

Pentecost Sunday – 5/31/20

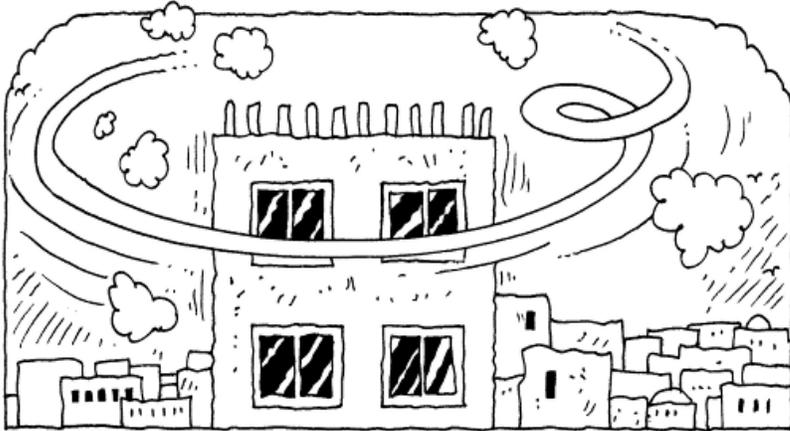
Our 50 day journey through the season of Easter culminates in the great Feast of Pentecost, the “birthday” of the Church, when Jesus’ promised gift of the Holy Spirit descends upon Mary and the disciples and the world is set on fire for Christ through their witness. We pray for this fire of the Holy Spirit to be set ablaze in us, His Church, that the world may once again be renewed in His love.

Today we focus on the first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, which recounts the events of that first Pentecost.

Acts 2:1-11



After Jesus had gone up into heaven, some of his friends met together in an upstairs room of a house in Jerusalem



Suddenly they heard a very strong wind and it shook the house where they were waiting.



The power of Holy Spirit filled them all. They saw, what looked like flames, flickering over their heads and felt that God was right there with them.



The flames were bright and danced
in the air, but did not burn them.

Their hearts were full of
God's love and they praised God.



Now Jesus' friends could speak in
any language without learning it!
Holy Spirit's power made them brave too!
They wanted everyone to know about
Jesus!



They went outside and spoke to people
from other countries in their own language,
telling them that Jesus had risen from the
dead and everyone in the crowd understood!



Holy Spirit coming into their lives was
the beginning of something brand new.
Many people believed in Jesus and
followed Him because of that day.

The Lesson

Before Jesus returned to heaven, he had promised the disciples that he would not leave them alone. He told them that he would send a comforter. He told them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for the gift God had promised them. He told them that God would soon baptize them with the Holy Spirit.

Everybody loves to get gifts, but the disciples had no idea how amazing this gift of the Holy Spirit was going to be. Ten days later the disciples were all gathered together in one place. Suddenly they heard a strong wind blowing. The wind sound filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw something that seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and they all began to speak in other languages.

Since it was a holiday, people from all over the nation were in Jerusalem. They spoke many different languages. When the people heard the disciples telling everyone about how wonderful God was in their own languages, they were amazed. The gift that God gave them was the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gave them the ability to talk in other languages. The Holy Spirit also helped them to understand everything that Jesus had been teaching them. It also gave them power to not be afraid.

Peter, without fear, stood up with the other disciples, raised his voice and spoke to the crowd. He told them about what happened to Jesus & how he was raised from the dead. He told them that God had sent his Holy Spirit to help them & that if they believed in him they would also receive the Spirit.

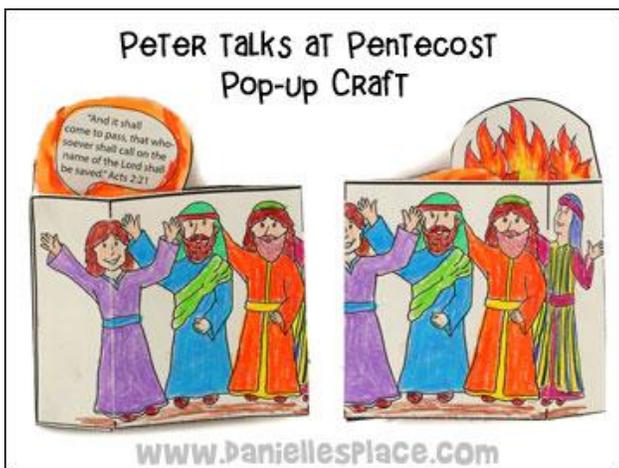
When the people heard everything that he had said they believed. They asked him what they should do. Peter told them, "Repent and be baptized and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. They did what Peter told them to do and about three thousand people were added to their numbers that day.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher, He's our guide, and He gives us the power we need to live for God.

Prayer

Father, we thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to comfort us, teach us, guide us, and give us power. Help us to be open to the Holy Spirit's leading. Amen.

Activities: Peter Talks at Pentecost Pop-up Craft



What you will need:

Colored Pencils or crayons, Glue, Scissors

How to make:

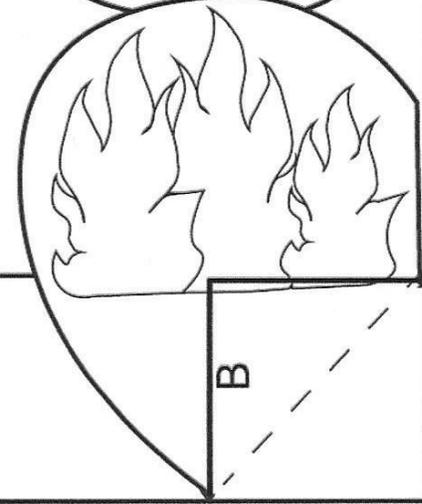
1. Color the picture and tabs
2. Fold the paper in half and glue it closed.
3. Fold the tabs and glue them onto the back of the pattern as indicated on the pattern.
4. Glue the sides together.
5. Show your children how to press on the sides to make the tabs pop up.

You can watch detailed instructions for completing the craft here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSA1lgyMHWQ&feature=emb_err_woyt



"And I will pray the
Father, and he shall
give you another
Comforter,
that he may abide
with you for ever;"
John 14:16



"And it shall
come to pass, that who-
soever shall call on the
name of the Lord shall
be saved." Acts 2:21

