

The Holy Spirit (Pentecost)

Spark Story Bible pp. 502-503

Acts 2:1-21, 36-42

Read the story with your child, either from the Bible or their Story Bible.

We celebrate Pentecost as the birthday of the church, when God sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus' followers. They were all gathered together when the spirit came. It sounded like a roaring wind and looked like flames. Suddenly everyone could speak in different languages and understand each other! The Spirit empowered the people to spread the good news of Jesus all over the world.

Activities*

- Talk about it - as a family, think about how the followers of Jesus must have felt when they heard the loud wind and saw the flames. What must it have been like to hear all of those different languages at once? Talk about ways we can listen for the Holy Spirit guiding us. Describe how it feels to know that God is always with us.
- Make a fish - practice drawing a simple fish outline using two curved lines. Back during the time of the disciples, it was dangerous to be a Christian, and so they often had to hide to stay safe. They used this drawing of a fish as a secret picture to tell other Christians who they were. They would draw this fish in the sand or dirt. Display your drawing to show that you're a Christian, too.
- Play a game - instead of Simon Says, play The Spirit Says with your family. The Spirit is the feeling you have when you know that God is with you and He loves you. The Spirit is the way God is with us everywhere we go.
- Have a party - we celebrate the birth of the church on Pentecost. Even though this day isn't observed in the church until the end of May, you can still celebrate the day a little early with a special treat!
- Pray - the Holy Spirit still moves in all of us and is at work in the world. When you pray, invite the Holy Spirit to work within you and help you to share God's love in the world.

*These activities were gathered from our purchased curriculum - Bible Story Basics, Spring 2020, Volume 1, Number 3. Published by Abingdon Press.