



# The Holy Spirit Arrives

Acts 2:1–47



## LESSON GOAL

Students will repent and place their faith in Christ and thus receive the promise of the Holy Spirit.

## LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Describe how the Spirit revealed His coming at Pentecost.
- Explain why the crowd was amazed on Pentecost.
- Summarize the key points of Peter's sermon on Pentecost.
- List characteristics of the 3,000 converts and the early church.

## KEY VERSE

“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’”

—Acts 2:38–39

## APPLICATION

- Be filled with the Spirit by submitting to God's will.
- Testify to the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus.
- Continue steadfastly in the apostle's teaching and in prayer.
- Share with saints who have needs.

## NEXT WEEK

Peter and John Preach the Gospel  
Read Acts 3:1–4:31.

### Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

# Teacher Planning Sheet

## PREPARE

Objectives/Truths to cover this week

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Application

*As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to...*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

*Three ways students need to apply this passage are...*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## POINT

*Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## PROCLAIM

*Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.*

### Presentation Ideas

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Praise/Music Ideas

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## PRACTICE

*Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.*

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- \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials Needed:**

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## PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

*“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul... you shall teach them to your children.” —Deuteronomy 11:18–19*

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here that will aid you in understanding the Scripture.

### Bible Background

#### Introduction

Immediately after Jesus’ ascension, the apostles returned to Jerusalem to wait for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. During the days between Jesus’ ascension and Pentecost, the apostles prayed in the upper room with Mary, the mother of Jesus, various other women, and Jesus’ brothers (Acts 1:13-14). (All together one hundred and twenty disciples were gathered in Jerusalem at this time (Acts 1:15).) In addition to praying in the upper room, the apostles were “continually in the temple praising and blessing God” (Luke 24:53). While the apostles waited for the promised coming of the Holy Spirit, they prepared to fulfill Christ’s commission by selecting a twelfth apostle to replace Judas (Acts 1:15–26). They chose from among the men who had been with Jesus “beginning with the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us” (Acts 1:22). The apostles were eager to begin testifying to Jesus’ resurrection but faithfully waited for the outpouring of the Spirit.

#### The Baptism of the Spirit (Acts 2:1–13)

The baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred 50 days after Passover on the Day of Pentecost. The Day of Pentecost (which means fiftieth in Greek) refers to the Jewish Feast of Weeks, so-called because it occurred a seven weeks (“a week of weeks”) after Passover (Exod. 34:22). The feast was also called the Feast of Harvest because Israel was commanded to offer two loaves made from the wheat harvest (Lev. 23:15–17). The Law required that all Jewish men come to present themselves before God at the Feast of Pentecost (Exod. 23:14–17). Jerusalem may have even been more crowded during the Feast of Pentecost than it had been at Passover because the weather made for better traveling conditions.

Although not an eyewitness, Luke vividly describes the outpouring of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit came while “they were all with one accord in one place” (Acts 2:1). Luke does not specify who the “all” were or where they were. While the twelve apostles were definitely present, the fact that 120 believers had been assembling together (Acts 1:15) suggests that the “all” included the whole group. It is possible that the Spirit came while the believers were located in the upper room (Acts 1:13–14). The Spirit’s coming was miraculously revealed to those present when they heard a “sound from heaven” which was like a “rushing mighty wind” (Acts 2:2). They saw what looked like “tongues, as of fire,” rest upon each person (2:3). The sound like wind and the appearance like flickering flames was accompanied by the filling of the Holy Spirit, a temporary demonstration of the Spirit’s power in the life of a believer. The believer’s being filled with the Spirit was an evidence that the baptism of the Spirit had occurred. After being filled with the Holy Spirit, those present “began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave

them utterance" (2:4). The Holy Spirit's enabling of the 120 to speak in other languages was a dramatic proof that the baptism of the Spirit had occurred.

When the multitude in Jerusalem heard the sound of the rushing wind, they naturally came to investigate (Acts 2:6). But instead of answers, the crowd had only more questions. Among those in the crowd were "dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven" who were "confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language (2:5–6). The Jews were shocked not only to hear their native languages being spoken but also to hear them spoken by Galileans (2:7–8). The crowds did not expect the largely uneducated Galileans to speak in their native languages. Regardless of what country they came from (2:8–11), the Jews (and even some proselytes from Rome) heard in their "own tongue the wonderful works of God" (2:11). When the crowds heard in their own languages the wonders of God, no doubt including the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, they were divided in their initial response. Some simply wondered what to make of the mysterious events while others mocked and assumed the believers were drunk (2:13).

### **The Power of the Spirit (Acts 2:14–36)**

Before His ascension, Jesus had promised the apostles that they would receive power after they had been baptized with the Holy Spirit and they would by His witnesses in Jerusalem (Acts 1:7–8). Just as Jesus had promised, the apostles powerfully witnessed to Jesus on Pentecost. After hearing the crowds assume they were drunk, Peter stood up (with the other eleven apostles) and addressed the crowd.

Peter began his witness by explaining to the crowd what they were seeing. Instead of seeing drunk men (it was only the "third hour" or nine in the morning!), the crowds were seeing the fulfillment of Scripture. Quoting from Joel 2:28–32, Peter explained through the prophecy that the last days had begun and that God had begun to pour out His Spirit (Acts 2:17–21). Although Joel's prophecy will be fulfilled completely at the "coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord" when Christ returns in judgment, the promised baptism of the Spirit had come. (The book of Acts records how this prophecy continues to be fulfilled as more and more people believed in Christ and experienced the baptism of the Spirit. The prophecy is still being fulfilled as men and women receive the Spirit at conversion.)

After explaining that the promised baptism of the Spirit had come, Peter testified to Jesus, just as Jesus predicted he would (Acts 1:7). Peter began by testifying to Jesus' life (2:22). He told the crowd how God demonstrated that Jesus was the Messiah through His "miracles, wonders, and signs" which they themselves had seen. He next accused the crowd of being responsible for crucifying and killing Jesus although God had decreed the murder should happen (2:23). Peter followed by proclaiming the resurrection of Christ (2:24) and giving Scriptural proof from Psalm 16:8–11 (quoted in Acts 2:25–28) that King David had prophesied that the Messiah would rise from the dead (Acts 2:29–31). Although the Psalm sounds like David is speaking of himself, Peter explained that David understood that His descendant would sit on his throne and "foreseeing this, spoke concerning Christ" (Acts 2:31). Peter concluded His testimony by proclaiming that the resurrected Jesus had been "exalted to the right hand of the God" (2:33). The Spirit's being outpoured at Pentecost testified to Jesus' ascension as did another Davidic psalm (Psalm 110:1). In Mark 12:35–37, Jesus used the same psalm quoted by Peter (Acts 2:34–35) to testify that He is not only David's son but also his Lord. In Psalm 110:1, David prophesied that his Lord the Messiah would sit at the Father's right hand. Peter finished his testimony to Jesus by proclaiming "God has made this

Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36). Peter's use of Scripture demonstrated that Jesus was both the Lord and the promised Messiah.

### **The Promise of the Spirit (Acts 2:37–47)**

Following Peter's explanation of Pentecost and testimony to Jesus' resurrection and ascension, the crowds were "cut to the heart" and begged to know what they should do (Acts 2:37). The Holy Spirit had worked through Peter's message to convict the crowds of their wickedness in crucifying their Messiah. Peter called upon the crowds to repent, by turning away from their sins and submitting themselves to God, and to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, demonstrating their allegiance to Jesus as their Lord and Christ (2:38). Peter did not call on the crowds to be baptized "for the remission of sins" so that their sins would be forgiven but as a demonstration that their sins had been forgiven. Peter also promised the crowds that Jesus would give to them the same "gift of the Holy Spirit" that the apostles had received (2:38). Just as the apostles received the promise of the Spirit, the crowds, their "children" (future generations of Israel), and all "who are afar off" (including the Gentiles) would receive the baptism of the Spirit when they believed and repented. The promise continues today as all believers are baptized by the Spirit into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13).

Peter continued to address the crowds in the Spirit's power with the result that "three thousand souls were added to them" (Acts 2:41). There is no record that those saved received the Spirit with any miraculous signs like the one hundred and twenty. (Sometimes in Acts the baptism of the Spirit is accompanied by signs but sometimes it is not.) Although there is no record of the Spirit's coming on those three thousand with "a sound from heaven" or "divided tongues, as of fire" (2:4), they demonstrated the Spirit's present by their transformed lives. The converts "continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine," in "fellowship" with each other, in the "breaking of bread" (a reference to the Lord's Supper), and in "prayers" (2:42).

After describing the conversion of the three thousand, Luke described in more detail the early Christian community. The believers were marked by their willingness to care for each other, both by sharing whatever they had and by selling "possessions and goods" to give to those in need (Acts 2:44–45). They prayed together in the temple, shared the Lord's Supper together from house to house, and ate together with "gladness and simplicity of heart" (2:46). Their hearts were united in their praise to God (2:47). Because of the purity of their lives and their love, the church enjoyed a "favor with all the people." The Lord continued to work through the Spirit by adding "to the church daily those who were being saved" (2:47).

### **Conclusion**

The apostle Peter promised the Holy Spirit to "you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:39). The Lord God has continued to graciously call men to repentance and to each of them He has given the promise of the Holy Spirit. While the Holy Spirit no longer works miracles as He did through the apostles, He still gives power to witness and to transform lives. Every believer must examine whether they are trusting in the Holy Spirit's power to transform lives, both theirs and others.

## POINT TO THE TRUTH

*"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth."  
—Psalm 78:1*

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



### Review Questions

Where did Jesus tell the disciples to stay?

*Jesus told the disciples to remain in Jerusalem.*

What did Jesus tell the disciples that they would receive?

*Jesus told them to wait for the promise of the Father.*

What was the promise of the Father?

*The promise of the Father was the Holy Spirit.*

What did Jesus instruct the disciples to do after they received the Holy Spirit?

*Jesus said that they would be His witnesses.*

Where did Jesus tell the disciples to go as His witness?

*Jesus said to give the gospel (good news) to those in Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.*

What did Jesus do after giving these instructions?

*He rose up into the clouds to return to heaven.*

Where did the disciples go?

*The disciples waited in Jerusalem as Jesus had instructed them.*



### Promise of the Holy Spirit

When a person promises to do something, he or she makes a pledge to either do, bring about, or provide something specific. Well in today's lesson, the pouring out of the Holy Spirit was part of a very old promise. God had promised in the Old Testament that He would provide His people with the Holy Spirit (Ezek. 36:26–27; 37:14; 39:29; Joel 2:28–29). This Spirit would bring in a new era in the lives of God's people, giving them the power to live obedient and devoted lives unto the Lord. God's Son, Jesus, even promised the giving of the Holy Spirit. In the book of John He promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit would come upon them after His ascension. As we see in today's lesson, God remains faithful to His promise as the Holy Spirit is poured out onto the followers of Christ on the day of Pentecost.



### Wall Mural of Pentecost

During the week prepare a large wall-mural of the day of Pentecost, outlining what the upper room might have looked like back then without the people. Before today's lesson, have the class work together to draw a room filled with people on the mural. At this point explain to them those who would have gathered in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. Then allow the students to color in tongues of fire above each person on the mural. These could then be used either later or



before the lesson to explain what miracles took place in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. The pouring out of the Spirit look like tongues of fire resting on each person and sounded like a mighty wind from heaven.

### Confused Languages

**Directions:** Give each student a card with the word “hello” written on it in a foreign language. Teach each student how to pronounce the word, and then have him or her hide the card in his or her pocket or Bible. Make sure the foreign languages are dispersed as equally as possible throughout the classroom (i.e. 5 cards of each language). Instruct the students to stand up and begin shouting their word for “hello” over and over again. That is the only word they may say during the game. The goal of the game is to find all the students in the class with the same language card and form a group. Once two students of the same language find each other, encourage them to hold hands while walking around to find the other students in their group. Be sure to tell the class how many members should be in each group so they know when everyone is found. The first group to find all of its members and sit down in a circle chanting their word wins. Provide a creative prize for the winning group (i.e. cupcakes with flags from foreign countries). Provide an extra prize to groups that can identify the country where their language originated.

**Application:** Use this game to emphasize that the sign gift of tongues given at the coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4) during Pentecost was actually a gift to speak a real foreign language, and not some form of gibberish. After the game, discuss how the students felt walking around the noisy room hearing foreign words. Read Acts 2:6-13 to make some comparisons regarding how the students may have felt confused, amazed, etc.

**Advanced Game:** To challenge older students, instead of using words for “hello,” make cards that have numbers counting from one to five in the foreign languages. The goal of the game is still the same, but each student will be speaking a different word from the foreign language while trying to form a group. Provide an extra prize for groups that can place themselves in the correct numerical order. Use the internet as a resource for finding foreign language words to adapt the game for the age level of the class.

## PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

*“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.” —Psalm 78:4*

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students’ understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use alongside the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done right from the Bible.

### Bible Lesson

#### Passage Outline

The Baptism of the Spirit (Acts 2:1–13)

The Power of the Spirit (Acts 2:14–36)

The Promise of the Spirit (Acts 2:37–47)

#### Introduction

As the apostles waited in Jerusalem for the giving of the Holy Spirit, they could have never imagined what the Spirit’s presence would have either looked like or provided. Well in today’s lesson we read of this great out pouring of the Spirit. It is the day of Pentecost, and what the Lord accomplished and begun on that day is truly amazing. To understand this wonderful event, let us now look at the day of Pentecost recorded in Acts 2:1–47.



#### Lead-off Questions (LOQs)

**LOQ:** In today’s lesson, what day does the Holy Spirit come upon those gathered in Jerusalem?

**Answer:** The pouring out of the Holy Spirit happened on the day of Pentecost. Pentecost marked a celebration to take place fifty days (or seven weeks) after Passover. This day of Pentecost was significant to the Jewish people and many would have gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the festival. We should also remember that Passover was the celebration taking place around the time Christ was crucified. The Holy Spirit then was poured out just less than fifty days after the death and resurrection of Christ.

**LOQ:** How was the Spirit miraculously revealed among those gathered on the day of Pentecost?

**Answer:** When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the people, they witnessed a “sound from heaven” which sounded like a “mighty rushing wind” (2:2). They also saw what looked like “tongues of fire” resting upon each person (2:3). This was amazing and unlike anything those who were gathered had ever seen. Each person in the room was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in languages other than their own. This miraculous occasion was truly a demonstration of the Spirit’s power and was definite proof that the pouring out of the Holy Spirit had occurred.



**LOQ:** Why were those gathered in Jerusalem so amazed on Pentecost?

**Answer:** Living in Jerusalem at that time were a number of very religious Jews who had come from every nation of the world. Every nation was represented there in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost. When those from surrounding nations had come to investigate the sound of rushing wind, each were amazed at what they saw and heard. They were hearing of the wonderful works of God each in his or her own language. The Jews were shocked to hear their native languages being spoken by men from Galilee. These Galileans would not have known how to speak these languages on their own. That each Jew from every country could hear of the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ in his or her own language was truly a miracle from God and a demonstration of the Spirit's power.

**LOQ:** How did the Jews who were amazed respond to the power of the Spirit?

**Answer:** There were two different responses among those who were amazed at Pentecost. Some of those looking on just simply wondered what to make of the mysterious event. That the apostles were speaking in their own language did not make sense to them. The other part of the group just made fun of the apostles, excusing the miraculous event they were seeing by believing the apostles were merely drunk with wine.

**LOQ:** How does the apostle Peter respond to those who had rejected this working of the Spirit's power?

**Answer:** Before His ascension, Jesus had promised the apostles that they would receive the power of the Holy Spirit and would then be His witnesses in Jerusalem. Well witness is exactly what Peter did. After hearing the crowds assume they were drunk, Peter stood up and addressed the crowd. His testimony of Christ was truly amazing, and thus a demonstration of him having received the indwelling Holy Spirit as well.

**LOQ:** What does Peter testify before the Jews on the day of Pentecost?

**Answer:** Peter began his witness by first explaining to the crowd what they were seeing. Instead of seeing drunken men, the crowds were seeing the fulfillment of Scripture. This very pouring out of the Spirit was promised many times throughout the Old Testament (i.e., Joel 2:28-32, etc.). The men speaking in different languages was evidence that the promised Spirit had finally come. Peter also testified to Jesus' life (2:22). He told the crowd how God had demonstrated that Jesus was the Messiah through His "miracles, wonders, and signs" which they themselves had seen. Since they had witnessed Christ himself, Peter said that they were responsible for crucifying and killing Jesus (even though God had predetermined Him to be murdered for the people). Despite having died on the cross, Peter faithfully tells of the resurrection of Christ and how death had no power over Him.

**LOQ:** What occurred as a result of Peter's giving his testimony of Christ?

**Answer:** Luke writes in the book of Acts that after Peter had finished giving his testimony of Christ, the crowds were "cut to the heart" and begged to know what they should do (2:37). The Holy Spirit had worked through Peter's message to convict the crowds of their sin in crucifying the Messiah. They were genuinely sorry for what they had done and knew that they needed God's forgiveness.

**LOQ:** What does Peter tell the sorrowful crowd to do?

**Answer:** Peter calls upon the crowds to repent, by turning away from their sins and submitting themselves to God, and to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Their being baptized in the name of Christ was not what gave them the forgiveness of sins, it was their repentant hearts and the blood that was poured out on their behalf on the cross of Christ. Their baptism was merely to show or demonstrate their new loyalty to Jesus as their Lord and Savior (2:38).

**LOQ:** What is the promise that Peter gives those who were repentant in the crowd?

**Answer:** After instructing those of the crowd to repent of their sin, Peter then goes on to promise the crowds that Jesus would give them the same “gift of the Holy Spirit” that he and the other apostles had received. Just as the apostles received the promise of the Spirit, the crowds would also receive the baptism of the Spirit when they believed and repented. Peter even says that this promise would continue to the Gentiles (“those who were far off”) and also future generations to come (“their children”).

**LOQ:** What was the result of Peter being a faithful witness of Christ in Jerusalem?

**Answer:** Because of the Spirit’s power working through the apostle Peter, a total of “three thousand souls were added to them” that day (2:41). The Spirit had managed to convict the crowd of their sin, and three thousand repented of their sin and submitted their lives to Jesus Christ that day. Because of their obedience to Christ and the Gospel, these three thousand peoples’ sins were forgiven, which granted them the wonderful blessing of salvation forever.

**LOQ:** How do these new followers of Christ demonstrate the presence of the Holy Spirit in their own lives?

**Answer:** That those of the three thousand had received the Holy Spirit was evident in the fact that their lives now looked completely different. Their lives had been transformed, and they no longer behaved as they used to. Instead of being disobedient to God, the crowds now followed the apostle’s teachings and also fellowshiped with one another by praying and observing the Lord’s Supper together.

**LOQ:** Due to the new presence of the Holy Spirit, what does Luke say the early church looked like?

**Answer:** Once receiving the Holy Spirit, the followers of Christ in the early church had a great desire to care for each other. They shared what ever they had by selling their possessions and giving to those who were in need. They also had the common desire to praise God, meeting frequently in the temple together for worship. Because of their love and faithfulness to share the gospel, many were submitting their lives to Christ and being saved everyday.

### Summary

Just seven weeks after Christ’s death and resurrection, Jesus’ promise to His disciples is fulfilled. The Holy Spirit that they had been waiting for in Jerusalem had now been poured out on the day of Pentecost. Luke records this miraculous event, noting how the power of the Spirit was demonstrated in a mighty sound of rushing

wind and tongues which look like flames of fire. To top it all off, each apostle began to speak of the wonders of God each in a language other than their own. Those looking on were amazed, while others rejected the demonstration of the Spirit's power. In response to their rejection of the coming of the Spirit, Peter faithful gives witness to the testimony of Christ. His powerful rebuke of the crowd and testimony to Christ was also proof that the Spirit had come. Peter was able to give a mighty witness unto Christ because he had been finally filled with the Spirit of God. Through this testimony, the Spirit convicted many people of their sin that day. After Peter had instructed them to repent of their sin and submit their lives to Christ, many then received salvation from the Lord that day. There their lives were radically changed as they, like the apostles, received the Holy Spirit also. The crowd would never be the same again, as each of them behaved in a way that they had never behaved before. Luke records that these three thousand new followers of Christ began to be obedient to the apostles' teachings, and each of them cared for one another, giving to any one around them who had need. This type of transformation was truly a demonstration of the Spirit's presence in their life.

### Application

To those who have not submitted their lives to Christ, God's promise of the Holy Spirit still stands today. God promises that any person who repents of their sins and follows Christ will receive the same Holy Spirit that the apostles received on the day of Pentecost. Those who have received the Holy Spirit should be thankful that He has convicted you of your sin and led you in genuine repentance. Once repentant, the Spirit now gives the believer power to live his or her life for Christ. The Spirit's presence in their life now allows them to witness to others about Christ and live obediently to His commands. Each of us who follow Christ should examine whether or not we are trusting in the Holy Spirit's power to transform our lives. All of us who follow Christ should be like Peter, relying on the Spirit in everything that we do.

### Presentation Ideas



#### A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards®

Use appropriate A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards® with the lesson.



#### Betty Lukens Flannel Graph

Use appropriate Betty Lukens flannel graph with the lesson.



#### Time Line

To help students remember the events leading up to the day of Pentecost create a time line containing several events that took place before the pouring out of the Spirit (i.e., God promises the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament, Jesus later promises His disciples the Holy Spirit, Jesus is arrested, Jesus is crucified, resurrected, spends 40 days with the disciples and then ascends into heaven. Use the time line before the lesson as a visual aid, reminding the students that the Holy Spirit is coming.



#### Teaching Objects

Use the following list of objects to help you describe what took place on the day of Pentecost:

A tongue of fire (a flame of fire, colored red and orange)

Fan—mighty rushing wind



Gift box—the Holy Spirit is a gift to those who repent

Bottle—drunk with wine

U-turn sign for repent

### **Acrostic: Characteristics of Converts**

Directions: Write the following acrostic on the board or overhead projector transparency to emphasize this following objective: List characteristics of the three thousand converts and the early church. Instruct students to take notes on the blank worksheet to review the major points in the passage. Fill in the acrostic for younger grades. For older students, provide the verse and see if they can come up with a similar statement on their own. Give a challenge for students to memorize the acrostic by next week's lesson.

#### **Characteristics of genuine . . .**

**C**ut to the heart (2:37) & repented of their sins (2:38)

**O**beyed God and were baptized (2:38, 40)

**N**eeds of the church met by selling individual possessions (2:45)

**V**ery faithful in prayer (2:42)

**E**xcellent reputation with other people (2:47)

**R**eceived the gift of the Holy Spirit (2:38)

**T**ook part in communion (2:42)

**S**teadfast in the apostle's doctrine (Scripture) (2:42)

### **Praise and Worship**

*Seek Ye First*

*There Is a Redeemer*

*Majesty*

## PRACTICE THE TRUTH

*“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.” —Psalm 78:7*

Choose ideas from this section that review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



### Small Group Study: Origin of Languages

Directions: Read the Old Testament passage on the tower of Babel to remind students how all these different languages formed as a judgment of God on the people in Genesis 11:1–8. Answer the following questions as a group or divide the questions among the students. Answers are in bold.

Before the people began building the tower of Babel, how many languages were spoken on earth (Gen. 11:1)? **One**

What sin were the people guilty of (Gen. 11:4)? **Pride**: “Let us make a name for ourself...”

What command were the people disobeying when they said: “...lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth” in Genesis 11:4? Read Genesis 1:28; 9:1, 7 for help. **“To be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”**

How did God judge their sin and disobedience (Gen. 11:7–9)? **God confused their languages and scattered them abroad over the face of the earth.**



### Mobile: “Acts 2:42”

Materials: copies of “Acts 2:42” craft page, scissors, yarn, hole-punch, crayons or other decorations

Directions: Give each student a copy of the craft page on cardstock. Have the students color and decorate the pictures. Then, cut along the lines and punch holes where indicated. Attach one yarn loop at the top for hanging, and attach each picture card to the top strip with a loop of yarn to make mobile.



### “Repentance Bookmark”

Materials: one bookmark per student, crayons, yarn or ribbon, hole punch

Directions: Give each child a bookmark and have him or her color and decorate it. Help them punch a hole in the tops of their bookmarks and then insert yarn or ribbon through the hole and tie together. Read Acts 2:38.



### Coloring Book Review

Begin a picture book with the students of the events throughout Acts. Make an extra copy of all coloring sheets for the students and hole punch these sheets. Create a cover with the title “ACTS” and use yarn to thread through the cover and the sheets. Each week add that weeks coloring pages in sequential order. This book will be used to review the entire book of Acts on the last class. The students should take home the books on the last day and may color the sheets at home.



### “The Holy Spirit arrives”

Use this worksheet to reinforce the key truths of today’s lesson. It is located at the back of this lesson.



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### **Small Group Activity: “The Work of the Holy Spirit”**

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. He or she can complete the page individually, in a small group, or at home.

### **Coloring Pages**

Give each student a copy of the coloring pages from the back of the lesson. He or she can color the pages in class or take them home to color.



### **MEMORY VERSE**

“Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” —*Acts 2:38b*

# Acts 2:42

The Christians were continually devoting themselves to...



the  
apostles'  
teaching



fellowship



the breaking of bread

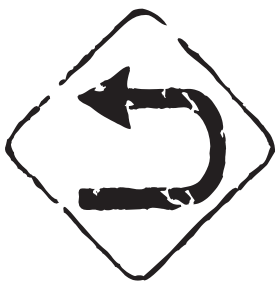


prayer



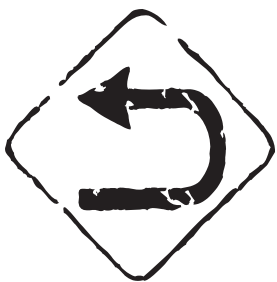


# Repentance Bookmark



“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent; and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

—Acts 2:38



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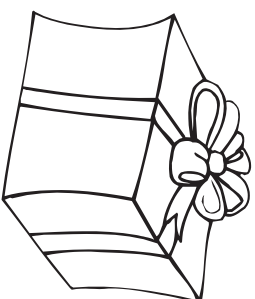
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# The Holy Spirit arrives



Acts 2:1-47

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. What day did the Holy Spirit come to the believers in Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_
2. When the Holy Spirit came, the believers heard a sound from heaven that was like a rushing mighty \_\_\_\_\_, and saw tongues, as of \_\_\_\_\_ (2:2-3).
3. When the believers were filled with the Holy Spirit, they were able to speak with other \_\_\_\_\_ (2:4).
4. Each person in the crowd heard the believers speak in his or her own \_\_\_\_\_ (2:6).
5. Who began to preach to the people who had gathered? \_\_\_\_\_
6. After hearing Peter's testimony of Christ, the people were cut to the \_\_\_\_\_ (2:37).
7. How many people repented and were baptized? \_\_\_\_\_



# The Work of the Holy Spirit

“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’” —Acts 2:38, 39

When someone is saved and receives the gift of the Holy Spirit, does the Holy Spirit come to that person with the sound of a rushing wind and with tongues of fire? No, that only happened at Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended from heaven. Yet, even though you will not hear a mighty rushing wind or see tongues of fire when you ask Christ to forgive your sins and trust in Him alone as your Savior, the Holy Spirit still works powerfully inside you.

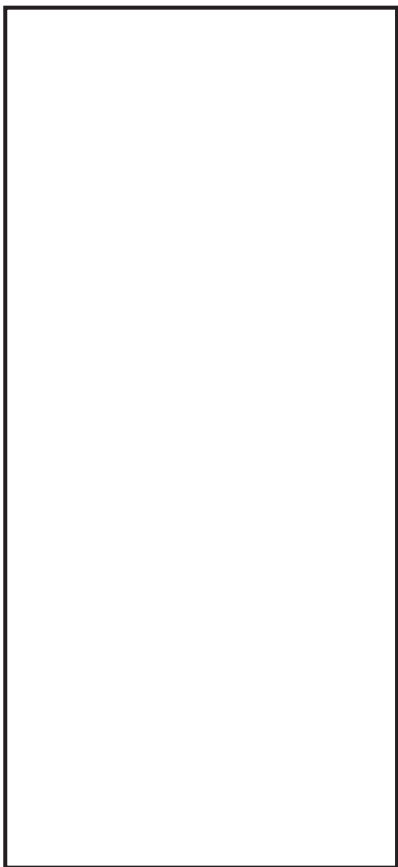
Unscramble the first word in the verses below to see a few things He is doing inside believers:

**vnioocst** \_\_\_\_\_ of sin—John 16:8

**iftsietcs** \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ—John 15:26

**viegs** \_\_\_\_\_ the second birth—John 3:5,6

In the space below draw a picture of what happened at Pentecost.



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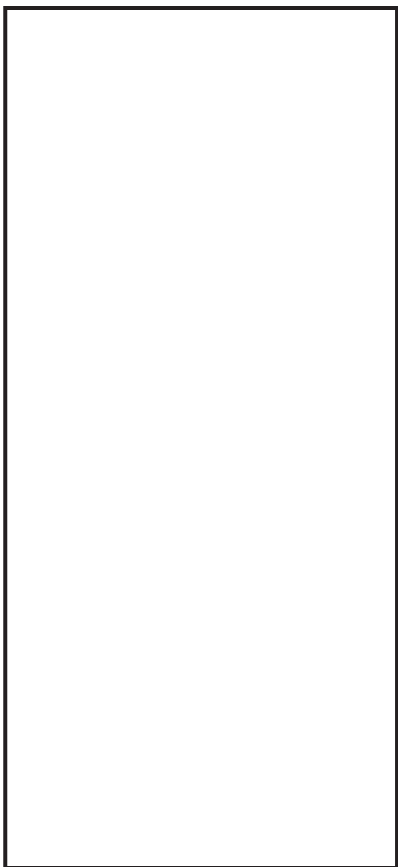
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In today's Bible verse, Peter tells us that the Holy Spirit is a gift for those who have repented and follow Christ.

What does it mean to be saved? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How does the Holy Spirit work in the believer's life today?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER**

Give thanks for the Holy Spirit and for the work He does in your heart.

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**PRAYER**

Give thanks for the Holy Spirit and for the work He does in your heart.



**“Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat on each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” —Acts 2:3–4**







**“Now when they heard *this*, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?’ Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.” —Acts 2:37–38a**

