq1i2zoo3ioooz3DCXz6UykatbE06?usp=sharing>

Countdown Timer with Questions start when they get in groups

- How do you figure out the right thing to do in tough situations?
- What are some people or things you feel are against you?
- What were the best and worst parts of your week?
- How have these things grown you as a resilient disciple of Christ?

Memory Verse: *If God is for us, who can be against us?* Romans 8:31b

## **Bible Teaching: Review**

Have kids give a thumbs up if the statement is true and a thumbs down if the statement is false.

1. The disciples gathered together for Passover. **False**

*The disciples gathered together for Pentecost, a traditional Jewish feast.*

2. Flames of fire settled above their heads. **True**

*Flames like tongues of fire settled above their heads and the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit.*

3. The Holy Spirit gave them the ability to talk to animals. **False**

*The Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak in many other human languages.*

4. Peter told everyone to be saved they needed to sell all their belongings. **False**

*Peter said they needed to repent and be baptized, trusting Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins.*

5. Three thousand people trusted in Jesus as their savior. **True**

6. The Holy Spirit is a made-up ghost. **False**

*The Holy Spirit is a true part of the Trinity. There is one God. He is also three distinct persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God and dwells within believers.*

7. The Holy Spirit guides us to truth in the Bible. **True**

*When we trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, guides us to truth in God's Word and glorifies God.*

## **Belonging Experience**

**Goal:** For kids to experience God's love through a welcoming community

**Title:** Voice Confusion

**Learning Styles:** Solve, Talk

**Supplies:** None

**Prep:** None

### **Instructions:**

1. **Say:** With Christ, you are never alone, even in confusion. Today, we are learning more about our special Helper. Let's see how well you know each other's voices today.
2. Invite kids to sit on the floor spread out, all facing the same direction.
3. Ask kids to close their eyes. Select one kid and tap on their head.
4. That kid will quietly walk to a designated spot and say the phrase, "The Holy Spirit lives in us." After they say it twice, invite them to return to their spot quietly.
5. Kids will open their eyes and try to guess who it was.
6. Play as many rounds as time allows and encourage kids to be creative in their accents and voices.
7. **Discuss:** Was it easy or hard to figure out who was speaking?
8. **Discuss:** How would it be harder if they were speaking a different language?

**Activity Wrap-Up:** In today's true story from the Bible, we are learning about a true event when people started speaking different languages. People couldn't believe who was speaking. A great gift came from that day.

## **Believing experience**

**Goal:** For kids to discover who God is by engaging with the Bible



**Title:** Holy Spirit Match

**Learning Styles:** Solve, Talk

**Supplies:** Bibles, printable pages, scissors, tape, yarn

**Prep:** The printable pages will be cut in half with an answer key for the leader. The verse references will be taped to the wall at kids' eye level in a column on the left and the statements in a column on the right. Five pieces of yarn long enough to stretch from one column to the other will be taped to the verse reference to be attached to the statements. Remove strings after 9:00 service so 10:30 does not see the answers.

1. **Discuss:** What part of today's story would have been most surprising to you if you had been in the room?
2. **Discuss:** What happened when the Holy Spirit arrived in today's story?
3. **Discuss:** Who is the Holy Spirit?
4. **Say:** When we trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. There is one God. He is also three distinct persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
5. **Discuss:** Is this easy to understand? Why not?
6. **Say:** God is so big and so great that we will never understand every single thing about Him, but He loves us so much that He tells us all we need to know. Let's learn more about who the Holy Spirit is.
7. Divide kids into five groups. Assign each group one of the verses on the wall to look up. Challenge them to think about which statement matches their verse but not to say it out loud yet.
8. Let each group take a turn to read their verse to the rest of the group and then tape the other end of yarn to the statement that matches their verse.
9. **Discuss:** Which of these verses stood out to you the most? Why?
10. **Discuss:** Who are some people on YouTube that are really popular with kids your age?
11. **Discuss:** Do kids closely follow what these influencers say? Why?
12. **Say:** Sometimes the people we watch in videos give us great advice about video games or skin care or cool toys. But we can't always assume what they say is true. Sometimes they may talk about things that are different from what the Bible says and how God wants us to live. The Holy Spirit guides us, teaches us and even reminds us when we do something wrong. We can remember the things we know are true from today's lesson when we ask the Holy Spirit for help.

**Activity Wrap-Up:** It can be hard to understand how God can be three-in-one, but we can know that the Holy Spirit is a great gift to us. He showed up in a mighty way at Pentecost and lives within believers today.

## Small Group Wrap-Up

**Supplies:** Take-Home page, writing utensils

**Prep:** Print the Take-Home page (1 per kid).

### Me Question – Older Kids

**Say:** We are going to take a few minutes to think about what we have learned today about Jesus. God wants us to love Him even more as we learn more about who He is.

*Pass out the Take-Home page. Instruct kids to think about what they've learned about God today and draw/write an answer to, "What does this mean for my life?"*

### Choose Your Challenge

**Say:** We want to respond to God and remember what He has taught us today. During the coming week we also want to use what He's taught us. As we become more like Jesus, our lives change!

*Read the challenges from the Take-Home page aloud. Ask kids to mark which one they want to choose for this week.*

**Prayer:** God, we thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank You that the Spirit dwells within believers, convicts us of sin, guides us in God's truth, and glorifies You, Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Say Goodbye

*Tell kids goodbye and thank them for being a part of your group.*

- *As kids wait to be picked up, encourage them to complete the activities on the back of the Take-Home page. As kids work, ask relationship-building questions, such as, "What are you looking forward to this week?" or "What do you do for fun?"*
- *As parents pick up their kids, look for opportunities to connect with them, pointing out the Take-Home page their kid is bringing home.*