

The Connection

▶ May 31, 2020

Weekly Bible Verse: But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,

Together



Together we can continue to make sure that children hear the stories of the Bible and of God's love and promises! Together let's keep doing kid's ministry at the time our kids need it most.

Wind, Fire and Faith

Scripture: Acts 2— Jesus Promised the Holy Spirit would Come

Following Jesus' death and resurrection, He appeared to His disciples and many others. After being on this earth for 40 days, Jesus ascended into heaven. He left the disciples on earth. But... before Jesus left He told them that the "Comforter" would come. Jesus promised that God would send the disciples the Holy Spirit, who would be with them forever. He told them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came. After waiting for 10 days, the Holy Spirit came! He came on a special holiday that was called Pentecost.

God Sent the Holy Spirit

On the morning of Pentecost (at about 9 o'clock) all of the Disciples were together in one place (Acts 2:1) As they were praying, they heard a sound, faint at first, but growing louder and louder. It sounded like a huge rushing wind. The sound was all around them, filling the entire house. Then suddenly, as they looked in wonder, "tongues of fire" or "flame" separated and came to rest on each of them. The Holy Spirit had arrived, and then each of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. And they began to speak in other tongues (*or languages*) as the Spirit enabled them. But the REALLY amazing part is what happened next.

The Spirit Empowered the Believers

Because of the celebration of Pentecost, there were lots of extra people in the city of Jerusalem. These people were from lots of different countries and spoke lots of different languages. All the people *(who had come to see what all the noise was)* heard the disciples talking to them in their OWN languages from their OWN countries!! The Holy Spirit (who had come to the disciples) had empowered them *(had made them able to do something)* that they had never been able to do before. Now they were talking in different languages! Languages they had never known before! And they were filled with burning joy and incredible courage. The time had come to break out of their room and tell the world the glorious message! They rushed out into the streets where thousands of people thronged the busy city. **The Believers Testified of Jesus** Peter stood tall and began to speak. "Listen to me," he shout-



ed. Then he preached to the people about Jesus. Thousands of people listened as Peter told them why Jesus died. People from all nations heard Peter's words in their own languages. They were shocked, but they were also convicted of their sin. The people cried out, "What should we do?!" "Repent and be baptized!" the disciples replied. The people exclaimed, "What Good News!"

Those Who Believed Were Added to the Church

That day, 3,000 people were brought into God's family and were baptized. It was a beautiful beginning to a marvelous new life for many. Everyone was in shock at the wonders and miracles. All they could do, day after day, was talk to God and praise Him.

Additional Pages:

Coloring Page - Pentecost
Word Search - Pentecost (2 pgs)

Resources:

The Holy Spirit Comes—Play & Learn

The Holy Spirit Comes—Teaching Kids About Jesus

Buck Denver Right Now Media #11 Episode #1



Symbols of Pentecost

Pentecost—God equipping His church with the power of His Spirit so that He will be glorified among the nations.

"I Wonder" questions for Today's Lesson

I wonder what Jesus' friends were saying when they spoke in all the languages?

I wonder what it felt like to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost?

I wonder how they knew this was the Holy Spirit?

Family Time

Balloons:

Blow up a balloon but do not tie it. Let go of the balloon and watch it fly, make noise and then become limp, which is like people NOT being filled with the Spirit.



Wind Sock:

Roll a large piece of construction paper into a tube shape and tape to hold that shape. Attach long pieces of crepe paper. Attach a string to the top and let it blow in the wind.

Take a Nature Walk

Observe the wind in the trees, etc.

Fly Kites:

Discusses the 5 Christian aspects of a kite - 1) The cross shape dowels are how you begin to build a kite and the CROSS is the beginning of the Christian life; 2) a kite needs a tail to keep the kite stable in the wind and Christians have the Word of God, to keep them stable; 3) a kite needs covering to catch the wind - Jesus covers all our sin; 4) a kite has to be anchored to something that won't blow away and we, as Christians have Jesus Christ as our anchor; and 5) kites need the wind to fly. The HOLY SPIRIT is our helper to lift us up.

Pin Wheel Art

Color and decorate a large paper circle and cut into the circle part way several times and bending the sections so they are curved. Tape to a mini dowel rod and let children BLOW their pin wheel to make it spin, which is like the Holy Spirit that they can't see but there is a power source and the air that moves the pin wheel!



Feast of Pentecost

- It refers to the **festival** celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, also known as the "**Feast of Weeks**. It was a festival of thanksgiving for the harvested crops.
- The simple definition of "Pentecost" in Greek is 'fiftieth' (50)
- It was a Jewish celebration, held 50 days after the Passover.
- Jesus was crucified at Passover time. He ascended 40 days after his resurrection, The Holy Spirit came 50 days after His Resurrection (10 days after Ascension).
- Jews of many nations had gathered in Jerusalem for this festival. Thus, Peter's speech was given to an international audience and it resulted in a worldwide harvest of new believers.