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Lesson 13 127

Jesus Sends Power From God

Acts 2:1-21

F irst- and second-graders are used to seeing fantastic special effects in movies and on TV. Hearing about the Pentecost with its mighty rushing wind, tongues of fire, and people speaking in different languages, could seem like just one more bit of movie magic to them. Use this lesson to help kids see the Holy Spirit as a very real gift from God—a helper, a counselor, and a teacher.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP	
1 Getting Started	I Can't Hear You! (about 10 min.) Try to play a game without being able to hear the directions.			
2 Bible Exploration	The Day of Pentecost (about 15 min.) Hear and reenact what happened on the Day of Pentecost.	Bible, CD player, scissors, tape, crayons, 1 copy per child of the "Flame Headband" page (at the end of the lesson) Teacher Pack: CD, Bible Timeline		
	Key Verse Counselor (about 10 min.) Work in pairs to teach each other about ways God works, and learn the Key Verse.	Bible		
	I Remember Jesus (about 10 min.) Learn how the Holy Spirit helps us remember Jesus.	My Bible Fun, markers	Tear out the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.

► Bible Point God gives us the Holy Spirit.

Key Verse "But the Counselor, the

Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:26).
Weaving Faith Into Life Kids will thank God for the Holy Spirit.

Lesson 13

	LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP	
	3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Pentecost Pinwheels (about 15 min.) Make pinwheels to remember what the Holy Spirit did on the Day of Pentecost.	scissors, tape, 1 flat thumbtack per child, 1 unsharpened pencil per child Teacher Pack: "Pentecost Pinwheels" poster	Cut apart the pinwheels according to the directions on the "Pentecost Pinwheels" poster.	
	4	Daily Challenges (about 5 min.) Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	My Bible Fun		
	Lasting Impressions	Weaving Faith at Home (about 2 min.) Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.	pinwheels from the "Pentecost Pinwheels" activity		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Jesus Sends Power From God

Acts 2:1-21

BIBLE BACKGROUND FOR LEADERS

Passover

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Fifty days after the Passover celebration, the Jews celebrated the Feast of Weeks, otherwise known as Pentecost. Jerusalem was crowded with Jews from many surrounding areas who had gathered in the holy city for the feast. Many spoke languages other than the Aramaic and Greek that were most common in Palestine at that time. God set the stage for a miraculous display of his power through the Holy Spirit.

We could take a long time discussing the sound, the tongues of fire, and who was present for all this as described in Acts 2:1-3, but what's important to glean from this passage is that the Holy Spirit came upon Christians in a new and powerful way, enabling them to better spread the good news about Jesus. They were filled with God's Holy Spirit.

Speaking in Other Tongues?

We could also take a long time explaining the term "speak in other tongues" (Acts 2:4), but instead we'll simply examine the event described in this passage. The disciples were able to speak so that people from many different nations could hear them in their respective languages. Speaking in a language that the speaker had never learned does not necessarily mean that what is spoken is a message from God. In this passage, however, we're given the evidence to verify God as the source of the message: The disciples were "declaring the wonders of God."

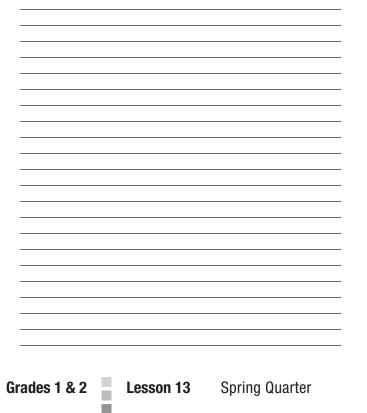
Peter: A Changed Man

Notice who takes the lead in verse 14 and the powerful message he gives. Could this be the same Peter who, only seven weeks earlier, had three times denied even knowing Jesus? The same Peter who had hidden with the other disciples behind locked doors for fear? Indeed it is. Peter's experience with the risen Christ and his being filled with the Holy Spirit made Peter a new person.

The Jesus Connection

Peter had no delusions about the source of the power. God sent the Holy Spirit to empower his people to further his kingdom. Jesus had told his followers before he ascended to heaven that they were to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to come upon them. They needed the power of the Holy Spirit to spread the good news.

When God has something big for us to do, he'll empower us to do it. And God may use us in remarkable ways if we're willing to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. Pray and ask God how he wants to use your life for his glory. Trust him to empower you to accomplish his plans. You can write your prayer here.



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I Can't Hear You!

What You'll Do

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together.

Say: Today we're going to play a fun game called I Can't Hear You! Here's how to play. I'll come around and whisper a direction in your ear, and you'll jump up and do the action I tell you, okay? There's only one catch. You'll have to keep your hands held tightly over your ears. Are you ready? Let's play!

Go to each child, and very softly whisper a direction such as "Meow like a cat," "Bark like a dog," or "Flap like a bird." Make sure kids keep their hands clasped tightly over their ears so they can't hear you. Children won't be able to obey your directions, so you'll be able to move quickly around the circle.

After you've gone all the way around the circle, let kids put their hands down.

Ask:

- What did you think of this game?
- What would have made this game easier to play?

Say: Hmm. You didn't know what I wanted you to do because you couldn't understand what I was saying. Let's try this game again.

Play the game again, this time letting kids keep their hands in their laps so they can hear you.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was different about the second time we played the game?
- Tell about a time you couldn't do something because you didn't have the information you needed.
- What are some things you know about God that help you follow him?

Say: It's no fun playing a game when you can't understand the directions. We'll hear in the Bible today about the same sort of thing, only it wasn't a game. There were some people who knew some very important news, and there were some other people who wanted to hear the news, but they couldn't understand each other. We will learn that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT to help us in times like this. He helps us understand. Let's get started!





The Day of Pentecost

What You'll Do

Show the "Jesus Sends Power From God" section of the Bible Timeline. Then open your Bible to Acts 2:1-21, and show kids the passage.

Say: Today we'll read in the Bible about some people who didn't understand each other. In fact, there were whole bunches of people who didn't understand each other. Lots and lots of people had come to Jerusalem to worship God, but they didn't speak the same language.

Tell kids to stand up and wander around the room. Say: In a moment, we'll listen to what it might've been like one day when all those people who spoke different languages were in the same room. As you wander around the room, approach everyone else in the room, cup a hand over an ear, and say, "What's that you say?" Let kids practice a few moments before starting the CD segment.

Play "Day of Pentecost" (track 11 on the CD). When the narrator directs you to pause the CD, have kids sit in a circle.

Ask:

• What was it like trying to hear each other with all that noise? Allow time.

Say: Some of the people there that day wanted to tell the important news of how Jesus had died and then came back to life again. They knew there were people there who hadn't heard about Jesus. God wanted everyone to hear about Jesus, too, so he did an amazing thing that day. Before we hear what happened, let's make a prop to help us as we listen to all that happened.

Give each child a copy of the "Flame Headband" page, and set out scissors, tape, and crayons. Have kids cut out the strips and the flames. Let them color the flames. As they color, help each child tape the strips together to fit his or her head. Finally, have kids tape the flames on the front of the headbands.

Tell kids to hold their headbands in their hands until they hear the sound of the mighty rushing wind on the CD. Then they can put their headbands on and freeze in place.

Press play to continue "Day of Pentecost," directing kids to wander around again until they hear the sound of the wind. Pause the CD, as indicated.

Say: The Bible tells us that the mighty wind and the tongues of fire resting on each person were God sending his Holy Spirit! What happened in that room is called the Day of Pentecost—the giving of the Holy Spirit. When the Holy Spirit came that day,

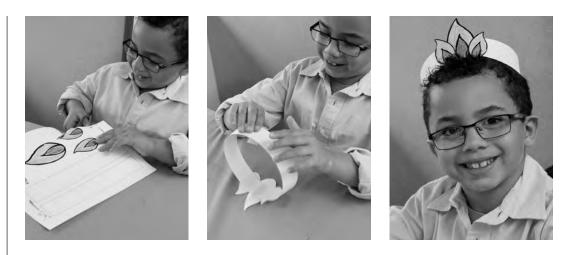


The Day of Pentecost Supplies

Bible CD player scissors tape crayons 1 copy per child of the "Flame Headband" page (at the end of the lesson) **Teacher Pack** CD: "Day of Pentecost" (track 11) Bible Timeline

Grades 1 & 2





all of a sudden the people could understand each other! And the people who knew about Jesus started to tell all the others the good news about Jesus. Let's see what that was like.

Have kids keep their headbands on as they walk around the room again, this time shaking hands with each other as you play part three of "Day of Pentecost." Stop the CD when instructed, and then have kids sit down.

Say: It must have been amazing that day when all the people could suddenly understand the news about Jesus! The Bible tells us that Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, told the crowd about Jesus, and 3,000 people came to believe in Jesus that day. Three thousand! That's a lot of Christians!

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think is surprising or amazing about what happened?
- Tell about a time God helped you understand something. (For example, maybe a time you had an "aha" moment.)
- What are some ways the Holy Spirit can help you in your life?

Say: The Holy Spirit did something really amazing on the Day of Pentecost. SGOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT, and he will do amazing things in our lives.



Key Verse Counselor

What You'll Do

Say: The Holy Spirit can be kind of like a teacher—helping us understand and learn new things.

Form pairs, and have kids each take a role: teacher or student. Have the "teachers" teach the "students" something they know about. They could tell about something that happened in the Bible or teach a quick trick or skill. Allow time. Then let kids switch.

Say: Just like you taught each other, God's Holy Spirit teaches and helps us, too! Our Bible Point says ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT. That means that even when we can't remember things or understand what we're reading, God will help us! Isn't that great?

Say: Our Key Verse for today tells us the same thing. Let's look at it together. Open your Bible to John 14:26, and show it to kids. It says: "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you" (John 14:26). That means "The Holy Spirit will teach you." Let's say that together: The Holy Spirit will teach you (John 14:26). Have kids repeat the adapted Key Verse with you several times.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like to be a learner in this activity?
- Tell about a time God helped you or taught you something.
- Why do you want God's help in your life?

Say: Jesus said God would send the Holy Spirit to teach us. On the Day of Pentecost, God sent his Holy Spirit so everyone could learn about Jesus. ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT today, too. We can ask God when we need help.

Key Verse Counselor Supplies

Bible

Grades 1 & 2

 Lesson 13



I Remember Jesus Supplies

My Bible Fun markers

I Remember Jesus Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.

I Remember Jesus

What You'll Do

Say: We learned in the Bible today that God sent his Holy Spirit to help some people learn about Jesus. They all spoke different languages, but when God sent his Holy Spirit, they could understand each other! ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT, too.

Give each child a Lesson 13 My Bible Fun page, and have kids look at the "I Remember Jesus!" section. Say: On your page, there are some pictures that show things Jesus did when he was living on earth. Look at the one outlined in purple. Jesus healed a blind man. Today Jesus doesn't live on earth, but God's Holy Spirit does and can heal blind men, too. On your own, write or draw a picture about a time you remember when someone was sick or hurt and got better. Allow time. Then let a few kids share.

Say: Look at the picture outlined in red. Jesus loved and spent time with children. He's a great comforter. Today the Holy Spirit can comfort us. On your own, write or draw a picture about a time you were scared but felt comforted. Allow time. Then let a few kids share.

Say: Look at the picture outlined in green. On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people shouted, "Hosanna!" They knew he was the one who came to save them. Jesus came to save you, too. And when he left earth and went to heaven, he left his Holy Spirit to live in anyone who believes in him. On your own, write or draw a picture about why you think he's king and savior. Allow time. Then let a few kids share.

Say: Look at the picture outlined in blue. After Jesus died on the cross, he came back to life! He beat death. He made it so when we believe in him, we can live in heaven forever with him. On your own, write or draw a picture, thanking Jesus for all he's done for you. Allow time. Then let a few kids share.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like for you to spend quiet time thinking about Jesus and the Holy Spirit in this activity?
- Tell about a time God was there to be with you and help you.
- Why are you thankful for the Holy Spirit?

Say: When we believe in Jesus, \blacktriangleright GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT to live in us. We can know the Holy Spirit is always there. But in times like this, when we stop to spend time with Jesus, to think about him, and to listen to him, it sometimes makes it easier for us to remember he's there with us.





Pentecost Pinwheels

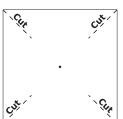
What You'll Do

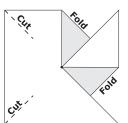
Say: We learned today about something amazing that the Holy Spirit did. On the Day of Pentecost, at first people couldn't understand each other because they were speaking different languages, but with the Holy Spirit's help, they were able to understand each other. Let's make a craft to remind us of that.

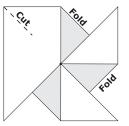
Give each child a pinwheel. Demonstrate how to cut the pinwheel toward the center on the four dotted lines, fold in the marked corners toward the center dot, and then tape them in place. Then help kids each insert a flat thumbtack through the middle of the pinwheel and into the pencil eraser.

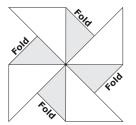
Say: Carefully twirl your pinwheel. Do you notice that when you twirl it, the two colors blend together to look orange? The colors blending together can remind us of how the people on the Day of Pentecost were able to blend together and understand each other. The orange color can remind us of the color of the tongues of fire we read about in Acts 2:3. And the way the pinwheel twirls can remind us of the mighty wind that God sent when he gave us the Holy Spirit.

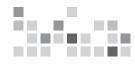
Say: Find a partner and use your Pentecost Pinwheel to tell your partner your favorite part of what we learned today. Allow kids time to respond.











Pentecost Pinwheels Supplies

scissors

tape

- 1 flat thumbtack per child
- 1 unsharpened pencil per child

Teacher Pack

"Pentecost Pinwheels" poster

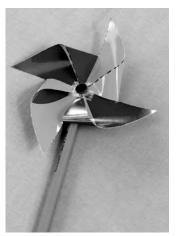
Pentecost Pinwheels Easy Prep

Cut apart the

pinwheels according to the directions on the "Pentecost Pinwheels" poster.









Lesson 13



Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think is the neatest part about your pinwheel?
- Tell about something God's done in your life.
- What can the Holy Spirit help you with this week?

Say: Like the blending of colors when our pinwheels spin, the people could understand each other on the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit did an amazing thing that day. ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT, too, and he can do amazing things in our lives. Let's go to him this week and ask the Holy Spirit to help us.

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IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do

Say: Let's think about how > GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges in their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Turn on a fan in your bedroom, and thank God for giving you the Holy Spirit to help you!
- Use your Pentecost Pinwheel to retell to someone what happened when God sent the Holy Spirit.
- Read a Bible passage with a family member, and then thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to help you understand his Word!

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.

Say: Today we learned that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people learn more about him, and that when we believe in him, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us, too. Let's remember this week that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT by following through on our Daily Challenges.

Spring Quarter Lesson 13 Grades 1 & 2

Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Fun



Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how God sent the Holy Spirit to live in us when we believe in him. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God for sending the Holy Spirit. Give each child a chance to pray aloud or silently about something he or she needs God's help with. And after each child's prayer, have all the kids blow on their pinwheels as a reminder that the Holy Spirit helps us. Then pray: **God, we know you hear all our prayers, and you'll always help us when we need it. Help us listen to you and trust you. In Jesus' name, amen.**



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

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pinwheels from the "Pentecost Pinwheels" activity

Flame Headband



Spring Quarter