

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSONS

MAY 31, 2020

Today, we are celebrating Pentecost! Since we can't see the Holy Spirit we often use symbols to describe the Spirit. The dove is often used to describe the Holy Spirit. The color red also symbolizes the Spirit. Let's see why in our Bible story. Turn in your Bibles to Acts 2. This chapter is one of the most well-known portions of the Bible and for good reason. The disciples and other followers of Jesus received an incredible gift that day. Read Acts 2:1-4.

How do you think the disciples felt when the wind started blowing and fire appeared over their heads? What would you think if you could speak a new language all of a sudden?

Read Acts 2:5-8 and also 12-13.

Why did the people watching think the disciples were drunk?

Read Acts 2:14-18.

How is what the prophet Joel wrote coming true in this story? Peter preached to the crowd telling them about Jesus' miracles, teachings, death and resurrection.

Read Acts 2:37-41.

What is the promise that Peter is talking about?

We are going to write another version of our Bible story for ourselves. This version won't be completely accurate but we will have fun. First, I am going to give you a list of numbered words and I want you to write an example of each. For example if I say road, you might write Center Avenue. Here is the list of words:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1. building | _____ | 8. body part (plural) | _____ |
| 2. verb | _____ | 9. (a different) adjective | _____ |
| 3. adverb | _____ | 10. -ing verb | _____ |
| 4. adjective | _____ | 11. animal (plural) | _____ |
| 5. -ed verb | _____ | 12. famous person | _____ |
| 6. plural noun | _____ | 13. (a different) verb | _____ |
| 7. (a different) plural noun | _____ | 14. (a different) plural noun | _____ |

Now I am going to write our version of the story with some blanks. When you come to a blank, write in the word from the list above. When you have completed the story, I would love to see them. Please send them to me at the church or you can email them to me at glogon1949@gmail.com. Let's have some fun.

Jesus' disciples and other followers gathered together in a (1)_____ to (2)_____ a special day called Pentecost. (3)_____, they heard a loud sound like a (4)_____ wind. The wind (5)_____ through and filled the whole (1)_____. Jesus' friends saw (6)_____ flashing in the room. The (6)_____ looked like (7)_____ of fire flickering above their (8)_____.

As Jesus' followers felt the wind and saw the fire, they knew that God was with them. God had given them a (9)_____ gift called the Holy Spirit. They started (10)_____ about Jesus – in lots of languages!

A crowd of (11)_____ came to see what was happening. (12)_____ talked to the (11)_____ "Listen! Jesus told us he would send a helper to be with us – the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is helping us (13)_____ in lots of languages!" Then (12)_____ told the (11)_____ all about Jesus.

Many (11) _____ listened to (12) _____ and became (14) _____ of Jesus.

Jesus disciples and other followers gathered together in a house to celebrate the special day called Pentecost. Suddenly, they heard a loud sound like a strong wind. The wind rushed through and filled the whole house. Jesus's friends saw lights flashing in the room. The lights looked like flames of fire flickering above their heads.

As Jesus followers felt the wind and saw the fire, they knew that God was with them. God had given them a special gift called the Holy Spirit. They started talking about Jesus—in lots of languages.

A crowd of people came to see what was happening. Peter talked to the people. "Listen! Jesus told us he would send a helper to be with us – the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is helping us talk in lots of languages!" Then Peter told the people all about Jesus. Many people listened to Peter and became followers of Jesus.

It must have been confusing to hear so many languages at one time – maybe as confusing as our mixed up story.

When the Spirit speaks, we listen! You have all probably played Simon Says. The Spirit may be harder to hear than it is in the game, but when we practice listening, we can begin to understand what the Spirit is saying to us.

Since we can't see or touch the Spirit, we use symbols to describe the Spirit. These symbols include a dove, fire and wind. Finish this sentence using each of the symbols above. The Holy Spirit is like a dove because _____. The Holy Spirit is like fire because _____. The Holy Spirit is like wind because _____. What are other ways to describe the Spirit can you think of?

Just as the early Christians worked together to share the gospel, take care of one another and show kindness and encouragement, we should also help others and show kindness and encouragement to others. Let's close with a prayer.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. On this day of Pentecost help us remember to listen to the Holy Spirit just as the early Christians did. Help us to remember to take care of each other and help and encourage those around us. Keep us safe during these summer months. Amen.