



Dear Parents:

This page lets you know what your child learned today at church. Included are suggested discussion questions and possible activities that you may use to reinforce the Bible story at home. Please ask your child to share today's story with you. You may be surprised at how much he or she remembers!

TODAY'S STORY: GOD'S SPIRIT

God's Spirit comes in power. Immediately He causes the Good News to be shared and people's lives to be transformed. Those who respond also obey by being baptised. The new church is a community – a picture of God's Kingdom on earth.

Today your child learned that choosing to believe in Jesus is just the beginning of new life. God promised His Spirit for all of us who turn from our sins and turn to God through believing in Jesus. God's Spirit produces change in the life of believers, and His work draws other people to Himself. Today's story describes when the Spirit descended on Jesus' followers, and people from many different language groups heard the Good News in their own languages. On that day, 3,000 new believers were added to God's Kingdom! Jesus' followers performed miracles, shared everything, ate together, worshipped together and prayed together. Everyday God added more people to their number.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Acts 2:1-47

FOCUS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN:

"Jesus sent God's Spirit to live in me."

NEXT WEEK'S STORY: PAUL

Acts 9:1-25, 31

PRAYER:

Thank you, God, for sending Your Spirit to live in me. Please teach me how You want me to live, and help me tell other people about the Good News.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- After Jesus went up to heaven, how many people believed in Him and followed Him? (Approximately 120 believers)
- Why did people from all over the world come to celebrate in Jerusalem?
- What happened to the believers who were meeting together on the day of the festival?
- Why could the believers speak in other languages?
- What did other people think was happening when they heard the noise and different languages?
- What did Peter tell the crowd?
- Why did the people feel guilty?
- What did Peter tell the crowd to do?
- What gift was promised to everyone who turns to God through Jesus?
- How many people believed and were baptised that day?
- How did the believers act after that? What did they do together?
- Why is it important to have God's Spirit live in you?
- How do you want God's Spirit to change your life?

SUGGESTED PARENT/CHILD ACTIVITIES

Use a simple tape recorder (or an app on your phone) to record 5-10 different people speaking a sentence or two to your children. They should be careful not to mention their names, but their voices should be somewhat familiar to your children. Write down for yourself who spoke and in what order. Have the kids try to guess who was speaking and in what order. Talk about the need to carefully listen to hear the voice of God. God's Spirit helps us do that. He is a Counsellor and a Guide for us.



GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT – WINDSOCK

Teach your children about the spiritual gifts that God's Spirit gives to believers. (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 1 Corinthians 12:28) Use the craft below to remind your children of today's story.

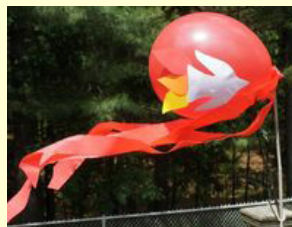
What you'll need:

- ~ 2 pieces of red construction paper
- ~ Plain paper (white, orange & yellow)
- ~ Ribbon or streamers
- ~ Dove template or cookie cutter
- ~ Scissors
- ~ Glue stick
- ~ Stapler
- ~ Tape
- ~ Yarn



Instructions:

1. Cut several flames from the orange paper. (If you want to write the spiritual gifts on the flames, then you'll need to cut one flame for each gift.)
2. Trace a dove template on the white paper and cut it out. (You can print a template instead of tracing.)
3. Glue the dove onto one piece of red paper. (You can add yellow or orange rays/flames around the dove if you wish.)
4. Create a cylinder out of the red construction paper. Staple or tape the edges together.
5. Attach a piece of yarn to the inside of the rim of the cylinder. Use this to hang the windsock.
6. Tape the flames to the bottom of each piece of ribbon. Make sure they are secure. Then tape each one to the inside of the bottom rim of the cylinder.
7. Hang your windsock outside to catch the wind or inside for decoration.
8. **Alternate activity:** Use a red balloon tied to a stick, streamers, a white paper dove and coloured paper flames to create a similar craft for younger children.



BALLOON FUN

Talk to your children about how followers of Jesus are filled with God's Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, we are lifeless. You may use the below activity with balloons to illustrate your discussion.

Let your children blow up balloons as you talk about being filled with the Spirit. Then let the balloons fly around the room until they all land on the floor without any air – or life – in them.



MANY LANGUAGES

Talk about how it would have felt to be part of the crowd that heard God's Spirit speaking through Jesus' followers in many different languages. As a reminder that Jesus wants us to tell other people about Him, learn how to say, "Jesus loves you" in multiple languages. (You may need to look up the correct pronunciations.)

Here are a few examples to get you started:

Jesus caru chi (Welsh)
Tha gaol aig ìosa ort (Scottish Gaelic)
Ìosa loves tú (Irish)
Jésus vous aime (French)
Jesus te ama (Spanish)
Jesus liebt dich (German)
Jesus is lief vir jou (Afrikaans)
Gesù ti ama (Italian)
İsa sizi seviyor (Turkish)
Isus te iubește (Romanian)
YeSu ai ni (Chinese)

SONG: THREE IN ONE

(Sing to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

God loves me so much,
God loves me so much.
Joyful, joyful, joyful, joyful,
God loves me so much.

Jesus is my friend,
Jesus is my friend.
Happy, happy, happy, happy,
Jesus is my friend.

Holy Spirit in me,
Holy Spirit in me.
Thankful, thankful, thankful, thankful,
Holy Spirit in me.

God is our Father,
Jesus is His Son,
And there is the Holy Spirit,
The three of them are one.