

The Holy Spirit

LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: The Holy Spirit—Pentecost

Scripture: Acts 2:1-4

Memory Verse: Acts 2:4 - 'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'

The Children's Sermon

Imagine holding a hot, spicy cinnamon ball in your mouth. At first, it feels super hot and you might want to spit it out because it's not comfy at all. But after a while, you get used to it, and it starts to taste sweet. This is a bit like how it feels when we first learn about the Holy Spirit. At first, it's a bit strange and hard to understand, but the more we learn, the better it feels.

The Holy Spirit is a special gift from God. It's like having a best friend who is always with you, helping you make good choices and feel brave when you talk about Jesus. Even when others might think you're a bit odd for loving Jesus so much, the Holy Spirit helps you keep going.

Sometimes, when we try to share our love for Jesus with our friends, they might not understand and think we're weird. But the Holy Spirit is like that hot cinnamon ball. Even though it's tough at the beginning, if we keep going, it gets easier and sweeter. The Holy Spirit whispers to us, encouraging us to keep sharing Jesus' love, even when it's hard.

Our friends might still think we're a bit strange, but they'll start to notice that we're making good choices and good things are happening in our lives. That's the Holy Spirit at work! It's like the hot ball has turned sweet, and the Holy Spirit's guidance feels comfortable and nice.

Now, let's talk about a special story from the Bible. It's about the Pentecost sermon Holy Spirit Acts 2:1-4. This story happened a long time ago, right after Jesus went to heaven. His friends, the disciples, were all together in one place. Suddenly, something amazing happened! They heard a sound like a strong wind blowing, and they saw what looked like little flames of fire that came and rested on each of them. That was the Holy Spirit coming to be with them, just like Jesus promised.

After the Holy Spirit came, the disciples could do amazing things! They started speaking in languages they didn't even know before, so they could tell everyone about Jesus, no matter where they were from. This was the very first Pentecost, and it was super special because it was when the Holy Spirit came to help Jesus' friends share His love with the whole world.

The Holy Spirit is still with us today, helping us just like it helped the disciples. It's like having a superpower that helps us be brave and share Jesus' love, even when it might feel a bit scary at first. Remember, even if your friends think you're a bit different for loving Jesus, the Holy Spirit is always with you, making you strong and helping you make good choices.

So, next time you feel a bit unsure about talking about Jesus or doing the right thing, think about that hot cinnamon ball. Remember how it starts off hot and uncomfortable but then becomes sweet? That's what it's like when we let the Holy Spirit help us. It

might be a bit tough at first, but it gets easier and sweeter, and we can feel happy and confident because we're doing what God wants us to do.

Let's say a prayer together: Dear God, thank You for giving us the Holy Spirit to be our helper and friend. Please help us to listen to the Holy Spirit's whispers and be brave when we talk about Jesus. Help us to remember the story of Pentecost and how the Holy Spirit helped the disciples. We want to be like them, sharing Your love with everyone. Amen.

So, kids, always remember that the Holy Spirit is like that sweet part of the hot cinnamon ball. It's there to make you strong, help you make good choices, and feel confident in sharing Jesus' love, no matter what. And just like the disciples on that first Pentecost, you can do amazing things with the Holy Spirit's help.

Bible Memory Verse

Acts 2:4 - 'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.'

You Will Need:

- Red, orange, and yellow tissue paper
- Glue sticks
- Paper plates
- Scissors

Get Ready:

- Cut the tissue paper into flame shapes ahead of time.
- Write the memory verse on the back of each paper plate.

Do This:

1. Explain to the children that the Holy Spirit came like flames on the heads of Jesus' friends, which is why we're making flame hats. Show them the tissue paper flames.
2. Have each child pick a paper plate and turn it upside down. Let them use the glue sticks to attach the tissue paper flames around the rim of the plate, overlapping them to look like fire.
3. Once the glue dries, help the children gently place the plates on their heads. Remind them that the Holy Spirit is with us, just like it was with Jesus' friends. Encourage them to say the memory verse together while wearing their flame hats.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Red, orange, and yellow tissue paper
- Paper plates
- Glue sticks
- Markers or crayons
- Small electric fan (optional)
- Bible

Get Ready:

- Cut the tissue paper into flame shapes ahead of time.
- Write Acts 2:1-4 on a poster or whiteboard for easy reference.

Do this:

1. ****Create Your Own Pentecost Flames:**** Give each child a paper plate and a selection of red, orange, and yellow tissue paper flames. Explain that these colors represent the

flames of the Holy Spirit that came at Pentecost. Have them glue the tissue paper flames around the edge of their paper plate to create a fiery effect. As they work, talk about how the Holy Spirit came like a fire to be with Jesus' friends.

2. **Draw and Share:** Turn the paper plate over and ask the children to draw a picture of themselves on the back. Encourage them to think about what gifts the Holy Spirit might give them (e.g., kindness, bravery, love). Let them share their drawings and ideas with the group if they're comfortable.

3. **Feel the Wind:** If you have a small electric fan, turn it on and let the children feel the wind on their faces. Explain that the Holy Spirit also came as a powerful wind on Pentecost. Just like we can feel the wind but can't see it, we can't see the Holy Spirit, but we can feel His presence in our lives and see His power at work.

4. **Story Time:** Sit everyone down and read Acts 2:1-4 from the Bible. Keep it engaging by using expressive voices and maybe even acting out the parts with the children. After reading, discuss how the Holy Spirit helped Jesus' friends and how He helps us today.

5. **Closing Prayer:** End with a simple prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to be with each child throughout the week, helping them to use their gifts to show love to others.

Snack Activity: Pentecost Flame Fruit Kebabs

You'll Need:

- A variety of red, orange, and yellow fruits (such as strawberries, cantaloupe, pineapple, and mango)
- Wooden skewers

- A small cookie cutter (optional, flame shaped if available)
- A picture of a flame (for reference)

Get Ready: Wash all the fruits and cut them into bite-sized pieces. If you're using a cookie cutter, prepare shapes from slices of the larger fruits like cantaloupe or pineapple.

Do this:

1. Look at the picture of the flame and talk about how the Holy Spirit came down like flames on the disciples' heads. This was a special day called Pentecost.
2. Thread the pieces of fruit onto the skewers, alternating colors to make them look like flames. If you have flame-shaped pieces, put them on top.
3. Enjoy your Pentecost Flame Fruit Kebabs while discussing how the Holy Spirit gives us power and is always with us, just like He was with the disciples on Pentecost.

Game Activity: Pentecost Wind Rush

You'll Need:

- A large open space (indoor or outdoor)
- Several lightweight scarves or pieces of fabric
- Music player and lively music

Get Ready: Before the game, read Acts 2:1-4 together and explain how the Holy Spirit came like a mighty wind at Pentecost. Spread the scarves or fabric pieces at one end of the play area.

Do this:

1. Tell the children they are going to pretend to be the mighty wind of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. When the music starts, they should run to the other end of the play area and grab a scarf or fabric piece.
2. Once they have their 'flame', they should wave it in the air as they dance back to the starting line, imagining the Holy Spirit's power moving with them.
3. After everyone has returned, stop the music and gather the children. Ask them to share how they felt being 'the wind' and discuss the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives today, emphasizing how it brings joy and movement, just like their dance.

Craft Activity: Pentecost Wind Twirlers

You'll Need:

- Red, orange, and yellow construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- String
- Hole punch

Get Ready: Cut the construction paper into strips (about 1 inch wide and 6 inches long).

Do this:

1. On each strip of paper, write words or draw symbols that remind you of the Holy Spirit, such as 'wind,' 'fire,' 'dove,' or simply draw flames. This represents the Holy Spirit coming down as flames on the disciples during Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4.
2. Use the hole punch to make a hole on one end of each strip. Then, tie the strips together with the string, mixing the colors to represent the different tongues of fire.

3. Hang your Pentecost Wind Twirler somewhere it can catch the breeze. As it twirls, remember how the Holy Spirit moves and works in our lives, just like it did on the first Pentecost.

Prayer Activity: Whispering Wind Prayers

You'll Need:

- Paper
- Markers or Crayons
- A small fan

Get Ready: Before the activity, read Acts 2:1-4 to understand how the Holy Spirit came like a mighty wind at Pentecost. Prepare a space where the children can sit comfortably with their paper and markers or crayons. Place the fan on a table where it can blow across the area where the children will be sitting, but not directly on them at first.

Do this:

1. Explain to the children that on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came like a mighty wind and filled the room where Jesus' friends were sitting. Tell them that today, they will send prayers to God on the 'wind' of the Holy Spirit. Ask them to think of a prayer or a wish they want to send to God.
2. Have each child write or draw their prayer on a piece of paper. Younger children can draw a picture or dictate their prayer to you.
3. Once everyone has finished, turn on the fan (make sure it's on a low setting). One by one, let the children hold their paper in front of the fan and watch as their prayers are 'lifted up' by the wind, symbolizing the Holy Spirit carrying their prayers to God. Remind

them that just like the wind, we can't see the Holy Spirit, but we can feel its presence and see its effects in our lives.