

Children's Ministries Lesson – 3rd – 5th Grade

“Come, Holy Spirit” – Pentecost

Acts 1-5 & John 15

May 31, 2020

Children's Ministries purpose is **to build a spiritual foundation in each child that lasts a lifetime.**

We hope this lesson provides additional opportunities for your family to strengthen your relationship with each other and with Jesus. This lesson has components of both Children's Church and Sunday School fused together.

As you prepare your space, consider gathering supplies, create a worship focal point (ideas: a Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container), and remove other distractions from the area. Read through this lesson before beginning. *Wording in BLUE italics is information for the family leader(s).* **BLACK italics** are actions to do.

With love, Your Children's Ministries Team and Worship Leaders, Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara.

BIBLE POINT: This week, we celebrate Pentecost – the birthday of the church. Jesus told his disciples before he ascended into heaven, that God will send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with great joy and give us all we need to share the good news and live the good news.

SUPPLIES: Worship focal point ideas: A Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container; praise and worship music links; Bible story link; activity supplies (see activity options below); service opportunity (listed at the bottom of the lesson).

FAMILY CHANT: *During Sunday School, your children begin with a “class chant”. To bring that to your home, create a family chant that you can say each time. Create your own or use this one. The chant helps connect mind with body and connects everyone together. Motions/actions are in parentheses.*

Let's create our family “chant” as a way to begin our time together. Repeat what I say & do.

We are the [insert family name] family. (whoop whoop) **We are the [insert family name].**

(whoop whoop)

We are safe and helpful too. (clap clap) **We are safe and helpful too. (clap clap)**

Using kind words is what we do. (stomp stomp) Using kind words is what we do. (stomp stomp)

Together we can make the world a better place. (high five) Together we can make the world a better place. (high five)

This is our family! (whoop whoop) This is our family! (whoop whoop)

OPENING PRAISE SONGS

[Click here](#) for the full playlist of St. Luke's Children's Praise Music!

Supplies: Select the links for Praise and Worship Music (use one or both links)

1. ["Great Big God"](#) (Ashley Hymel and Thanushka Lewkebandara, Contemporary & Children's Church Worship Leaders)



2. ["Strong & Courageous"](#) (performed by Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)



OFFERTORY:

Determine where your offering with go. You may select an organization of your choice, or save it until we return to Sunday School/Children's Church to give to our current mission. Place your offering in your container. (You may use your 75th Anniversary piggy bank, if you have one.) The below scripture is the scripture we use each Sunday during our Offertory time.

Let's say this scripture together. "God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.

Now, let us pray for those who will receive our offering and The Lord's Prayer. Does someone want to lead us in prayer?

An optional prayer:

Dear God, We thank you for our many blessings. May the offering we share today bring your hope to those who will receive it. And now, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

LEARNING SCRIPTURE:

Let us learn this scripture together.

"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, declaring the mighty works of God."

Acts 2:4a, 11b (CEB)

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

INTRO TO BIBLE LESSON:

Today, we will learn what happened when God sent the Holy Spirit. The story takes place in Jerusalem. Jewish people from all around the world had come to celebrate a festival called Pentecost. Pentecost was known as Festival of Weeks – it celebrated God giving the Ten Commandments 50 days after the Exodus. There were so many visitors in Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost because this was one of three major feasts for which all Jewish males were required to travel to the temple in Jerusalem.

Pentecost for Christians, as we all are more familiar, is the 50 days after Easter in which the Holy Spirit descended into the hearts of Jesus' apostles and followers. We often refer to Pentecost as the Birthday of the Church – not just St. Luke's, but all churches everywhere. Guess what... Today is Pentecost! Let us find out what happened to the apostles at the Pentecost festival on the day when God made church.

BIBLE STORY:

Supplies: [Click here for the Bible story video](#)

Our Bible story for today comes from the New Testament, the Book of Acts and the book of John. Watch and listen to "God Sends Help" from the [Jesus Storybook Bible](#).

[Watch the Bible story video.](#)



DISCUSSION AFTER BIBLE STORY:

What big change happened in this story? *(Believers changed from scared to joyful, from timid to brave and bold. No Holy Spirit to God sending the Holy Spirit. No Jesus to Jesus living in their hearts through the Holy Spirit.)*

How did Jesus' presence with his believers change? *(He had once been with them in person. Now he was with them in their hearts, forever, through the miracle of the Holy Spirit.)*

What did the apostles see and hear when the Holy Spirit came that day? *(They heard the sound of the wind fill the room. They saw what seemed to fire resting on each apostle, yet the fire did not hurt them.)*

How would you feel if a sudden wind came around you, and fire rested on you and your friends but did not burn anyone?

The wind and fire showed the apostles the power of the Holy Spirit. They also saw the power of the Holy Spirit when, suddenly, they were able to speak in many different languages. It was important for people to hear about Jesus in their own language so they could understand Jesus is Lord.

On that day the Holy Spirit came, Jerusalem had visitors from all over the world who spoke different languages. Why were they in Jerusalem that day? *(To celebrate Pentecost: a celebration of God giving the Ten Commandments 50 days after the Exodus.)*

Why do you think God chose the time when Jerusalem was filled with visitors from all over the world?

What do you think the visitors might have told their families and friends when they returned to their own lands? *(They might have talked about the apostles and the Holy Spirit, or shared the news about Jesus.)*

Imagine how many more believed when these visitors returned to their own lands to tell others about Jesus. In Acts 2:41, those that accepted the message were baptized. What an amazing thing that the work of the Holy Spirit brought over 3,000 people into the community on that day!

Now let us experience a little bit what it might have been like then to hear all of the different languages spoken at the same time. Even though the people could not understand what each other were saying, they were all saying the same thing. We are going to try. Each of you will speak a different language, but will know what the other is saying. Just like the day of Pentecost!

ACTIVITIES:

ACTIVITY 1: “Peace to You”

Assign each family member the phrase “Peace” in a different language. You may need to help each person practice saying their phrase. On the count of 3, ask family to say it loud and clear 3 times.... ALL AT THE SAME TIME. Repeat, as desired, and try new languages.

The phrases are as follows:

Peace	Language	Pronunciation
Salaam	Arabic	<i>sa-lahm</i>
Paix	French	<i>pay</i>
Frieden	German	<i>freeden</i>
Eirini se sas	Greek	<i>areeni</i>
Shalom	Hebrew	<i>shah-lome</i>
Pace	Italian	<i>paw-chay</i>
Heiwa	Japanese	<i>hay-wah</i>
Mir	Russian	<i>meer</i>
Paz	Spanish	<i>pawz</i>
Amani	Swahili	<i>ah-mah-nee</i>
Kapayapaan	Filipino	<i>kah-paya-pan</i>
Pachem	Latin	<i>paw-chem</i>
Fred	Norwegian	<i>frred</i>
Paz	Portuguese	<i>pawz</i>
Rauha	Finnish	<i>rou-oo-ha</i>

ACTIVITY 2: Making a Church

Supplies: wooden blocks and/or Legos, plastic cups, paper, markers or any supplies you have handy at your house that could be used to build.

Directions:

We are celebrating the birthday of the church. Use building materials and work together, or individually, to build or draw a church.

CLOSING:**LEARNING SCRIPTURE:**

Let us repeat this scripture together.

“They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, declaring the mighty works of God.”

Acts 2:4a, 11b (CEB)

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

God promised to pour out his Holy Spirit on all the people. Everyone who loves God and carries him in their hearts will be close to God forever. Let us see if we can share the love of the Holy Spirit this week!

CLOSING PRAYER**Let's pray:**

Lord, let the Holy Spirit.

Fill our hearts and minds with your love.

Let us act on this love

to serve our church

and give freely to its purpose

in serving you and your kingdom.

Breathe new life into our church.

Amen.

CLOSING SONG:

Supplies: [Click here](#) for the closing song, “We Will Worship” (Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara):

Play the closing song.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES – to continue our worship all week!

LET'S HELP THE CHURCH GROW EVEN MORE!

Supplies: sidewalk chalk (or other creative materials to share that it is the church's birthday!)

Go outside and together as a family draw a "Happy Birthday Church!" picture with sidewalk chalk where all your neighbors and friends can see! You can draw balloons, or streamers, or party hats – whatever you like to help celebrate!