



Bible Point

Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.

Bible Verse

“Follow in his steps” (1 Peter 2:21b).

Growing Closer to Jesus

Children will

- understand that Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to help us,
- share ways the Holy Spirit can help them follow Jesus,
- help Pockets learn who the Holy Spirit is, and
- experience how the Holy Spirit gives them power to help others.

Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

■ The Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost.

**Acts 2:1-13,
38-41**



Fifty days after the Passover celebration, the Jews celebrated the Feast of Weeks, otherwise known as Pentecost. However, the celebration described in this passage from Acts was a very special one. Jerusalem was crowded with Jews from many surrounding areas who had gathered in the holy city for the feast. Many of them spoke languages other than the Aramaic and Greek that were most common in Palestine at that time. God had set the stage for a miraculous display of his power through the Holy Spirit.

What is important to glean from the passage is that the Holy Spirit came upon Christians in a new and powerful way, enabling them to better spread the good news about Jesus. The disciples were able to speak so that people from several different ethnic groups could hear them in their own languages. Speaking in a language that the speaker had never learned does not necessarily mean that what is spoken is a message from God. We must remember that the enemy is a great imitator. In this passage, however, we're given the evidence we need to verify God as the source of the message. The disciples were speaking “about the wonderful things God has done!”

God sent the Holy Spirit to empower his people to further his kingdom. Nothing is recorded in the Bible of any witnessing efforts prior to the events at Pentecost. In fact, before he ascended to heaven, Jesus had told his followers that they were to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit to come upon them. God knew that they needed the power of the Holy Spirit to spread the good news.

Prayer

- Read Romans 15:13.
- How has your relationship with Jesus caused you to overflow with hope? joy? peace?
- Pray: Lord, give me the confidence to do the job you've set before me. I want to overflow with your...

Before the Lesson

- Collect the necessary items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed on the chart.
- Make photocopies of the “Today I Learned...” handout (at the end of this lesson) to send home with your children.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God’s direction as you teach the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Welcome Time	Welcome! —Receive name tags, and be greeted by the teacher.	“Cross Name Tags” (p. 14), markers, safety pins or tape	
Let’s Get Started Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Option 1: Rushing of Windsocks —Make a rustling tissue paper windsock.	Tape, scissors, cardboard tubes, yarn	
	Option 2: Holy Spirit Bakery —Decorate a giant treat together.	Refrigerator sugar cookie dough, canned icing, tiny cinnamon candies, plastic knives, greased cookie sheet	
	Option 3: Power Puppets —Create puppet friends, and then help them move and talk.	Paper lunch bags, tape, construction paper scraps, markers or crayons, glue	
	Pick Up Our Toys —Sing a song as they pick up toys, and gather for Bible Story Time.	CD player	
Bible Story Time 	Setting the Stage —Learn that the Holy Spirit gives us power to follow Jesus.	Paper, drinking straws	
	Bible Song and Prayer Time —Sing a song, bring out the Bible, and pray together.	Bible, construction paper, scissors, CD player, basket or box	
	Hear and Tell the Bible Story —Hear the story of Pentecost, and add flames to the <i>Learning Mat</i> .	Bible, glue stick, scissors, crayons or markers, small cardboard box	
	Do the Bible Story —Play a game, sing a song, and learn about the Holy Spirit.	CD player, crayons, color cube from “Hear and Tell the Bible Story”	
Closing 	Power Up! —Help Pockets learn about the Holy Spirit.	Flashlight with batteries	
	One for All —Learn that God sent the Holy Spirit, and pray.	Bible, cookie from Option 2 or other snack, napkins, CD player	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: “Cross Name Tags” (p. 14), markers, safety pins or tape

- Bend down and make eye contact with children as they arrive.
- Greet each child individually with an enthusiastic smile.
- Thank each child for coming to class today.
- As children arrive, ask them about last week’s “Today I Learned...” discussion. Use questions such as “Who did you tell about Jesus last week?” or “How did your family follow Jesus last week?”
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.**
- Hand out the cross name tags children made during Lesson 1, and help them attach the name tags to their clothing. If some of the name tags were damaged or if some of the children weren’t in class that week, have them make new name tags using the photocopyable handout.
- Direct children to the Let’s Get Started activities you’ve set up.



◀ **BIBLE POINT**

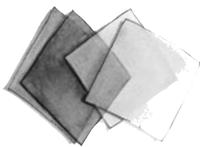
Let’s Get Started

Set up one or more of the following activities for children to do as they arrive. After you greet each child, invite him or her to choose an activity.

Circulate among children to offer help as needed and to direct children’s conversation toward today’s lesson. Ask questions such as “What’s the neatest gift you’ve received?” or “Who helps you do things when you need help?”

■ Option 1: Rushing of Windsocks

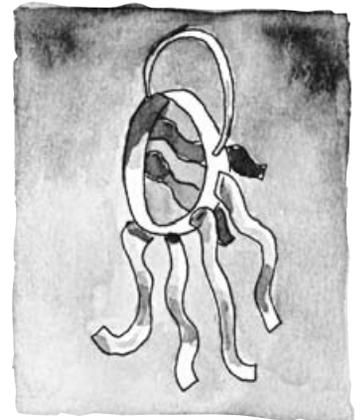
SUPPLIES: scissors, cardboard tubes, tape, yarn



Before class, cut four strips each of red and yellow *tissue paper* from the Learning Lab for each child. Be sure to save enough *tissue paper* for the flames in “Hear and Tell the Bible Story.” Cut paper towel or bathroom tissue tubes into half-inch segments. You’ll need one segment for each child.

Set out *tissue paper* strips, tape, yarn, and scissors. Hand each child a segment of cardboard tube. Demonstrate how to tape *tissue paper* strips around the tube. Direct children to use two strips of each color. Roughly measure and cut a 10-inch piece of yarn for each child. Help them tape the yarn on opposite sides of their tubes for handles.

While children work, ask questions such as “What makes paper move and rustle?” and “What kinds of power can we use to make the paper move?” Let children have fun twirling their windsocks around and exploring different ways to move the paper. Explain that just as wind power moves the windsock, the Holy Spirit helps give us power to follow Jesus.



It’s important to say the Bible Point just as it’s written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point again and again will help the children remember it and apply it to their lives.

To prepare for possible questions about the Holy Spirit, you may wish to study the following Scriptures: Luke 11:13; John 14:15-17, 26; 15:26; 16:13; Acts 2:33; and Ephesians 1:13-14.



If you choose not to do Option 2, provide another snack such as two oranges, a pineapple, or a small loaf of cinnamon bread. You'll use the snack item for the Closing.



■ Option 2: Holy Spirit Bakery

SUPPLIES: refrigerator sugar cookie dough, greased cookie sheet, canned icing, plastic knives, tiny cinnamon candies

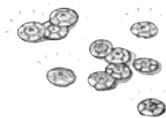
Before this activity, prepare a large cookie using refrigerator sugar cookie dough, pressing it into the shape of a large circle on a greased pizza pan or cookie sheet. Bake as directed on the dough package.

Set out the big cookie, canned icing, plastic knives, and tiny cinnamon candies. Invite children to be bakery chefs and decorate a very large cookie. Have some of the children help spread the icing and other children add decorations on top. As they work together, explain that they'll hear a story about how ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. Explain that God gave us the Holy Spirit because he loves us and wants to help us follow Jesus. Explain that you'll use the cookie later in the lesson.

Set the cookie aside for the Closing activity.

■ Option 3: Power Puppets

SUPPLIES: markers or crayons, construction paper scraps, glue, tape, paper lunch bags



Set out markers or crayons, construction paper scraps, glue, and tape. Hand each child a paper lunch bag. Have children create power puppets using torn pieces of construction paper and *sequins* from the Learning Lab to decorate their puppets. Save a few *sequins* for later.

While the children work, tell them they'll hear a Bible story about a special friend called the Holy Spirit who gives us power to follow Jesus, especially when we're shy or afraid. Tell children that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. Invite children to move their power puppets and make them talk. Point out that just as they help their puppets to have the power to move and talk, the Holy Spirit helps us follow Jesus. Encourage children to use their puppets to tell ways to follow Jesus.

When everyone has arrived and you're ready to move on to the Bible Story Time, encourage the children to finish what they're doing and get ready to clean up.

■ Pick Up Our Toys

SUPPLIES: CD player



Lead children in singing "Pick Up Our Toys" (track 2) with the CD to the tune of "Skip to My Lou." Encourage children to sing along as they help clean up the room.

If you want to include the names of all the children in the class, sing the song without the CD, and repeat the naming section. If you choose to use the CD, vary the names you use each week.



**We will pick up our toys.
We will pick up our toys.
We will pick up our toys,
And put them all away.**

**There's [name] picking up toys.
There's [name] picking up toys.
There's [name] picking up toys,
Putting them all away.**

(Repeat.)

Bible Story Time

■ *Setting the Stage*

SUPPLIES: *paper, drinking straws*

Before class, crumple two sheets of paper into balls.

Tell the children you'll clap your hands to get their attention. Explain that when you clap, the children are to stop what they're doing, raise their hands, and focus on you. Encourage children to respond quickly so you'll have time for all the fun activities you've planned.

Gather children in two lines facing each other at opposite ends of the room. Say: **Let's play an exciting game to get things moving!** Give each child a drinking straw. Hand the first person in each line a paper wad. **When I clap my hands, the first person in each line will use a straw to blow a paper wad across the room to the next person in the other line. Then those people will blow the paper wads back across the room. Let's see how fast we can get these paper wads moving!**

When everyone's had a turn, ask:

- **What kind of power did we use to move the paper wads?** (Our breath; wind power.)
- **What would've happened if we set them on the floor but didn't blow on them?** (They wouldn't have moved; they'd still be in the same place.)

Say: **Just like the paper wads needed power to move, we need special power to follow Jesus. Jesus wants us to follow him, and ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. In our Bible story, we'll learn about the day God sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus' friends in Jerusalem. Right now, let's see if you can use your muscle power to gather in a circle around the *Learning Mat*.**



If children have difficulty blowing paper wads across the floor, have them blow the paper across smooth tables instead. You can also use cotton balls instead of paper wads for this activity.



■ *Bible Song and Prayer Time*

SUPPLIES: *Bible, construction paper, scissors, CD player, basket or box*



Before class, make surprise cards for this activity by cutting construction paper into 2x6-inch strips. Prepare a surprise card for each child plus a few extras for visitors. Fold the cards in half, and stamp the *flame stamp* inside one of the surprise cards. Place a marker

at **Acts 2:1-13, 38-41** in the Bible you'll be using.

Have children sit in a circle. Say: **Now it's time to choose a Bible person to bring me the Bible marked with today's Bible story. As we sing our Bible**

song, I'll pass out the surprise cards. Don't look inside your card until the song is over.

Lead children in singing "Read God's Book" (track 3) with the CD to the tune of "The Muffin Man." As you sing, hand out the folded surprise cards.



SING

Now it's time to read God's book,
Read God's book, read God's book.
Now it's time to read God's book.
Let's hear a Bible story.

(Repeat 3x.)

After the song, say: **You may look inside your surprise cards. The person who has the fire flame stamped inside his or her card will be our Bible person for today.**

Identify the Bible person. Ask the Bible person to bring you the Bible. Lead the class in clapping for the Bible person, cheering, and making fun applause sound effects by slapping your thighs with your palms. Help the Bible person open the Bible to the marked place, and show children where your story comes from. Then have the Bible person sit down.

Say: [Name] **was our special Bible person today. Each week we'll have only one special Bible person, but each one of you is a special part of our class! Today we're all learning that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.**

Let's say a special prayer now and ask God to help us learn that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. I'll pass around this basket. When the basket comes to you, put your surprise card in it and say, "God, please help me follow Jesus."

Pass around the basket or box. After you've collected everyone's surprise card, set the basket aside, and pick up the Bible. Lead children in this prayer: **God, thank you for the Bible and for all the stories in it. Teach us today that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.**



BIBLE POINT ►

BIBLE POINT ►



BIBLE POINT ►

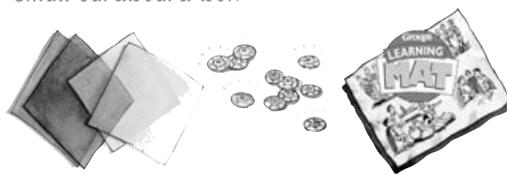


teacher tips

A small, empty milk carton with the sides taped flat will work well as your color cube.

■ Hear and Tell the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: Bible; red, blue, yellow, and green crayons or markers; glue stick; scissors; small cardboard box



Before class, cut five 3-inch flames from the *tissue paper* in the Learning Lab. Use markers to color the sides of a small cardboard box to use as a color cube. Color each side of the cube one

of the following colors: red, blue, green, or yellow. You may repeat the colors.

Lay the *Learning Mat: Follow Jesus* on the floor. Set the *tissue paper* flames and glue stick beside the mat. Hand each child a red, blue, yellow, or green crayon or marker. Set the color cube in the center of the mat. Say: **Let's review our Bible story and see what we remember about how Jesus helps us follow him. We'll take turns rolling the color cube. The color it lands on means I'll choose someone holding that color crayon to answer a story question. Then everyone with that color crayon may color a footprint on the *Learning Mat*.** Use the following questions.

Be sure each child has a chance to either roll the cube or answer a story question.

- **Who wouldn't believe Jesus was alive until he saw Jesus?** (Thomas.)
- **Name one way Jesus helps us follow him.** (By answering our questions; by helping us believe; by listening to our prayers.)
- **What did Jesus explain to the two friends on the road to Emmaus?** (Why he had to die; he explained the Scriptures about Jesus.)
- **Just before Jesus went back to heaven, what did he tell his disciples to do?** (Tell others about him; go into the world and tell people about him; remember that he's always with us.)
- **Where did Jesus go when he rose through the clouds?** (To heaven; to live with God.)

If there are still footprints to color, allow children time to finish coloring all the footprints. Say: **We've been learning about how Jesus helps us follow him. Today we'll learn that** ► **Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.** Open your Bible to the book of Acts, and hold up the page for kids to see. **Our Bible story comes from the book of Acts, and the Learning Mat shows a picture of the story.**

Remember when Jesus rose to heaven? He promised to send someone to help us follow Jesus. That special friend is the Holy Spirit. Let's find out more about the Holy Spirit. You can help me tell the story. Whenever you hear the word *fire*, rub your hands together quickly. Rubbing your hands together makes them toasty and warm like when you're near a fire. Whenever you hear the word *wind*, make a whooshing sound. And when I say the word *power*, make a muscle with your arm. Let's practice. Say the cue words and allow children to respond with the accompanying actions. Then read the following story, pausing at each cue word and leading kids in the accompanying action.

Jerusalem was full of people who'd come for Pentecost, a celebration of the grain harvest. Many of Jesus' followers were gathered together in a house. Let's color the group of people on the Learning Mat. Pause.

Jesus' followers had been waiting for God to send them the Holy Spirit. They knew that Jesus keeps his promises, and they were excited about the new friend who would help them follow Jesus.

Suddenly a noise came from heaven! It sounded like a mighty wind blowing. The sound of the mighty wind filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw something like flames of fire that broke apart and stood over each person there. But no one got burned. Imagine what that must've been like!

Let's glue tissue paper flames and sparkles above the followers' heads in the picture. Allow each child to glue a tissue flame or *sequins* above the heads of the followers. Continue the story.

After the wind and the fire, the people were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began talking in different languages. The Holy Spirit gave them the power to speak in languages they'd never spoken before!

People from many different countries had crowded into Jerusalem to celebrate a special feast. When they heard the noise of the wind, they gasped in astonishment! All the visitors heard Jesus' disciples speaking in their own languages. "How can this be?" they wondered. "These men live around here. How can they speak our different languages?" The disciples told everyone how wonderful God is and how much power he has!

This Bible story is featured in *My First Hands-On Bible™*. Order several now for your ministry at group.com.



The Holy Spirit helped Peter tell a huge crowd of people about Jesus. Peter warned people about sin and invited them to believe in Jesus. Because Peter spoke with the power of the Holy Spirit, about 3,000 people believed in Jesus that day!



Ask: • **Why do you think God sent the Holy Spirit?** (To help people believe in Jesus; to give people power; to help people remember what Jesus said.)

• **Why is it important to tell others about Jesus?** (So they can believe in Jesus and go to heaven; so they can be forgiven; so they can get to know Jesus.)

• **What can you tell someone about Jesus this week?** (That he loves us; that he lives in heaven; that he's going to come back some day.)

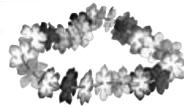
Say: **Jesus knew that after he went back to heaven, his disciples would need help. That's why ▶ Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. One way the Holy Spirit helps is by giving us the power to tell others about Jesus, just like Peter did. When we tell others about Jesus, then they can love him, too. The Holy Spirit gives us power to do what Jesus wants us to do. Let's play a game to remind us of Pentecost, when God sent the Holy Spirit.** Return the *Learning Mat* to the Learning Lab. You'll need the color cube and crayons for the next game.



BIBLE POINT ▶

■ Do the Bible Story

SUPPLIES: CD player, crayons, color cube from "Hear and Tell the Bible Story"



Say: **To play this game, you'll each need a crayon.** Be sure children have their crayons from the previous activity. **We'll take turns rolling the color cube. If the color called matches your crayon, stand and tell one thing about Jesus.**

Play until each child has had a turn to stand and tell something about Jesus.

Say: **Just like the Holy Spirit helped Peter stand and tell others about Jesus, the Holy Spirit will help us tell about Jesus, too. It's important to remember that ▶ Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps give us the power to tell others about Jesus, just like Peter told the crowds that day.**

Let's sing a song about following Jesus and telling everyone about him. Lead children in singing "Spread the Good News" (track 13) with the CD to the tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." For a fun touch, do the accompanying actions. Sing the song through twice.



SING

Spread the good news everywhere (*clap in rhythm*),

Jesus is alive! (*Pat alternating knees.*)

Take the good news here and there (*clap in rhythm*),

Jesus is alive! (*Pat alternating knees.*)

Step-step-hop (*step, step, hop*),



BIBLE POINT ▶

Don't be slow. (*Turn around in place.*)
Right foot, left foot (*step with your right foot and then your left foot*),
Do-si-do! (*Fold arms and step in a backward circle.*)
Spread the good news everywhere (*clap in rhythm*),
Jesus is alive! (*Pat alternating knees.*)
 (*Repeat.*)

Bring out the *flower lei* from the Learning Lab.

Say: **The Holy Spirit is strong and powerful and does amazing things! Let's worship Jesus in a fun way to thank him for sending his Holy Spirit to help us follow him. We've learned that when Jesus died, his friends were sad. Show me how sad they looked.** Pause. Then snap the *flower lei* so the thread breaks. Let all the pieces fall off the string and onto the floor. **Jesus' friends were sad about what happened, just like we're sad that I broke our *flower lei*. But their sadness turned to joy when Jesus came back to life. Even after Jesus went back to heaven, his friends were happy because God sent the Holy Spirit. Help me pick up the flowers and we'll turn our sadness into joy, too.**

Have kids help you pick up the flowers. Throw the clear plastic separator pieces away.

Ask: • **Why do you think God sent the Holy Spirit?** (To help people follow Jesus; to remind people what Jesus said; to help people tell about Jesus.)

• **How does the Holy Spirit help us follow Jesus?** (He reminds us to obey Jesus; he reminds us what Jesus said; he helps us be strong and tell other people about Jesus.)

Say: **Jesus' friends were happy because the Holy Spirit came to live with them. We can be happy, too! ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. Let's use our flowers to praise Jesus!**

Lead children in singing "Spread the Good News" (track 13) with the *CD* again. This time, have kids throw the flowers in the air on the words, "Jesus is alive!" and pick them up on the other lines.



SING

**Spread the good news everywhere,
 Jesus is alive!
 Take the good news here and there,
 Jesus is alive!
 Step-step-hop
 Don't be slow.
 Right foot, left foot
 Do-si-do!
 Spread the good news everywhere,
 Jesus is alive!**
 (*Repeat.*)

After the song, have kids help you pick up the flower pieces, and return them to the Learning Lab.

Say: **That was fun! Hey, I wonder what our friend Pockets is up to today!**



You may also want to remove the flower petals from the chenille wire flowers that kids assembled in Lesson 2 during the "Hear and Tell the Bible Story" activity (page 35) so that you have more flowers.



BIBLE POINT

Closing

■ Power Up!

SUPPLIES: flashlight with batteries

Before class, remove the batteries from a flashlight. Keep the batteries with you to replace during the activity. Place the flashlight in Pockets' pouch.

Bring out Pockets the Kangaroo. After you finish the script, put Pockets out of sight.



Teacher: Hello, Pockets. What do you have?

Pockets: *(Looking sad and shaking her head)* I was cleaning out my closet, and I found this flashlight, but I can't get it to work.

Teacher: Let's see, maybe it's not turned on. *(Flip the switch a few times.)*

Pockets: See? It won't work. There's no power.

Teacher: Do you know that there is someone who never runs out of power, Pockets? It's a special friend we have.

Pockets: Really? Never runs out of power? Oh, who is it? Can I be friends, too? Can I?

Teacher: *(Laughing)* Yes, Pockets, this friend is a gift from God. Children, let's tell Pockets who we've been learning about today and how our special friend helps us follow Jesus. *(Encourage children to tell Pockets the story of Pentecost. Be sure to have them bring out how the Holy Spirit helped Peter by giving him the power to tell about Jesus. Lead children in repeating the Bible Point to Pockets.)* You see, Pockets, the Holy Spirit gives us the power to follow Jesus. Here, let's try some new batteries in your flashlight. *(Replace the batteries and turn on the flashlight.)* See? Just like the batteries give power to your flashlight, the Holy Spirit gives us power to follow Jesus!

Pockets: That's a *lot* of power! I want to be like Peter and tell everyone about Jesus. *(Shines the flashlight under her face.)* Jesus is Lord! Now you can have a turn! *(Hands the flashlight to a child.)*

(Invite each child to shine the flashlight and say, "Jesus is Lord" or ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.) Thanks for helping me learn about the Holy Spirit, boys and girls. And thanks for helping me with my flashlight, too. 'Bye!

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■ One for All

SUPPLIES: Bible, cookie from Option 2 or other snack, napkins, CD player



track 12

As children are finding seats at the table, break apart the big cookie from Option 2 so each child receives a piece. If you use another snack such as two oranges, have them peeled before beginning this activity.

Say: ► ***Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us power to tell others about Jesus and helps us think of the right things to say. But who did God send the Holy Spirit for? Let's use our big cookie to help us find out. When I call your name, come get a napkin and a piece of cookie.*** When each child has a portion of the snack, ask:

- **How many cookies did we start with?** (One.)
- **Was there enough cookie to go around?** (Yes.)

Say: **Just as our one cookie was big enough to serve everyone, the Holy Spirit is big enough to help everyone who believes in Jesus! Before we eat our treats, we'll go around the circle. Tell the person on your right: "The Holy Spirit can help you!"**

After each child has been affirmed, say: **Let's pray. Pray: Dear God, thank you for sending the Holy Spirit. Thank you that ► *Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.* In Jesus' name, amen.**

Let children enjoy eating their snacks. Then open your Bible to **1 Peter 2:21b**, and show children God's Word. Have children repeat the verse with you: ► **"Follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21b).**

Ask: • **Whose steps should we follow?** (Jesus' steps.)

• **How can we do that?** (We can use the power of the Holy Spirit; ask Jesus for help; do what the Bible says.)

Close by leading children in singing "Follow in His Steps" (1 Peter 2:21b) (track 12) with the CD to the tune of "London Bridge."



SING

**Jesus helps us follow in his steps,
Follow in his steps,
Follow in his steps.
Jesus helps us follow in his steps,
Because he loves us!**
(Repeat.)

Remind kids to take home any projects they made in the Let's Get Started activities.



◀ BIBLE POINT



◀ BIBLE POINT

◀ BIBLE VERSE



Growing closer to Jesus extends beyond the classroom.

Photocopy the "Today I Learned..." handout (at the end of this lesson) for this week, and send it home with your children. Encourage parents to use the handout to plan meaningful family activities to reinforce this week's topic.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ *Lively Learning: Group Review*



Let children review this lesson with an exciting “board” game. First have children get into groups of three and divide the following roles among their group members: the Marker, the Roller, and the Speaker. Spread the *Learning Mat* on the floor, and give each group four dry beans. You’ll also need the color cube from “Hear and Tell the Bible Story.”

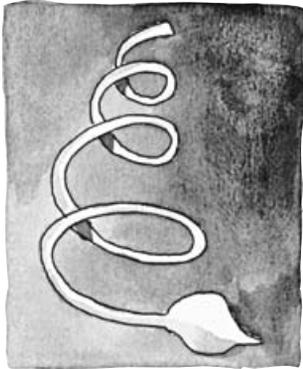
To play the game, ask each group a different story review question. After a group decides on an answer, the Speaker will share the group’s answer with the class. Then the Roller will toss the color cube like a die, and the Marker will place a bean on the first footprint of the same color. For example, if the color cube lands with a red square facing up, the Marker will place a bean on the closest red footprint.

Then ask another story review question to continue the game. Each time a group comes to a story picture on the *Learning Mat*, have the Marker leave a bean on the picture. Play until each group has placed a bean on the picture of Pentecost. You can use the story review questions below, repeating or adding as you need to.

- **Who were Cleopas and Peter?** (Two of Jesus’ followers.)
- **Where were they walking?** (Emmaus.)
- **Who came to walk with them?** (Jesus.)
- **What good news did the two friends tell Jesus’ followers in Jerusalem?** (Jesus is alive.)
- **What did Thomas want to do before he believed Jesus was alive?** (Touch him.)
- **What helped Thomas believe?** (Jesus showed his hands.)
- **Before Jesus went to heaven, what did he tell the disciples to do?** (Go into all the world and tell people about him.)
- **Who did Jesus promise to send?** (The Holy Spirit.)
- **What happened at Pentecost?** (The Holy Spirit came; there was a sound of wind and flames; Peter told people about Jesus.)
- **How did the Holy Spirit help Peter?** (He helped Peter preach to a big crowd; the Holy Spirit helped Peter be brave.)
- **What did the Holy Spirit help the disciples do?** (Tell about Jesus; speak in different languages.)

As children play, remind them that ► *Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.*

■ **Make to Take: Holy Spirit Spirals**



Make photocopies of the “Holy Spirit Spiral” handout (at the end of this lesson) for each child. Use yellow or orange construction paper to make the photocopies.

Set out scissors. Give each child a handout. Have them cut on the solid lines around and around to the center. When the center of the circle is lifted, the spiral will twirl downward. As children work, have them tell the story of Pentecost. Then as children unfurl their spirals, point out that the flame drops down and reminds us of the flames of fire that descended on Jesus’ followers at Pentecost. Remind children that the Holy Spirit is our friend and that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.

■ **Treat to Eat: No-Bake Story Dough**

Before class, mix the following no-bake cookie dough:

- 4½ c. graham cracker crumbs
- 1 c. powdered sugar
- ⅓ c. thawed frozen orange juice concentrate
- ¼ c. light corn syrup
- ¼ c. softened margarine

Hand each child a square of wax paper and a palm-size ball of cookie dough. Invite children to create one of the following items from the Bible story: a flame, Peter, or a house. Then have children use their shapes to tell the story of Pentecost. As children eat their dough shapes, tell them that ► Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit and that we can be like Peter and tell others about Jesus.

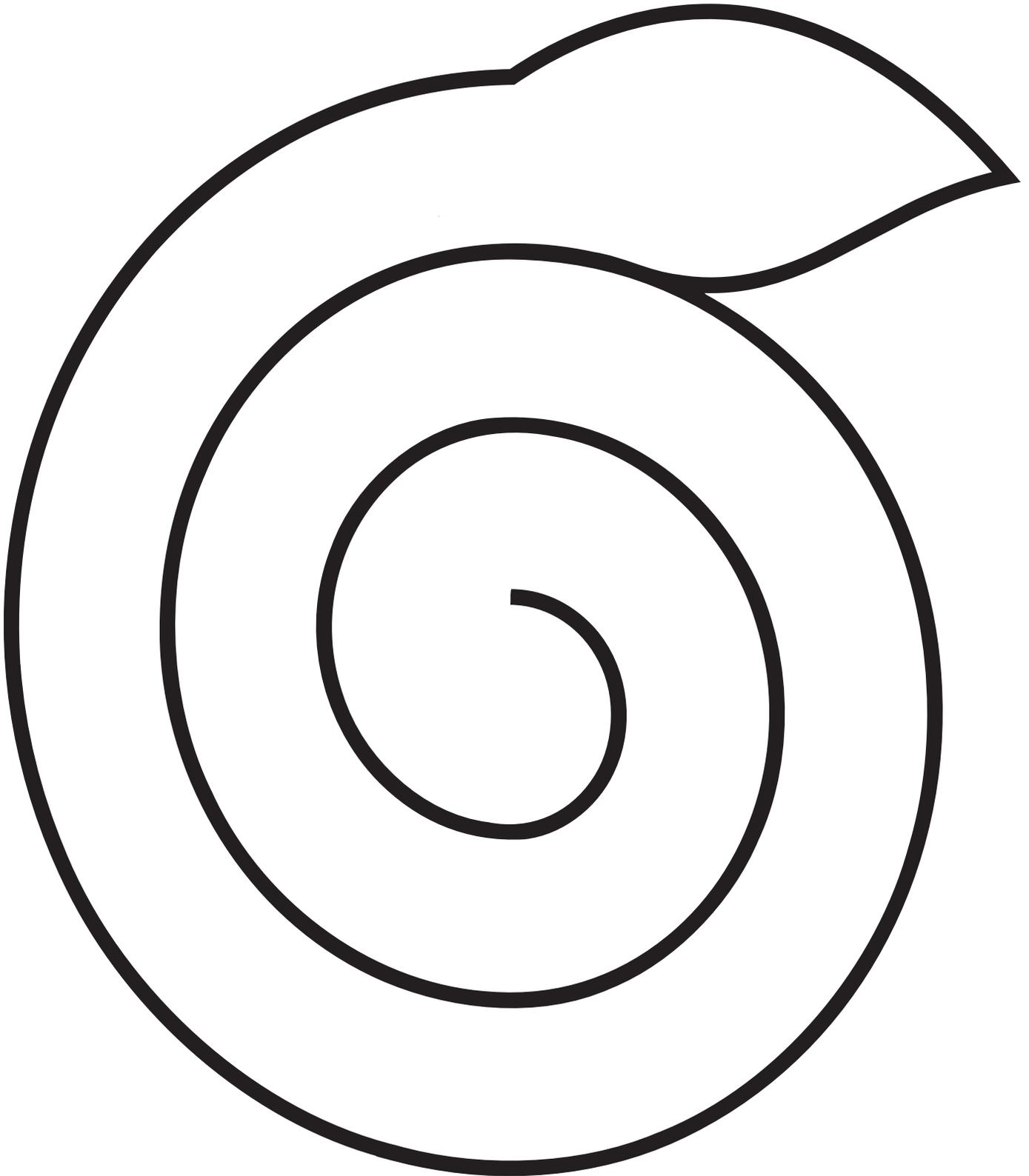


■ **Story Picture: The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost**

Hand each child a photocopy of the “Today I Learned...” handout. Set out glitter glue and markers. Let children color their pictures. Then invite them to use glitter glue to highlight the flames of fire. As they work, ask children to tell how the Holy Spirit helps us follow Jesus.

Holy Spirit Spiral

Photocopy this page on orange or yellow paper. Have children cut on the solid lines.



Today I learned...

Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit.

Today your child learned that Jesus helps us follow him by giving us the Holy Spirit. Children learned about Pentecost, when God sent the Holy Spirit to Jesus' followers. They talked about how the Holy Spirit helps us follow Jesus today.

Verse to Learn

"Follow in his steps" (1 Peter 2:21b).

Ask Me...

- What happened at the first Pentecost?
- How does the Holy Spirit help you follow Jesus?
- Who can our family tell about Jesus?

Family Fun

- Let your child make a window banner. Grate old red, orange, and yellow crayons. Spread a 16-inch piece of wax paper on an ironing board, and heat the iron on low. Sprinkle the grated crayons on half of the wax paper. Fold the wax paper in half. Iron over the wax paper, allowing the crayons to melt and mix. Cool the picture for 10 minutes, and then tape it in a window. Have your child tell about Pentecost, when flames of fire and the sound of rushing wind marked the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13, 38-41)



