

He Can Hear You Now

LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: Priorities/Pentecost

Scripture: John 14:25-26

Memory Verse: John 14:26 - But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you.

The Children's Sermon

Today is the day that we celebrate God sending His Holy Spirit to be with us so that we are never without God. We call this day Pentecost, or sometimes, "The Birthday of the Church." Through His Holy Spirit, God is always with us, and we can talk to Him anytime, any place, and we will never have to worry that we will run out of minutes or be disconnected!

Let's pray: Dear God, Thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to be with us all of the time. Please help us to remember that we can talk to you any time and anywhere because you are always with us. AMEN!

Now, let's dive a bit deeper into our Pentecost sermon. Imagine a world where you have a superhero friend who is always with you, ready to help you, guide you, and make you feel loved and safe. That's kind of what the Holy Spirit is like! On Pentecost, we celebrate the day God sent this amazing friend to be with us forever.

A long time ago, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, that He had to go away but would send a helper to be with them. They were probably a bit scared and sad to hear Jesus

was leaving. But then, something amazing happened! On Pentecost, they were all together when suddenly, they heard a sound like a strong wind, 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 their helper, just like Jesus promised!

This Pentecost sermon isn't just a story from a long time ago; it's about us too. The Holy Spirit didn't just come to be with those first friends of Jesus; He came to be with all of us. That means you and me! We have this incredible friend who is always with us, helping us to make good choices, comforting us when we're sad, and making us feel loved.

Sometimes, we might feel alone or scared, but the message of our Pentecost sermon is that we're never really alone. The Holy Spirit is like a whisper in our hearts that says, "It's okay, I'm here with you." Whether we're worried about a test at school, feeling sad because we lost our favorite toy, or just feeling lonely, we can talk to the Holy Spirit, and He will help us feel better.

Now, you might wonder how we can talk to the Holy Spirit. It's simple! Just like talking to a friend. You can say what's on your mind, ask for help, or even just say thank you for the good things in your life. And the best part? The Holy Spirit always listens, even if we whisper or think our words.

Our Pentecost sermon teaches us that the Holy Spirit also helps us to be better friends, brothers, sisters, and children. He helps us to share, to be kind, and to show love to others. When we listen to the Holy Spirit, we can spread joy and love just like the first disciples did on that first Pentecost.

So, on this special day, let's remember the amazing gift God has given us. Let's be thankful for the Holy Spirit, our superhero friend who is always with us. And let's try to listen to Him and follow His guidance every day.

Let's pray again: Dear God, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Help us to remember that we can always talk to You through Him. Help us to listen to His whispers and to follow His guidance to be kind, loving, and joyful every day. Thank you for always being with us. AMEN!

And that, my friends, is the heart of our Pentecost sermon. Remember, no matter where you go or what you do, you're never alone. The Holy Spirit is always with you, ready to help, guide, and love you. Let's celebrate Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, with joy and thankfulness for this wonderful gift.

Bible Memory Verse

John 14:26 - But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you.

You Will Need:

- Plain white paper plates
- Colored markers or crayons
- Glue and glitter

Get Ready:

- Gather all the materials on a table where children can easily reach them.
- Write the memory verse on a large poster board and place it where everyone can see.

Do This:

1. Ask the children to sit around the table and give each one a plain white paper plate.
2. Explain that the paper plate will represent the Holy Spirit being sent to us, just like in the memory verse. They will decorate the plate to remind them of the Holy Spirit's presence and guidance.
3. Let them use the markers or crayons to draw symbols of the Holy Spirit, such as a dove or flames, representing Pentecost. They can also write the memory verse on the plate.
4. Encourage them to decorate around their drawing with glue and sprinkle glitter over it to make it shine, symbolizing the Holy Spirit's special role in guiding and teaching us.
5. Once everyone is done, have a short discussion about how the Holy Spirit helps us remember what Jesus taught and guides us every day. Ask them to share their artwork and explain their symbols.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Red, orange, and yellow tissue paper
- Glue sticks
- Paper plates
- Markers or crayons
- Printouts of John 14:25-26 (simplified version)
- Small plastic flames or flame stickers

Get Ready:

- Cut the tissue paper into flame shapes.

- Write or print the simplified version of John 14:25-26 on paper plates, leaving space around the edges.
- Prepare a sample plate to show the children what they'll be making.

Do this:

1. **Introduce the Theme:** Explain to the children that today we're learning about how Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help and guide us, just like He promised in John 14:25-26. The Holy Spirit came to the disciples during Pentecost, which we remember with flames because the Holy Spirit appeared as tongues of fire.
2. **Craft Time:** Give each child a paper plate with the verse written on it. Let them color or decorate the edges of the plate with markers or crayons. Then, have them glue the tissue paper flames around the verse, creating a ring of fire. This represents the Holy Spirit that came at Pentecost.
3. **Discussion and Application:** Once everyone has finished their craft, gather the children and discuss how the Holy Spirit helps us prioritize our lives by guiding us in what is important. Ask them how they think the Holy Spirit can help them in their daily lives. Encourage them to place their craft somewhere they'll see it daily as a reminder of the Holy Spirit's guidance.
4. **Closing Activity:** Give each child a small plastic flame or flame sticker to remind them of the Holy Spirit's presence. Close with a short prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help guide each child in making good choices and prioritizing their lives according to God's will.

Snack Activity: Holy Spirit Fire Crackers

You'll Need:

- Round crackers
- Cream cheese or a dairy-free alternative
- Red, orange, and yellow bell peppers
- A knife (to be used by an adult or under adult supervision)
- A small heart-shaped cookie cutter (optional)

Get Ready: Wash the bell peppers and slice them into thin strips. An adult should do this step or supervise closely.

Do this:

1. Spread cream cheese on each cracker to make a smooth, white base. This represents the Holy Spirit coming to be our helper, as Jesus promised in John 14:25-26.
2. Arrange the strips of red, orange, and yellow bell peppers on top of the cream cheese to look like flames. These colors represent the fire of the Holy Spirit that appeared on the heads of the disciples during Pentecost, showing that God's presence is with us.
3. If you have a small heart-shaped cookie cutter, you can also cut out pieces of bell pepper to place in the center of your cracker to remind us that the Holy Spirit teaches us and reminds us of Jesus' love for us. If you don't have a cookie cutter, that's okay! The important part is remembering that the Holy Spirit is always with us, helping us to keep our priorities in line with God's will.

Game Activity: Pentecost Wind Rush

You'll Need:

- A large open space (indoor or outdoor)

- Red, orange, and yellow streamers or ribbons
- Music player with lively music

Get Ready: Before the game, attach the streamers or ribbons to a central point to create a 'flame' effect, symbolizing the Holy Spirit coming at Pentecost. Make sure the music player is ready with a selection of lively songs.

Do this:

1. Gather the children around the streamer/ribbon 'flames' and explain that at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came like a rushing wind and flames appeared over the disciples' heads. Tell them they are going to be like the disciples, feeling the wind of the Spirit.
2. Start the music and have the children dance around the 'flames' in a circle. When the music stops, they must freeze in place. Explain that just as they stop and listen when the music stops, we need to stop and listen to the Holy Spirit, who helps and guides us, just like Jesus promised in John 14:25-26.
3. After a few rounds, gather the children and ask them to share one thing they can do this week to listen to the Holy Spirit and make it a priority in their lives. End with a short prayer asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Prayer Activity: Whispers of the Spirit

You'll Need:

- A Bible
- Colorful construction paper
- Markers or crayons

Get Ready: Before the class, cut the construction paper into flame shapes to represent the Holy Spirit from Pentecost. Write the verse John 14:25-26 on a large poster or whiteboard where all the children can see it.

Do this:

1. Start by explaining to the children that Pentecost is a special time when we remember how the Holy Spirit came to be with Jesus' friends, helping and guiding them. Just like Jesus promised in John 14:25-26, the Holy Spirit teaches us and reminds us of everything Jesus has told us.
2. Hand out the flame-shaped construction paper to each child and ask them to think about one thing they believe is a priority in their life that helps them follow Jesus. It could be praying, helping others, listening to their parents, or reading the Bible.
3. Have them draw or write that priority on their flame. Once everyone is done, invite them to come up one by one to share their flame and what they wrote. Encourage them to pray, asking the Holy Spirit to help them keep that priority in their lives.