

Jesus Sends Power From God

Acts 2:1-21

Even young children understand what a helper is. When asked to be a helper for the teacher, a child can be very proud to be that helper. So the idea that God sent the Holy Spirit to be their helper will be one they understand easily. Use this lesson to help preschoolers understand that God's Holy Spirit is a helper we can trust to take care of us always.



► Bible Point

God gives us the Holy Spirit.

Key Verse

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

Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will remember the Holy Spirit helps us.

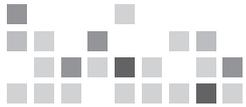
LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>1</p> <p>Getting Started</p> <p><i>about 5 min.</i></p>	<p>Welcome and Celebrate</p> <p>Welcome each other, and praise God through music.</p>	<p>CD player</p> <p>Teacher Pack: CD</p>	
<p>2</p> <p>Key Verse Activity</p> <p><i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Tell About Jesus</p> <p>Find Theo's clues, and figure out the Key Verse.</p>	<p>Bible, Theo puppet, scissors, ink pad</p> <p>Teacher Pack: “Theo's Clues” page, and “Theophilus the FaithRetriever” poster</p> 	<p>Cut the “Theo's Clues” page as indicated. Use the ink pad and your thumb to make “paw” prints on each of the three clue sections and the Theophilus poster. Hide the clues in your room.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Bible Exploration</p> <p><i>about 15 min.</i></p>	<p>Puppy Pointers</p> <p>Discover why Theo is carrying a fan.</p>	<p>CD player, Theo puppet, tape, paper fan</p> <p>Teacher Pack: CD</p>	<p>Tape the paper fan to Theo's paw.</p>
	<p>Bible Time: A Special Person</p> <p>Learn how the Holy Spirit visited the Christians and wave tissue paper flames.</p>	<p>Bible, CD player, one 6-inch square of red tissue paper per child</p> <p>Teacher Pack: CD</p>	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Weaving Faith Into Life</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p>	<p>Center 1: Spirit Fire Make flames, and talk about why God sent flames.</p>	My Bible Hugs, yellow tempera paint, paintbrushes, tissue paper squares (from the Bible Time activity)	Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Hugs student book, and write children's names on them.
	<p>Center 2: Disciple Treats Create marshmallow people with flames on their heads.</p>	red and green food coloring, small dishes, graham crackers, marshmallows, cotton swabs, toothpicks, antibacterial gel (optional)	Put red food coloring in 1 dish, and mix red and green to make brown in a separate dish.
	<p>Center 3: The Blowing Wind Blow lightweight objects to partners.</p>	masking tape, cotton balls	Make one 3-foot line on your floor with masking tape for every 2 kids.
	<p>Center 4: Fiery Headbands Make headbands that look like flames.</p>	red, yellow, and orange construction paper; scissors; tape	Cut 18-inch strips of the construction paper, 1 per child.
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lasting Impressions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	My Bible Hugs	
	<p>Action Prayer Say a prayer for one another, and pop up in turn.</p>		
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Welcome and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Welcome, Friends!" (track 16), "Love Is Patient and Kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5a) (track 6)

1 GETTING STARTED

Welcome and Celebrate

Tip Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As the children arrive, greet each one with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to gather the children together in a circle on the floor.

Lead children in singing "Welcome, Friends!" (track 16 on the CD) to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?" Encourage children to follow the motions in parentheses.

 **Welcome, friends! Welcome, friends!** (*make the "come over" motion twice*)
To God's house, to God's house. (*put hands together above head to make a house*)
We will learn from God above (*point up*)
How Jesus came to share his love. (*hug self*)
Join the fun! Join the fun! (*jump up and down*)
(Repeat.)

Say: **Today we're learning about how ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT. One thing the Holy Spirit helps us with is loving others. Let's sing a song about how God wants us to love.**

Lead children in singing "Love Is Patient and Kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5a) (track 6 on the CD). Encourage children to stand in a circle and put their arms over one another's shoulders as they sing. Lead children in swaying back and forth as well.

 **Love is patient and kind.**
Love is not jealous
Or boastful
Or proud or rude.
Love is patient and kind.
Love is not jealous
Or boastful
Or proud or rude.
Love is patient and kind.
(Repeat from the beginning.)





Love is patient and kind.
(Repeat 3x.)

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Say: **God’s love is so great—that’s one reason ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT. He wants us to have his help to love others like we just sang. Let’s hear how God sent the Holy Spirit to some people in the Bible.**

2 KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY

Tell About Jesus

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Have children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to John 14:26, and show children the words. Tell kids the Bible is God’s special book.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible says, “But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you” (John 14:26). This means that the Holy Spirit will teach you. Let’s say our Key Verse together.** Lead children in saying the adapted Key Verse with you: **The Holy Spirit will teach you (John 14:26).**

Bring out the Theophilus puppet. Say: **Theo wanted to help us learn our Key Verse today, but he seems to have lost the clues. I think he’s a little embarrassed. Perhaps he’ll whisper in my ear.**

Have the Theo puppet pretend to whisper in your ear. Say: **What’s that, Theophilus? Our friends can help you find the Key Verse clues? How will they know that they’re clues?**

Have the puppet whisper in your ear again. Say: **Theophilus says that he left a paw print on each of the clues.** Show the children the paw print you made ahead of time on the “Theophilus the FaithRetriever” poster from the Teacher Pack so they can see an example of what to look for.

Say: **He says we should look all around the room for the clues. If you find a clue with Theo’s paw print on it, give it to me. I’ll keep it until we find all three clues. Then, Theo said, he’ll help us figure out what our Key Verse is.** Have the children search the room for the three clues. When they’ve found all the clues, bring the children back together to decipher the secret message.



Tell About Jesus Supplies

- Bible
- Theo puppet
- scissors
- ink pad
- Teacher Pack**
- “Theo’s Clues” page
- “Theophilus the FaithRetriever” poster

Tell About Jesus Easy Prep

Cut the “Theo’s Clues” page as indicated. Use the ink pad and your thumb to make “paw” prints on each of the three clue sections and the Theophilus poster. Hide the clues in your room.





Pretend that the puppet whispers in your ear again. Say: **Theo says each picture reminds him of a part of the Key Verse. Let's see if we can figure out what the words are.**

Hold up the fire clue and look confused. Have Theo pretend to whisper again. Say: **Oh, okay! Theo says we will learn from the Bible today why fire reminds us of the Holy Spirit.** Have Theo nod excitedly. **So our first clue is the Holy Spirit!**

Show the picture of the teacher. Have kids tell what the teacher's doing. Say: **The teacher is teaching the children.**

Show the picture of the children, and ask kids to identify that the people in the picture are children.

Say: **So what are our three clues?** Let the children repeat the three clues as you point to each one: Holy Spirit, teaches, us. Set Theo out of sight.

Say: **In John 14:26, the Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit will teach us. Theo has helped us learn our Key Verse. Let's say it together.** Lead the children in repeating the Key Verse a few more times. **The Holy Spirit will teach you (John 14:26).**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you like about having Theo's help?
- What do you like about having the Holy Spirit's help?

Say: **Today we're learning that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT to help us. And we'll hear how the Holy Spirit helped some Christians tell others about him.**

3 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Puppy Pointers

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Listen, everyone, Theo's coming! He has something to show us. Let's find out what it is.** Play "Here, Theo" (track 5 on the CD), and bring out Theophilus the FaithRetriever.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! It's so good to see you at church with us today.

Theo: It's good to be here.

Teacher: Why did you bring a fan with you today?

Puppy Pointers Supplies

CD player
Theo puppet
tape
paper fan

Teacher Pack

CD: "Here, Theo"
(track 5)

Puppy Pointers Easy Prep

Tape the paper fan to
Theo's paw.





Theo: I'm on my way to the beach, so it'll be real hot there. I'll need my fan.

Teacher: How exciting! Maybe you'll get some wind to cool you off a bit.

Theo: That would be nice.

Teacher: We're reading in the Bible today about a big wind.

Theo: What was the wind from?

Teacher: The wind was from God. He gave us something that came in the form of a big gust of wind. Friends, let's tell Theo our Bible Point for today.

(Lead children in saying the Bible Point for Theo: ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT.)

Teacher: Theo, it's been fun having you here, but you should probably get going on your vacation.

Theo: Thanks for having me!

Teacher: Boys and girls, say goodbye to Theo!

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you think about God's Holy Spirit coming in a big gust of wind?
- Tell about a windy day you experienced.
- Why is it pretty exciting that God sent his Holy Spirit?

Say: **Even though we can't see it, wind can be pretty powerful and exciting. The Holy Spirit is like that, and ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT to take care of us and help us. Today we'll hear how God's Holy Spirit took care of some people in the Bible.**

Bible Time: A Special Person

What You'll Do ■■■■

Open your Bible to Acts 2:1-21, and show children the words. Tell children that the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Today's Bible passage teaches us that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT.** Give each child a tissue paper square.

Say: **As you listen, wave your red tissue paper high in the air every time I say "Holy Spirit." Let's try it.** Practice saying "Holy Spirit" as the children wave their tissue paper squares. **Imagine the red squares are flames blowing in the wind.**

Jesus' disciples were together in a room in Jerusalem. They could hear the sound of people's voices outside, and the people were speaking in many different languages. Crowds of people were in the streets because it was a special day. It was the feast of Pentecost. People came from all over the world to attend the celebration. Have the kids cheer and jump up and down, as if at a celebration.



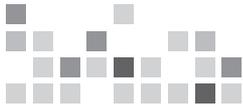
Bible Time: A Special Person Supplies

- Bible
- CD player
- one 6-inch square of red tissue paper per child

Teacher Pack

- CD: "Wind Sounds" (track 18)





Say: **On that day, the disciples were praying together in a room. They remembered that Jesus said they would teach people all over the world about him. But Jesus told them to wait until God sent them the Holy Spirit.** (Have children wave their tissue paper squares.) **God would send the Holy Spirit** (have children wave tissue paper squares) **to be with them and to give them power to tell everyone about him. Could this be the day?**

Play “Wind Sounds” (track 18 on the CD). Let it continue playing as you explain what happened. Say: **While the disciples were praying, they heard a strange sound. It was even louder than the voices in the street. It was the sound of a great wind. It grew louder and louder, and it filled the house where they were praying. The disciples looked at each other, and they saw what looked like little fiery flames, kind of like our pieces of tissue. The flames seemed to be sitting on the top of each person’s head!** Stop the CD.

Say: **God knew that the disciples couldn’t see the Holy Spirit.** (Have children wave tissue paper squares.) **So he sent the wind so they could hear and feel him. And he sent the flames of fire so they could see him, also. The disciples knew the Holy Spirit** (have children wave tissue paper squares) **had come to be their friend and be with them.**

God gave them the Holy Spirit (have children wave tissue paper squares) **to be their teacher and friend and to help them tell others about him. He helped the disciples that day speak to thousands of people about Jesus. The Holy Spirit** (have children wave tissue paper squares) **gave them the power to speak to people in their own languages. Lots and lots of people believed in Jesus that day.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Tell about a time you heard someone talk in a different language.
- What’s so neat about how God helped the people understand and speak other languages?
- What things can the Holy Spirit help you with?

Say: **The wind is a nice reminder that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT.** (Have children wave tissues.) **Every time the wind blows, we can remember that God gives us the Holy Spirit** (have children wave tissues) **to be our friend and to help us tell others about Jesus. God gives us the Holy Spirit** (have children wave tissues) **to help us, to comfort us when we’re scared, to teach us, and to be our friend.**

4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today’s Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you’re ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they’d like to explore first.



Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center's description.

CENTER 1:

Spirit Fire

What You'll Do

Give each child a Lesson 13 page from My Bible Hugs. Say: **Today we learned that God sent the Holy Spirit to help the Christians in the Bible. The Holy Spirit sounded like a great gust of wind and looked like flames on the people's heads. Let's make flames to remind us that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT, too.**

Have the children brush yellow paint on the flame shapes on the page. Then have them tear the red tissue paper into tiny pieces and place the pieces on the painted flames. (The yellow paint will mix with the tissue to give the flames different shades of red, yellow, and orange.)

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What's surprising to you about the flames on the disciples' heads?
- Tell about something surprising God's done in your life.
- What can you tell others about the Holy Spirit in your life?

Say: **It was pretty surprising that the Holy Spirit looked like flames on the disciples' heads. ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT, too, and sometimes he does surprising things in our lives. One thing we know is that the Holy Spirit will always take care of us, and we can tell others about how he helps us.**

CENTER 2:

Disciple Treats

What You'll Do

Have children clean their hands and then sit down for the snack. Say: **It was probably a real treat when the Holy Spirit came to live in the disciples. Let's make disciple treats to remind us that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Give each child two large marshmallows, half a cotton swab, and three toothpicks. Have children each use a toothpick to connect their marshmallows. Then have them each paint a face on their marshmallow "disciple" by dipping the end of a toothpick in the brown food coloring. Have each child push half a cotton swab into the top marshmallow



Center 1: Spirit Fire Supplies

My Bible Hugs
yellow tempera paint
paintbrushes
tissue paper squares
(from the Bible Time activity)

Center 1: Spirit Fire Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Hugs student book, and write children's names on them.

Center 2: Disciple Treats Supplies

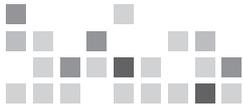
red and green food coloring
small dishes
graham crackers
marshmallows
cotton swabs
toothpicks
antibacterial gel (optional)

ALLERGY ALERT

Center 2: Disciple Treats Easy Prep

Put red food coloring in 1 dish, and mix red and green to make brown in a separate dish.





so the cotton is sticking out of the top and push a toothpick through the bottom marshmallow to make arms.

When the children finish, have them gather in a circle holding their snacks, and remind them that ► **GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Ask children to tell what the Holy Spirit looked like in the Bible, and then have them dip the cotton swabs in the red food coloring to put the color on the “disciples’ ” heads. Show the children how to carefully take apart their snack to eat it. Provide graham crackers to go with the marshmallow disciples.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What do you remember most about what happened with the disciples?
- Why does that help you know God gives you his Holy Spirit, too?

Say: **Just as God gave the Holy Spirit to the disciples, ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT. We can ask God for help any time and we know he’ll hear us and his Holy Spirit will help us.**

■ CENTER 3:

The Blowing Wind

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **When the disciples were meeting in a room, they heard a big gust of wind, and it was the Holy Spirit coming into their room. Let’s play a wind game to think about how the Holy Spirit moves us.**

Group children in pairs, and have partners sit at opposite ends of a masking-tape line. Have the children blow the cotton balls along the lines to their partners.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- What was it like to move your cotton ball?
- How are you like or unlike the cotton ball and the air you blew like the Holy Spirit?
- What can you do to listen to the Holy Spirit in your life?

Say: **The Holy Spirit helped the disciples speak in other languages so they could tell people about Jesus. And ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT, so we can tell others about Jesus, too. Let’s ask God to help us tell others about Jesus this week like the disciples did.**

Center 3: The Blowing Wind Supplies

masking tape
cotton balls

Center 3: The Blowing Wind Easy Prep

Make one 3-foot line on your floor with masking tape for every 2 kids.





CENTER 4:

Fiery Headbands

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Help children make headbands to remind them of the Holy Spirit. Give each child a strip of construction paper. Have kids tear pieces of red, orange, and yellow construction paper and glue them on the headbands to look like flames.

Tape the headbands together, and let kids put them on their heads. As children work, talk about how flames from a fire are red, yellow, and orange. Remind kids that when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples, there were what looked like fiery flames above the disciples' heads.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: ► **GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT. The Holy Spirit is our friend and wants to help us. We can ask the Holy Spirit to help us like he helped the disciples.**

5 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

After the children have cleaned up their centers, bring everyone back to a circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they learned from the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: **Today we learned that ► GOD GIVES US THE HOLY SPIRIT. I would like each of you to choose a way to remember that the Holy Spirit helps us this week.**

Give kids these two challenges to choose from:

- **When you're nervous or scared, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you.**
- **Help your brother or sister with something, and then tell him or her that the Holy Spirit helps us.**

Say: **If you want to pray, circle the choice with one dot. If you want to help your brother or sister, circle the choice with two dots.** Check that each child circled a choice on his or her My Bible Hugs page. Make sure you tell kids the challenge you



Center 4: Fiery Headbands Supplies

red, yellow, and orange construction paper
scissors
tape

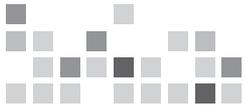
Center 4: Fiery Headbands Easy Prep

Cut 18-inch strips of the construction paper, 1 per child.

Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Hugs





choose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

Action Prayer

What You'll Do

Form a circle, and have the children sit down. Tell them you're going to thank God for sending the Holy Spirit. Tell kids to each pop up when they hear their name. Encourage the whole group to say the prayer with you as you pray for each child.

Pray: Thank you, God, for sending the Holy Spirit to help [child's name]. In Jesus' name, amen.

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Hugs pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the "Daily Challenges" activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment during the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

