

Activity: "The Spirit of Pentecost"

Leader's guide

Objective: To help children reflect on the events of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-11), focusing on the power of the Holy Spirit and how it helps people to share God's message with others.

You will need:

- Coloured paper or card (red, yellow, orange for flames)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Markers or pens
- A large sheet of paper or whiteboard
- A small fan or something to create a gentle breeze (optional)
- A Bible or printed passage of Acts 2:1-11

Steps:

1. Quick Reflection on Pentecost (5 minutes):

- Read Acts 2:1-11 aloud (or paraphrase in simpler language for children). Example paraphrase: "The disciples were all gathered together in one place when suddenly there was a loud noise, like a strong wind. Then something like flames appeared and rested on each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in different languages, and everyone heard them in their own language. The Holy Spirit helped them share God's message with people from all over."
- What did the disciples experience when the Holy Spirit came? (wind, flames, speaking in different languages)
- How did the Holy Spirit help the disciples? (It helped them share God's message)





2. Make Pentecost Flames (10 minutes):

- Give each child a piece of red, orange, or yellow paper and ask them to cut out a flame shape. This represents the tongues of fire that appeared on the disciples' heads.
- As they cut out their flames, encourage them to think about how the Holy Spirit gives us the courage to do amazing things, just like it gave the disciples the courage to speak in different languages.
- Once the flames are cut out, they can write or draw on the flames what the Holy Spirit helps them to do, for example: "be kind", "help others", "speak up for Jesus", "share love".
- After the flames are ready, have them stick them on the wall or a large piece of paper to form a "flame wall" or "Pentecost fire" as a group.

3. Spirit Wind (5 minutes):

- If possible, use a small fan or create a gentle breeze by waving a piece of card. The idea is to mimic the "rushing wind" described in the passage (Acts 2:2).
- Ask the children how they imagine the disciples felt when they heard the wind.
- Explain that the Holy Spirit is like the wind: we can't see it, but we can feel its presence and know its effects.
- Encourage the children to feel the wind and think about how the Holy
 Spirit moves us to do good things in the world.





4. Group Reflection (5 minutes):Gather the group together and ask:

- o What do you think the Holy Spirit can help us do today?
- How can we share God's love and message with others like the disciples did? (ideas might include being kind, speaking to others about Jesus, helping at home or school, etc.)
- Encourage them to think of one thing they can do this week to show the Holy Spirit's work in their lives.

5. Call to Action (5 minutes):

- Ask the children to think about someone they can share God's love with this week.
- Have them write it down on a piece of paper or on the back of their flame and bring it up to stick it on the "flame wall" or on the whiteboard. This is their "call to action" to be like the disciples and share God's love.

6. Closing Prayer (5 minutes):

• End with a prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help everyone live with courage, kindness, and the ability to share God's love.

Example prayer:

 "Come, Holy Spirit, and fill us with your love and power. Help us to be brave like the disciples and share God's message with others. Give us the courage to show kindness and speak of your love this week. Amen."