

PENTECOST

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: ACTS 2:1-13



The STORY

Read about Pentecost in Acts 2:1-13.

Please note: The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- Why were all the disciples gathered together? (Jesus told them to wait in the city of Jerusalem until they were clothed with power from on high, see Luke 24:49).
- How did God use the people gathered together for the Feast of Pentecost for His plan? (God gathered people from all over the known world to Jerusalem to hear the disciples and see this event. Jesus is still gathering people from every nation and tribe. It all began on that day!)
- What did the mockers think? (The mockers thought the disciples had been drinking wine and were drunk.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: tongues of fire on the disciples. Engage the children by asking:

- Why do you think the Lord had the Holy Spirit come with tongues of fire? (The flames were a symbol of the power of the Spirit coming upon the disciples so they could be witnesses for Christ and use their tongues to tell others about Him.)
- Does the Spirit come on people today in tongues of fire? (No, but the Spirit still comes upon people to empower them to be witnesses for Christ and spread the Gospel.)
- What else happened besides the tongues of fire when the Spirit of God came upon the disciples? (There was a mighty rushing wind that filled the entire house.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS**While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:**

- How did the people react to the miracle of tongues? (The people were astonished and completely surprised.)
- What most surprises you about the way God works?
Draw the children out on this question.
- What do we learn about God from this story? (God keeps His promises. God is all-powerful and cannot be hindered by the language barriers of man. God's plan will move forward.)

WHERE IS the Gospel?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

The feast of Pentecost was called the Feast of the Harvest or First Fruits in the Old Testament (Exodus 23:16). In Numbers 28:26-30 the offerings for this day are described. Bulls, lambs, and a goat were offered, in addition to the regular offering, to make atonement.

Now that Jesus has been sacrificed, no goat for atonement needs to be killed. The promised blessing to Abraham was about to be fulfilled. The Gospel can be spread from the very first believers to people of every tribe, language, and nation!

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.