Pentecost and the Holy Spirit

Many languages, one good news

Ages about 7-11 | Video 3:55 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost, enabling Jesus's followers to share the good news with people from many lands.

Learning goals Children will recall wind, tongues like fire, and many languages; identify the Holy Spirit as divine; and choose a welcoming action.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online Open this video on Servus Dei

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask: How can people feel welcome when they speak different languages? Watch how the visitors hear the good news in their own languages.

Watch and notice

Notice the disciples praying, the windlike sound, tongues like fire, Peter speaking, and people asking how to respond.

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. What signs accompanied the Spirit's coming?
A sound like a strong wind and tongues like fire; these signs point to God's action.

2. Why were the visitors amazed?
They heard the disciples tell God's mighty works in languages they understood.

3. What did Peter invite the people to do?
Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

4. How can we welcome someone different from us?
Learn a respectful greeting, listen patiently, include someone, and ask an adult for language help.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

Pentecost and the Holy Spirit

Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Draw people hearing the good news at Pentecost and a welcoming action today.

Read & Write Recall the signs, explain the language miracle, and plan a welcome.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: practice greetings with adult help; accept drawing or spoken answers.

Ages 9-11: distinguish the Spirit's divine Person from the symbols of wind and fire.

A welcome in many voices | Optional 4 minutes

With adult guidance, learn a greeting in a language used by someone in your community. Make a welcome card using that greeting and a kind picture. Check pronunciation and meaning rather than guessing.

Look for understanding Children identify the Spirit as God, explain that people understood the message, and choose a welcoming act without stereotyping a language or culture.

Closing prayer Come, Holy Spirit. Give us courage to speak the truth, patience to listen, and love to welcome others. Amen.

At home Read part of Acts 2 with an adult and welcome someone through a kind greeting or invitation.

Handout answer notes Signs: windlike sound or tongues like fire. Languages: visitors understood God's mighty works in their own languages. Plans: safe and specific welcome.

Teach with care

Read Acts 2 before teaching. Use paper symbols only; do not use flames or claim children must have extraordinary signs to receive the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, not merely an energy or a created spirit. Wind and tongues like fire are biblical signs. Pentecost is often called the Church's birthday; Christ had already gathered his disciples. Courage does not mean believers never feel fear.

Words to explain Pentecost: the feast when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples. Trinity: one God in three Persons. Repent: turn away from sin and toward God.

Sources for the leader

Story source: Servus Dei video and English subtitle

Scripture: Acts 2 - USCCB

Catholic teaching: The Holy Spirit - Catechism, Article 8