



THE BIG IDEA

THE BIBLE

The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

The Holy Spirit Appears at Pentecost: Acts 2:1-21; (Psalm 139:7-10)

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this <u>video</u>, "Run To Love." Allow the kids periods of time to run around the room.
- Today we are going to talk about how everyone can come to know God. God's waiting for us with open arms so let's run!

ACTIVITY | Around the World in A to Z

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split the kids into two or more teams depending on the size of your group. Give each team paper and pencils and have them come up with a list of as many countries around the world as they can think of by going down the alphabet. After five minutes, have teams take turns calling out their answers as you write them on a board. They can't call out an answer that's already on the board. Keep going until all teams but one run out of answers.
- Did you know there are 195 countries in the world? That's a lot of different cultures, languages, and traditions! And God cares about every single person in every single one of these countries!
- In today's Bible story, we're going to find out what Jesus wanted the disciples and us – to do in the world.

OBJECT LESSON | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Four

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Wrap a model kit (like this <u>wood model kit</u> to stay on theme) and attach a gift tag with your name on it. Make sure you open it beforehand so you can unbox it easily.
- The Holy Spirit is a special gift from God. God gives us this gift to show us love and kindness . . . and because we really need it! Why do we need the Holy Spirit?

LEGACY | WEEK 4 ELEMENTARY AT-HOME LESSON

- First of all, how do you feel when you get a gift? What if you got a gift on a day that you were feeling down? It would have helped you feel better to know that someone cares about you, right?
 - The Holy Spirit is always with us and comforts us when we need it.
- It's important to know where a gift comes from and who it's for. We usually find this information on a card or a gift tag (Show everyone the gift tag that has your name on it).
 - Much like a gift tag tells us who the gift belongs to, the Holy Spirit lets us know that we belong to God.
- And when we get a nicely-wrapped gift, what do some of us like to do before opening it? We like to shake it and try to guess what's inside. We might make our best guess, but we won't know until we actually unwrap the box (*Remove the wrapping paper*).
 - Whenever we don't know what God wants us to do, the Holy Spirit tells us!
- What do we have here? It's a model kit. I don't know know how to make this model! What do I do? Ah, yes, I need to find the instruction manual (*Pull out the instruction manual for the kit*).
 - The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's instructions to us and guides us through each step.
- In order to put this kit together, I need all the pieces. And here they are, inside this box (*Dump out contents onto table*)!
 - The Holy Spirit provides us with all the tools we need to draw closer to God our own "gifts" and abilities to do God's work.
- Let's see what kinds of things people were able to do because of the Holy Spirit!

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 4 – "The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost"

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's Bible Story video with Pastor Robin.

SCRIPTURE | Acts 2:1-21

- Review today's Bible story.
- Can you imagine being suddenly able to speak other languages?
- Imagine meeting a friend from another country who doesn't speak the language you speak. How could you communicate with them if you don't speak their language?
- Let's travel back in time to see what happened on a special day called Pentecost.
- When the Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples, it was a time when their city was filled with people visiting from other countries who spoke other languages.
- While a bunch of Jesus' followers were gathered together, the Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak the people's language! It gave the disciples the opportunity to share the good news about Jesus with everyone without language differences stopping them.
- Even though all of Jesus' followers at first came from a single culture, God wanted them to know that it shouldn't stop there. God was giving the disciples power through the Holy Spirit to start doing amazing things for God beyond their own borders.
- When anyone believes in Jesus, they can receive the Holy Spirit. When we have the Holy Spirit in us, it's like having God's help wherever we go.



BONUS SCRIPTURE | Psalm 139:7-10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Psalm 139:7-10 together.
- Who is the spirit that is being talked about here?
- This psalm reminds us that the Holy Spirit is everywhere we can't hide from the Holy Spirit. **How does that make you feel?**
- Maybe it makes you feel a little afraid because you think God is just waiting around for you to make a mistake. But that's not the case. The Holy Spirit is everywhere because God loves you and wants to be with you. And there's no place that is out of reach for the Holy Spirit.
- This is how we know that the Holy Spirit is for everyone!

DISCUSSION

- Where were the disciples when the Holy Spirit appeared?
- What happened when the people were filled with the Holy Spirit?
- What did people think about the disciples when they heard them speaking their own languages?
- How does knowing that the Holy Spirit is for everyone affect how you treat others?
- What is one way the Holy Spirit can change you?

RESPONSE | Holy Spirit Hunt

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Divide the kids into four groups. Give each group one of the Bible verses listed below and have them read it together. You could either have kids use their own Bibles, or print out the full text of these verses on a sheet of paper for them. Then ask each group the question pertaining to their assigned verse and have them come up with an answer as a group.
- How do we get the Holy Spirit? (Luke 11:13)
 - We need to ask God.
- What must we do before inviting in the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:38)
 - We need to repent. We need to turn away from sin and follow God.
- What is another name for the Holy Spirit (John 14:16)
 - Helper, Advocate, Counselor (depending on your translation).
 - Where does the Holy Spirit live? (John 14:17)
 - \circ The Holy Spirit lives within us.

ACTIVITY | Decoder Gadget

• **INSTRUCTIONS**: Give each kid a Decoder printable, scissors, and a brad. Have them cut out the two circles, overlap them at the middle, and bind them together by poking the brad through the middle. Have kids rotate the circles and line up the letters in any position they want. The bigger circle is for the letters in the original text, and the smaller circle will be the code letters.



- **PRETEEN HACK:** Afterward, have kids write a one-sentence message they can share about God in code. They can swap papers and try to crack each other's code using the decoder gadget.
- **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Assign a peer or adult volunteer to work together with. You can let kids play with the decoder ring and ask them to call out what new letter is under the original letters each time they turn the ring.
- Write today's Big Idea: **The Holy Spirit is for everyone.** Then under it, write the message in code, using your new decoder. Once you line up the letters, keep it in that position for the whole code!

PRAYER

• Dear God, we are so grateful your love includes all of us. Thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit, so we're never truly alone. Help us to be the ones who remind the world that the Holy Spirit is for everyone. Amen.

