

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 1 • Unit 8 • Week 4

PENTECOST AND THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

OBJECTIVE:

To learn about Pentecost and God's Holy Spirit.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies: 50 pennies in a big bowl
Calendar (optional)

Note: Depending on your class size, you may want to divide the class into more than one group so that each group may count 50 pennies. You will need 50 pennies for each group.

Do: Put the bowl of 50 pennies in the center of your group.

Say: Today we are going to learn about God's Feast of Pentecost. Pentecost means to count 50. This is because it is always 50 days from Sunday (the day after the Sabbath) during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Do: Have the children count the 50 pennies by stacking them in seven piles of seven with one left over.

Say: These pennies represent the 50 days, or seven Sabbaths plus one day, that come after the Sunday during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

Now it is time for the Feast of Pentecost.

Do: If you have sufficient time you may want to copy a calendar and have the children place one penny on each day, starting with the day after the weekly Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

BIBLE LESSON:

Say: What's special about the day of Pentecost? [It's one of God's Holy Days, we go to church; etc.]

Say: These things are true, but it is also a day we rejoice and give thanks to God because He gave His Church His Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

Do: Read or paraphrase Acts 2:1-4.

When the day of Pentecost came, God's people were all together. Suddenly, they heard a very loud sound like a rushing mighty wind that filled the whole place where they were sitting.

Then they saw what looked like bright shining flames of fire that came to rest on each of them. All of the people were filled with God's Holy Spirit and they began to speak in other languages.

This was the first time that God gave His Spirit to a group of His people, and He did it in a powerful way.

Say: A wonderful miracle happened on the day of Pentecost—God gave His people the Holy Spirit.

Ask: What is God's Holy Spirit? And what does it do?

Say: The Holy Spirit is the power of God. It is how God works in our lives. Pentecost reminds us of the wonderful gift God gives us—His Holy Spirit. With God's Spirit, His people have the power to obey His laws. God loves us so much that He gives us His Spirit so we can reflect God's love. When we let the Holy Spirit work in us, God's love and concern flows through us and His love overflows to others.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Supplies: Glass jar
Large baking pan with sides
Measuring utensils
Baking soda
Vinegar
Food coloring
Container
Pentecost worksheet,

Prepare: Pre-measure one tablespoon of baking soda and place it in the glass jar. Pre-measure one cup of vinegar and add food coloring. Place the vinegar and food coloring in a container to bring to class.

- Say: Let's think about that: "God's Spirit overflows in us."
- Ask: What are some things that you have seen overflow? [Sinks, toilets, rivers, trash cans, glass of milk, etc.]
- Say: Let's see what overflows in this experiment.
- Do: Set the jar in the middle of the baking pan (with one tablespoon of baking soda already in it). Pour the pre-measured cup of vinegar with food coloring into the jar. Watch the liquid bubble up and overflow.
- Say: When the vinegar and soda mixed together, it formed a gas called carbon dioxide. The gas pushed the liquid out of the jar so that the liquid overflowed.
- This can help us understand how God's Holy Spirit reacts when we use it. It helps God's way to come out of us! The Holy Spirit helps us to do things that we can't do by ourselves. It flows in us so we can be more like God and overflows so we can help others too.
- Ask: What are some things that you need God's Spirit to help you with?
- Say: When you hear the word Pentecost, you should think of how God showed His love by sending us the Holy Spirit.
- Do: If there is time, you may want to hand out the Pentecost activity (page 5) and have the children color it.

Music:

Sing the following to the tune of "God Is Calling Children" by Mark Graham, page 51 in the United Church of God hymnal. The following lyrics are by Sue Blumel.

THE FEASTS OF GOD

These are Feasts of God,
Holy convocations.
Passover is the first,
When Jesus died for us.

Unleavened Bread is next,
When we eat flat bread and such.
Count 50 from the wavesheaf
Come to Pentecost.

The Feast of Trumpets signals when

Jesus Christ returns as King.
On Atonement we don't eat a thing,
But reconcile to God.

The Feast of Tabernacles comes,
and we learn God's Way of peace.
The Last Great Day completes God's plan
For all who ever lived.

MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 5:5 "...because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit [which] was given to us."

Do: Rehearse the memory verse a few times with the children by playing a partner clapping game. Assign each child a partner. Say the words of the verse and clap as instructed below.

because	slap legs
the	clap hands
love	clap partner's hands
of	clap hands
God	slap legs
has	clap hands
been	clap partner's hands
poured	clap hands
out	slap legs
in	clap hands
our	clap partner's hands
hearts	clap hands
by	slap legs
the	clap hands
Holy	clap partner's hands
Spirit	clap hands
which	slap legs
was	clap hands
given	clap partner's hands
to	clap hands
us	slap legs
Romans	clap hands
5	clap partner's
5	clap hands

THE FIRST NEW TESTAMENT PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-4



family activity

THE POINT:

Today we learned about Pentecost and God's Holy Spirit.

ASK ME...

- What does the word Pentecost mean?
- How do we know when to keep Pentecost?
- What wonderful, miraculous thing happened on the day of Pentecost?
- What is God's Holy Spirit?
- How does God's Spirit help us?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Find a calendar and count 50 days with your children from the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread (or that first day if it is a Sabbath). Remind them that Pentecost means to count 50

Have a family discussion of how God's Spirit helps your family. Think of as many ways as possible. You may even discuss how God's Spirit overflows so that we may help others. You may want to talk about starting a family service project.

Instructions: Cut the strip off the bottom of this page. You will see this week's memory verse on the back. After your child has learned the verse, glue the two ends together, forming a link of a paper chain. Each lesson's memory verse will add a new link to their chain of Bible knowledge.

-----cut along dotted line-----

(Teacher's note: please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)