5TH – 6TH GRADE · TEACHING PAGES · ACTS 2:1-47; GENESIS 11:1-9

The Holy Spirit Comes

At Pentecost the exalted Jesus poured out the promised Spirit, reversing Babel and fulfilling Joel. Peter's sermon called the crowd to repent and be baptized, 3,000 received new life, and the Spirit-filled church was marked by deep joy.

PRINCIPLE: JOY · The Holy Spirit is God's gift to everyone who trusts Jesus, and He fills God's people with real, deep joy.

Creation God made it	Fall We broke it	**Redemption Jesus fixes it**	Restoration Jesus makes it new

MEMORY VERSE

“And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Acts 2:21 BSB

START HERE

Ask, "What's the difference between happiness and joy?" Let them discuss. Say, "Today's story ends with people who had just given up a lot, yet were overflowing with joy. Let's find out why."

Bible story 10 min

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like a mighty rushing wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw tongues like fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

BIBLE TIMES

The feast of Pentecost

Pentecost was a harvest festival, also called the Feast of Weeks (Leviticus 23:15-21). Jewish people from many countries traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the first wheat harvest and thank God. So the city was packed with visitors who spoke many different languages.

Now there were God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. When this sound rang out, a crowd came together in confusion. Each one heard them speaking his own language. They were amazed. "Are not all these men Galileans? How is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?" Others mocked them. "They are drunk on new wine!"

BIBLE TIMES

Many languages

Jews had been scattered across the Roman Empire and beyond for hundreds of years. Many grew up

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speaking Greek, Latin, Aramaic, Persian, Egyptian or Arabic. When the disciples, who were from Galilee, spoke their home languages, the visitors were amazed.

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven. "These men are not drunk. It's only nine in the morning! This is what the prophet Joel said: 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out My Spirit on all people.' Jesus of Nazareth was handed over, and you put Him to death on a cross. But God raised Him up, setting Him free from death. Exalted to the right hand of God, He has poured out what you now see and hear. So let all Israel know for certain: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ!"

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

Compare Genesis 11:1-9 with Acts 2:5-11. Babel scattered the nations by confusing their language; Pentecost gathers the nations by speaking every language. The curse is turned around.

Now compare Exodus 32:28 with Acts 2:41. Pentecost was linked with the giving of the law at Sinai. There, right after the law was given, about 3,000 people died because of the golden calf. At Pentecost, when the Spirit was given, about 3,000 people were given new life. Paul says, "The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life" (2 Corinthians 3:6).

When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart. "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added that day.



DASCH DIGS UP…

About **3,000 people** believed and were baptized in one day. Acts 2:41

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Every day they met together and ate with glad and sincere hearts, praising God.

WORDS TO KNOW

Pentecost: A harvest feast 50 days after Passover.
Holy Spirit: God the Spirit, who lives in Jesus' followers.
Repent: To turn away from sin and turn to God.
Baptize: To wash with water as a sign of belonging to Jesus.
Church: God's family of people who follow Jesus.
Joy: Deep gladness that comes from God.
Babel: The city where God confused people's language.

CHRIST CONNECTION · JESUS' PLAN

Peter said the risen Jesus, exalted to God's right hand, "has poured out what you now see and hear" (Acts 2:33). Pentecost is Jesus keeping His promise to send the Helper. Peter's whole sermon points to Jesus, crucified and raised, as Lord and Christ.

Acts 2:32-36; John 14:16-17; John 16:7

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Talk about it

1. Outline Peter's sermon: what did he say about the Spirit, about Jesus, and about what to do?
   Answer help: The Spirit fulfills Joel; Jesus was crucified, raised and exalted as Lord and Christ; repent and be baptized.
2. Why was the crowd "cut to the heart" (2:37)?
   Answer help: They realized they had crucified the One God made Lord and Christ.
3. The crowd asked, "What shall we do?" How would you respond to Jesus today?



Ellie Asks: Think It Through

1. Compare Exodus 32:28 with Acts 2:41 and 2 Corinthians 3:6. What do the two 3,000s show?
   Answer help: The law brought death to 3,000 at Sinai; the Spirit brought life to 3,000 at Pentecost. The letter kills, the Spirit gives life.
2. How is the joy of Acts 2:46 different from ordinary happiness?
   Answer help: It comes from forgiveness and the Spirit's presence, not from circumstances. It's a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22).

Activities

Promise, power and response 15 min

You'll need: Bibles, Pencils, Printed handouts

1. Read Genesis 11:1-9, Exodus 32:28, Joel 2:28-32, John 16:7, Acts 2:36-41 and Galatians 5:22-23.
2. Chart what each passage shows about God's plan and the Spirit's work.
3. Finish the sentence - "The joy the Holy Spirit gives is different from happiness because..."

What shall I do? 8 min

You'll need: Pencils, Printed handouts

1. Write what you would have felt hearing Peter's sermon.
2. Write your own answer to "What shall we do?"
3. Write where you need the Spirit's joy and courage this week.

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Theo's Workshop Build challenge

Wind-powered pinwheels 15 min

You'll need: Square paper (6 x 6 inches), Pencils with erasers, Push pins (adult use), Ruler, Scissors, A small fan or hair dryer (cool setting)

1. Use the ruler to draw lines from each corner toward the center of the square. Stop each line 1 inch from the center.
2. Cut along the four lines. Bend every other point into the center (four points) and hold them together.
3. An adult pushes a pin through the points and the center into the pencil eraser. Leave a little space so it spins.
4. Test it! Blow on it, then hold it in front of the fan. Try it close to the fan, then 1 foot away, then 3 feet away. Which spins fastest?
5. Make a second pinwheel with longer cuts (stop 1/2 inch from the center). Does it catch more wind?
6. Read Acts 2:2. Ask, "What did the sound of the wind tell the disciples was happening?"

How it works: A pinwheel turns because its curved blades catch moving air and push it to the side, and the push sends the blade the other way, round and round. Longer, bigger blades catch more air. Wind is strongest close to the fan and spreads out as it travels, so the pinwheel slows down farther away. You can't see the air, but you can see its power.

The point: The disciples heard a sound like a mighty wind, and then they were filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Just as we can't see wind but can see what it moves, we can't see the Spirit, but we can see Him moving God's people to speak about Jesus with joy.

Safety: Adults handle push pins and scissors for younger kids. Keep fingers and hair away from the fan.



Real life today with Theo

Online and on screens	Social media sells happiness that fades by tomorrow. The Spirit's joy lasts because it rests on what Jesus has done.
At school	Peter, who once denied Jesus to a servant girl, now spoke to thousands. The Spirit turns fear into courage.
At church	Acts 2:42 is still the pattern for the church, teaching, fellowship, bread and prayer.

Sing and move

♪ **Spirit of the Living God** Hymn

♪ **Holy Spirit** Modern worship song

Live It
The crowd asked, "What shall we do?" Answer that question for yourself this week. If you're ready to trust and follow Jesus, or have questions about baptism, talk with a parent or church leader. And ask the Spirit to fill you with real joy.

Pray together
Lord Jesus, exalted at the Father's right hand, thank You for pouring out Your Spirit. Thank You that everyone who calls on Your name will be saved. Fill us with the Spirit's joy and courage, and gather people from every nation into Your family. Amen.

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Name: _____ Date: _____



THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES

ACTS 2:1-47

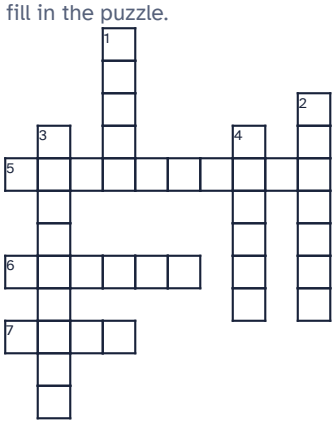
At Pentecost the exalted Jesus poured out the promised Spirit, reversing Babel and fulfilling Joel. Peter's sermon called the crowd to repent and be baptized, 3,000 received new life, and the Spirit-filled church was marked by deep joy.

MEMORY VERSE

And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
Acts 2:21

1 CROSSWORD

Use the clues to fill in the puzzle.



2 CLUES

Across
5. Sharing life together (2:42) (10)
6. Turn from sin to God (6)
7. Prophet who promised the Spirit (4)
Down
1. Where languages scattered (5)
2. To wash with water as a sign of belonging to Jesus (7)
3. The fiftieth day (9)
4. God's family of people who follow Jesus (6)

3 FILL IN THE VERSE

Use the words in the box.

everyone	calls	saved	name	lord

And _____ who _____ on the _____ of the _____ will be _____. (Acts 2:21)

Challenge: cover it up and say it from memory!

4 WHO SAID IT?

Write who said each one. Use the names in the box.

The crowd	God through Joel	Peter	Mockers in the crowd

1. "They are drunk on new wine!" _____
2. "I will pour out My Spirit on all people." _____
3. "Brothers, what shall we do?" _____
4. "Repent and be baptized, every one of you." _____

5 TRUE OR FALSE?

Circle T or F.

1. Peter said Jesus poured out the Spirit from God's right hand. **T / F**
2. About 3,000 died at Sinai and about 3,000 were saved at Pentecost. **T / F**
3. The first believers' joy depended on easy circumstances. **T / F**



6 DASCH DIGS UP...

Did you know?
★ "Pentecost" means **"fiftieth."** It came 50 days after Passover. Acts 2:1
★ The sound was like a **violent rushing wind**, and it filled the whole house! Acts 2:2



GOD SENT HIS SPIRIT!

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TAKE-HOME PAGE · THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES

Keep the story going at home

For grown-ups

Today we learned how **the Holy Spirit came**. On the day of Pentecost, the disciples heard a sound like a rushing wind and saw little flames on each person. The Holy Spirit filled them, and they told about Jesus in languages they had never learned! Peter preached about Jesus, and 3,000 people believed and were baptized.

Ask at dinner: *What does the Holy Spirit do for people who trust Jesus? What makes you truly joyful?*

This lesson invites kids to respond to Jesus. If your child has questions about following Jesus or about baptism, we'd love for you to talk with them, or bring them to a church leader.

Memory verse: "And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Acts 2:21)

Ask your child

1. Why was the crowd "cut to the heart" (2:37)?
2. Compare Exodus 32:28 with Acts 2:41 and 2 Corinthians 3:6. What do the two 3,000s show?
3. How is the joy of Acts 2:46 different from ordinary happiness?

Words to know

Pentecost: A harvest feast 50 days after Passover.
Holy Spirit: God the Spirit, who lives in Jesus' followers.
Repent: To turn away from sin and turn to God.
Baptize: To wash with water as a sign of belonging to Jesus.

This week

The crowd asked, "What shall we do?" Answer that question for yourself this week. If you're ready to trust and follow Jesus, or have questions about baptism, talk with a parent or church leader. And ask the Spirit to fill you with real joy.
Read Acts 2:22-47 together. Talk about how the first believers responded to Jesus and why they were so joyful.

✂ Cut out the verse card and put it where you'll see it every day.

MEMORY VERSE

“And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Acts 2:21

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Name: _____

Promise, power and response

Read Genesis 11:1-9, Exodus 32:28, Joel 2:28-32, John 16:7, Acts 2:36-41 and Galatians 5:22-23. Chart what each shows about God's plan and the Spirit's work. Then finish - "The joy the Holy Spirit gives is different from happiness because..."

Passage	What happens or is promised	How it connects to Pentecost
Genesis 11:1-9		
Exodus 32:28		
Joel 2:28-32		
John 16:7		
Acts 2:36-41		
Galatians 5:22-23		

Finish the sentence: “The joy the Holy Spirit gives is different from happiness because...”

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Name: _____

What shall I do?

Write what you'd have felt hearing Peter, your own answer to "What shall we do?", and where you need the Spirit's joy and courage.

What I would have felt hearing Peter's sermon:

My answer to "What shall we do?":

Where I need the Spirit's joy and courage this week:

My prayer:

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