

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

THE HOLY SPIRIT AT PENTECOST



HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

MONTHLY PREPARATION GUIDE

BONUS LESSON

In the *Holy Spirit Baptism* lesson, we focus on teaching kids about the Holy Spirit Baptism. For this week only, we will be talking about how the Holy Spirit is our Helper. He comes to fill us with more of Himself. The verse the class will be memorizing is found in John 16:7—“When I go away, I will send the Helper to you.” Join in with the children as they discover more about the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

ELEMENTARY

LESSON MATERIALS: Phone or Laptop with a Speaker (1 per class), *Flame* (1 per child), *Pentecost Flame* Sheet (1 per class), Brass Fasteners (1 per child), Scissors, Markers or Crayons

PRE-K

LESSON MATERIALS: *Flame* (1 per child), 2” Construction Paper Strips (1 per child), Tape or Glue, Scissors, Crayons

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

BIBLE PASSAGE

Acts 2:1-6, 12 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit is our Helper.

FOCUS VERSE

“When I go away, I will send the Helper to you.” John 16:7 (NIV)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Puzzle Piece | *Flame* (1 per child) | 2” Construction Paper Strips (1 per child) | Tape or Glue | Scissors | Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- Have you ever been on a trip? Where did you go?
- What is your favorite thing to do in the sun?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Today is Pentecost where we celebrate the Holy Spirit coming down from heaven to live in God’s people. One way to prepare the kids’ minds and hearts for this day is to play worship songs that talk about the Holy Spirit. Here are some options we recommend:

- “Holy Spirit” from *Worship Together Kids*
- “Freedom” from *Bethel Kids*
- “Spirit Fall” from *Chris Tomlin*
- “Open Heaven” from *Hillsong Worship*
- “Doxology” from *Getty Kids Hymnal*

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

Gather the children for prayer.



CHILDREN LEARN BEST WITH STRUCTURE. CHOOSE A PLACE TO PRAY THIS WEEK AND CONTINUE TO PRAY THERE EVERY WEEK TO DEVELOP A CONSISTENT AND PREDICTABLE ROUTINE.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “Jesus, thank You for always listening when we talk to You. Help us learn something new about You today. Make our hearts ready for what we will be learning! In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES



BEFORE BEGINNING THE LESSON, IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO EXPLAIN THAT TODAY’S STORY TAKES PLACE ONLY TEN DAYS AFTER JESUS HAD ASCENDED (OR GONE UP) TO HEAVEN. JESUS DIED, WAS BURIED, AND WAS RAISED TO LIFE ONLY FIFTY DAYS EARLIER.

BACKGROUND: Say, “Today, we will be learning about the Holy Spirit! Who can tell me what they know about the Holy Spirit (sometimes called the Holy Ghost)? If you do not know anything about Him, that is OK because you will know a lot about Him before you leave today. Let’s take some time to look at what the Bible teaches us about the Holy Spirit!”

TRANSITION: Say, “But first, let’s play a game to prepare for our story!”

ENGAGE — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Today, we are going to play a game called *Duck, Duck, Goose*. Who knows how to play that game? Great! In this game, we are touching our friends’ heads, but in our story today, we will hear about something special that touches heads. Let’s play *Duck, Duck, Goose* together.”

GAME GOAL: To not get tagged by the person who is “it” by sitting down faster than they can catch you.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Instruct everyone to sit in a circle facing each other.
2. Choose one person to be “it.”
3. The person who is “it” will walk around the outside of the circle tapping each person’s head while saying “duck” with each tap.
4. While the tagger is making their way around the circle tapping heads, he/she will choose someone to be “goose” (in their head). When they come to that person in the circle, instead of calling them “duck,” they will call them “goose.” The “goose” must run after and tag the one who tagged them.
5. If the “goose” does not tag them before the tagger finds a spot to sit down in the circle, the “goose” is now “it,” and the person who sat down is safe. Continue this pattern as time and interest allows.

TRANSITION: Say, “Great job everyone! That was fun! Let’s see how *Duck, Duck, Goose* gets us ready to hear our story.”

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

Say, “Today’s story happens ten days after Jesus went up to heaven. Can everyone show me ten fingers? Great! Even though Jesus left to heaven, He said that He would send another Helper. This is great news because this Helper stays with God’s people forever. Let’s find out who this special Helper is.” Read Acts 2:1-6, 12 (ICB).



WHILE READING THE STORY, HAVE THE CHILDREN CLOSE THEIR EYES AND PICTURE WHAT THIS EVENT WOULD LOOK AND SOUND LIKE. YOU CAN ALSO HAVE ALL THE CHILDREN RUB THEIR HANDS TOGETHER AT ONCE TO CREATE A NOISE LIKE A STRONG WIND.

¹ When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a noise came from heaven. It sounded like a strong wind blowing. This noise filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw something that looked like flames of fire. The flames were separated and stood over each person there. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages. The Holy Spirit was giving them the power to speak these languages. ⁵ There were some religious Jews staying in Jerusalem who were from every country in the world. ⁶ When they heard this noise, a crowd came together. They were all surprised, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. ¹² They were all amazed and confused. They asked each other, "What does this mean?"

Say, "What a great story! We call this day in the Bible, Pentecost! Can everyone say that word with me? PENTECOST. On this day, we celebrate that God and His Son, Jesus, sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus' followers."

Ask, "Who can tell me what touched the follower's heads? Yes! Flames of fire! The Holy Spirit helped Jesus' followers by filling them with Himself (called being 'baptized in the Holy Spirit'). Because the Holy Spirit was their Helper, we can know that **the Holy Spirit is our Helper** too! God knew Jesus' friends would need a Helper and knew we would need a Helper too--that is why He gave us His Holy Spirit. Aren't you grateful **the Holy Spirit is our Helper**?"



IT IS IMPORTANT TO CLARIFY THAT WHEN A PERSON BELIEVES IN JESUS, REPENTS OF THEIR SINS, AND ASKS JESUS TO BE THEIR LORD, THE HOLY SPIRIT IMMEDIATELY BECOMES A PART OF THEIR LIFE (EPH. 1:13-14). EVERY BELIEVER HAS THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS DIFFERENT. IT IS WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT FILLS HIS FOLLOWERS IN A GREATER WAY, AND IT IS THE BEGINNING OF A SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE. THE BAPTISM OF THE SPIRIT IS A FREE GIFT. WE DO NOT EARN IT, BUT WE PRAY FOR GOD TO FILL US WITH MORE OF HIS SPIRIT.

TRANSITION: Say, "The Holy Spirit is our Helper. Anyone who believes in Jesus can be filled with the Holy Spirit. All we need to do is ask for it."

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, "Alright, let's talk some more about this story and what we can learn about the Holy Spirit."

1. Who is our Helper?

Response: **The Holy Spirit is our Helper.**

2. Who is the Holy Spirit for?

Response: The Holy Spirit is for all believers: adults and children, men and women, boys and girls. (See Joel 2:28-29 and Acts 2:17.)

3. What did the disciples/followers hear in the house?

Response: They heard a sound like a "strong wind blowing" coming from heaven.

4. What was the sign that Jesus' followers were being filled with the Holy Spirit?

Response: There were flames of fire that rested over each person.

5. Why do we need the Holy Spirit's help?

Response: Answers will vary.

6. Are there any questions you have about this story or about the Holy Spirit?

Response: Answers will vary.

7. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit from this story?

Response: **The Holy Spirit is our Helper**, the Holy Spirit lives in us, the Holy Spirit has power, the Holy Spirit came when Jesus left, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "WOW! We learned lots of new thing about the Holy Spirit. Do you feel like you know about the Holy Spirit now? Great! Let's do a craft to go with our lesson."

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Flame* (1 per child) | 2" Construction Paper Strips (1 per child) | Crayons | Tape or Glue | Scissors |



TEACHERS, IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO PRE-CUT THE FLAME FOR THOSE IN YOUR CLASS WHO DO NOT KNOW HOW TO USE SCISSORS.

Say, "Remember when we played *Duck, Duck, Goose*, and we touched everyone's heads? Well, we will be making a flame, just like the flames of fire that sat over each follower's head. It will remind us to ask God for more of the Holy Spirit like Jesus' friends. Remember, **the Holy Spirit is our Helper.**"

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cut the construction paper into long strips about two inches thick and give one to each child.
2. Next, help the children tape or glue the short ends of the construction paper together to create a head strap.
3. Then, the kids will color their *Flames* while the teachers help the children cut it out.
4. Assist the children in taping or gluing the *Flame* to the middle of their own construction paper head strap.
5. Let the head straps dry for a few minutes before letting the children wear their flames like crowns.

TRANSITION: Say, "What a great reminder of our story! Let's do a memory verse to go along with our story while we wear our flames on our head!"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Aren't you grateful Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us after He left? **The Holy Spirit is our Helper!** Jesus does not ever leave us alone! Today's memory verse is about Jesus sending the Holy Spirit. Let's practice it together!"

"When I go away (point both hands to heaven), I will send (point straight ahead) the Helper (hold your hand out like you're giving someone something) to you." John 16:7 (NIV)

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Who thinks they have learned something new that they did not know before? I know I did! Do you want to hear some more good news about our story? The Holy Spirit did not JUST come to Jesus' followers back then. He comes to us today too! And the Holy Spirit at Pentecost is the same today as He was then!"



TEACHERS, PRAY THAT THE CHILDREN WOULD BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT LIKE THE DISCIPLES WERE ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST. IF ANY OF THE KIDS IN YOUR CLASS EXPRESS AN INTEREST IN BEING BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, SHARE THIS WITH THEIR PARENTS AND YOUR CHILDREN'S LEADER OR PASTOR. SEEK GUIDANCE ON WHEN A GOOD TIME WOULD BE TO PRAY WITH THAT CHILD TO RECEIVE MORE OF GOD'S SPIRIT.

SAMPLE PRAYER: "Jesus, You are so powerful and caring! Thank You for sending Your Spirit to help us do Your will. Thank You for giving us Yourself in this amazing way. We are so grateful that You sent Your Spirit to fill all of Your followers – even children. In Jesus' name, Amen."

RELEASE —

If you have any time remaining, you can replay *Duck, Duck, Goose*. You could also practice the memory verse again or even act out the story as a group using the flame headbands.

