



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Series: The Gifts From Jesus (Spring)  
Year 1, Lesson 51

# The Spirit Comes at Pentecost

**Bible Event:** Acts 2:1-13

**Take Home Point:** \*JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT – *He lives in me.*

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

**Jesus Link:** We believe in Jesus. His Spirit lives with us.

**What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:**

- Kids will learn that even though Jesus returned to heaven and his body is no longer on earth, he did not leave us alone! He sent his Spirit to be with us always. That is how Jesus lives in us today. Kids will take home the point: \*JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT – *He lives in me.*
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love as they actively learn God's word.

**Lesson 51 - 1**



## Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

**Purpose:** While kids arrive give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

**Video Suggestion:** Your choice, if available.

**Activity Suggestion:** Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



## Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

## Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

## Bible Event: A Visit From "The Traveler"

The traveler is a character costumed in traveling gear: backpack, walking stick, hiking hat, and shoes. He explains that he has traveled all around the world discovering wonderful deeds that God has done. He tells of an adventure he just discovered in God's word as he pulls the Bible out of his backpack. As he tells the Bible event, he pulls out objects from his backpack that illustrate the story.

Use masking tape on the floor to divide the children into five groups while they listen to the story. Each group will be assigned a phrase to repeat throughout the storytelling. The phrase means "Jesus is alive," each spoken in a different language.

- Group one will repeat the phrase in German, "**Jesus ist lebendig.**"  
(Pronounced: Yay-soos ist lay-BEN-dig)
- Group two will say it in French, "**Jésus est vivant.**"  
(Pronounced: Jay-soos ay vee-VAWNt)
- Group three will say it in Italian, "**Jesus è vivo.**"  
(Pronounced: Jay-soos ay vee-vo)
- Group four will say the phrase in Portuguese, "**Jesus está vivo.**"  
(Pronounced: Hay-soos aez-TA vee-vo.) and,
- Group five will say it in Spanish, "**Jesús está vivo.**"  
(Pronounced: Hay-SOOS aez-TA vee-vo... or bee-bo depending on the cultural dialect.)

It may help to have each group learn and practice their lines before starting the story.

**The Traveler:** Here is today's true Bible event about how Jesus' Spirit first came into the hearts of believers. After Jesus' body had gone back to heaven, a special day called Pentecost came. On that day, some of Jesus' special friends, called apostles, were gathered together in a house. All of a sudden, a huge, strong wind from heaven came blowing through the house. (Use hand-held fan to blow on the children.)

**After the wind, a huge fire came into the house. It wasn't the kind of fire that burned the house down; it was a special fire from heaven. It looked like long flames that landed above each of the apostle's heads. (Use matches or candles to show flames.) With these special flames above their heads, each person was filled with the Holy Spirit! It was Jesus' Spirit that had come back to fill each of their hearts. At the moment this Spirit-filled their hearts, they each began speaking a different language – languages that they had never even learned before! And they all started talking about how wonderful and amazing God was! This is what it sounded like – let's all practice our lines....**

Start by having each group say their lines individually, so the other groups can each hear what the other groups are saying. Explain that the meaning is the same but the language is different. Tell the kids what language each group is speaking. After all groups take turns saying their phrase a few times, have all of the groups start speaking at the same time, so the room is filled with different languages shouting God's message all at once. After a few minutes, have the groups stop, so they can hear the rest of the story.

**That was great! In the Bible event, the apostles were so loud, that people started to gather around to see what was happening. A crowd of people gathered around, from all over the world, and none of them could believe it! They could all hear their own language coming from these strangers! How could that be possible?**

**Anything is possible when Jesus' Spirit is with us. He can help us to tell others about God and spread Jesus' love to others, just like the apostles did then. Remember: \*JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT – *He lives in me.***

Allow kids to practice their lines again to end the Bible event!



## Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

**Purpose:** Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

*During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.*

**Snack Zone:** Provide each child with several pretzel sticks and a small amount of red and orange frosting. Allow them to dip the pretzel sticks into the frosting to create flames like at Pentecost.

**HEALTHY SNACK OPTION:** Leave out the frosting and have the kids pretend to rub the pretzel sticks together to “start a fire.”

**Drama Zone:** Practice saying “Jesus is alive” in various languages, as learned in the Bible Event.

**Puppet Zone:** Let the children use puppets to describe ways Jesus is with us.

**Felt Zone:** Use felt board materials to show the story of Pentecost from today's Bible event. (For example, use Lesson #158 “The Gift of the Holy Spirit” from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*.)

**Craft Zone:** Provide each child with a pre-cut cardstock or construction paper heart approximately five inches in diameter. Provide red, orange and yellow tissue paper cut into 1 inch squares. Have children ‘cup’ one square of tissue at a time around the eraser end of a pencil. Lightly dip the cupped tissue square in glue and stick onto the heart. Repeat this process covering the heart as fully as desired. The tissue paper squares should create a three-dimensional ‘flame’ look. Attach a pre-made label to the back of the heart: **JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT AT PENTECOST – HE LIVES IN ME.**

**Play Zone:** Play the “telephone” game. Have children whisper messages down the line and back again and see how close the end message is to the original. Message ideas: **\*JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT – He lives in me;** Jesus’ Spirit came at Pentecost; Jesus’ Spirit lives in my heart.

**Quiet Reading Zone:** Basket of books. Include any that feature the story of the Spirit Comes at Pentecost.

**Music Zone:** Your choice of music.

**Coloring Zone:** “The Spirit Comes at Pentecost” coloring page



## Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

**Purpose:** As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

### Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

### Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

**Purpose:** The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba is confused. He wants to know how Jesus can live inside someone. Bubba and everyone he knows lives in a house or an apartment. Did Jesus build a little house inside of me to live in?

The presenter explains that no, Jesus doesn't live in a house. When we say Jesus lives in someone, it means that his Spirit is in our hearts. It means that even though we can't see Jesus, he still guides us, helps us to feel better and make good decisions.

Bubba thinks that makes sense, but he's still not sure. If we can't see or physically feel Jesus in us, how do we know he's there? How does he live in me?

The presenter tells Bubba that's a very good question. There are lots of ways to know that Jesus' Spirit is in us. Here are a few of them:

- 1.) We know Jesus is in our hearts because we believe in him and he told us that if we believe in him, his Spirit would be with us.
- 2.) We know Jesus is there when he guides us to do what's right. He helps us to obey him.
- 3.) We know Jesus lives in us because we want to tell others about him.
- 4.) We know Jesus lives in us when we feel hurt or sad and he helps us feel better.

It's nice to know that we are never alone. Jesus is always with us. Remember: **\*JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT – He lives in me.**

### Prayer Time:

**Purpose:** Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

## **"Children Pray" Options:** (select one from the options below)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

**Lord's Prayer:** Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

## **Blessing:**

May God, who is all around you,  
pour his love upon you.

*(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make a large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling the fingers to resemble rain.)*

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,  
walk right there beside you.

*(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)*

And may God's Holy Spirit,  
the one who lives inside you,

*(Cross your hands over the heart.)*

keep you strong,  
comfort, lead and guide you!

*(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with the hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)*

## **Song of Sending:**

*Choose one song and list it here.*



## **Closing Zones:**

**Purpose:** Children go to an activity zone such as, the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

# Supplies:

## *Welcome Zone:*

- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

## *Opening Worship:*

- Bible
- masking tape
- candles and matches
- hand-held fan

## *Action Zones:*

### *Snack:*

- pretzel sticks
- red and orange colored frosting

### *Craft:*

- red or any other color card stock or construction paper, pre-cut into 5 inch heart shapes
- red, orange and yellow tissue paper cut into 1 inch squares
- glue
- pencils with erasers
- pre-made label "JESUS SENT HIS SPIRIT AT PENTECOST – *He lives in me*"

### *Quiet Reading:*

- basket of books

### *Music:*

- your choice of music

### *Puppet:*

- various puppets

### *Felt:*

- materials to reenact story (For example, use Lesson #158 "The Gift of the Holy Spirit" from *Betty Lukens Through the Bible in Felt*.)

## *Closing Worship:*

- Bubba, the puppet

## *Closing Zones:*

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books