

# Pentecost & The Beginning of the Church

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Acts 2

**STORY OVERVIEW:** After Jesus went back to heaven, the disciples stayed in Jerusalem waiting for the special gift Jesus promised. One day as they were praying together, a loud noise that sounded like wind filled the room and what looked like fire appeared above each of their heads. Something inside of them began to change. They had received God's Holy Spirit, the Helper that Jesus had promised. Now they had the power to do God's work, the same power Jesus had. The Holy Spirit helped them tell others the good news about Jesus with courage and boldness.

**TEACHING TRUTHS:** Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people who follow Him.  
People who follow Jesus are called His church.

**MEMORY VERSE:** Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever.  
Psalm 107:1

**MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Psalm 107:1  
(You can find the link to the song on the Watermark Kids Kit page.)

Give thanks to the Lord  
For He is good (x3)  
His love endures forever (x3)  
Psalm 107:1

### **ACTIVITY 1: BIBLE TIME**

1. Read to your child from The Beginner's Bible, "The Holy Spirit Comes" (p. 473-479) or the Jesus Storybook Bible, "God Sends Help" (p. 326-333). Pray a short, simple prayer thanking God that **Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people who follow Him.**
2. Use the questions below to review the story with your child.
  1. Why did God send Jesus?
  2. What happened to the people who believed in Jesus?
  3. What did God send to the disciples?
  4. Is the Holy Spirit a helpful gift from God?
  5. Did everyone at Pentecost speak the same language?
  6. What do you think God wants us to learn from this story? (Let the kids answer and then bring them back to today's Teaching Truths.)
3. Finish this time by having your child repeat today's Teaching Truths with you:
  - **Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people who follow Him.**
  - **People who follow Jesus are called His church.**

#### **MATERIALS:**

- Lesson
- The Beginner's Bible or The Jesus Storybook Bible (*If you don't have one of these, you can read the story from Acts 2.*)

### **ACTIVITY 2: STORY – Flame Paper Plate**

1. Tell your child that they are going to make flames to represent the coming of the Holy Spirit that you learned about from the Bible.
2. Give your child a red, orange, and yellow crayon and a paper plate.
3. Allow your child to create flames on their plates with crayons.
4. After your child decorates their plate, write this week's Teaching Truth, "**Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people who follow Him,**" on it with the black marker.
5. Using Acts 2 as a guide, retell a simple version of the story and when the Holy Spirit comes as a flame have your child hold their flames up over their heads and wave the "flames" back and forth.

#### **MATERIALS:**

- Paper plate
- Red, orange, and yellow crayons or markers
- Black marker

**ACTIVITY 3: TEACHING TRUTH – Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people who follow****Him**

1. Tell your kids, “We’re going to do a fun activity so we can feel the wind. It might feel or sound like what Jesus’ disciples felt and heard when they received God’s Holy Spirit.”
2. Blow up a balloon, but don’t tie it. Let go of it so it blows around the room.
3. Remind your kids that **Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help people who follow Him.**
4. Blow the balloon up and release a few more times, so your kids can enjoy watching it fly.

**MATERIALS:**

- Balloons

**HELPFUL HINT:**

Do this activity in an open area of your house or outside.

**ACTIVITY 4: MEMORY VERSE INTRODUCTION– Psalm 107:1**

**“Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. His love endures forever.”**

1. As a family, sit in a circle on the ground.
2. Tell them they are going to sing along with the memory verse song.
3. Carefully pass the ball around the circle while the music is playing.
4. When the verse is over, stop the music.
5. Whoever has the ball will stand up and lead the family in shouting the verse address.
6. Repeat as many times as desired.

**MATERIALS:**

- Ball
- Memory Verse Song, link on the Kids Kit page