

Unit 33, Session 6: The Holy Spirit Came

Acts 2:1-42

Christ Connection:

Preschool: God sent the Holy Spirit just as He promised. Now Jesus' friends had everything they needed to make more followers of Jesus! God gives the Holy Spirit to those of us who trust in Jesus and let Him be in charge of our lives. The Holy Spirit helps us do God's work and changes us to be more like Jesus.

Kids: God kept His promise to send the Holy Spirit. With the Holy Spirit's help, Jesus' disciples could begin their work to share the gospel with the entire world. God gives the Holy Spirit to those who trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior. The Holy Spirit gives us power to do God's work, and He changes us to be more like Jesus.

Adult Connection Point: Imitation is a key facet of discipleship, and the Holy Spirit plays a major role in this. As Christians, the goal of our salvation is that we will be made into the image of Christ (Rom. 8:29). So, we look to others who are being made in Christ's image so that we might increase our growth the most efficiently. Paul made the bold request of the Corinthian believers that they imitate his life. It sounds ridiculously arrogant until we read his words in 1 Corinthians 11:1—"Imitate me, as I also imitate Christ." Ultimately, Paul was not asking others to live like him but to live like Jesus. The commitment Paul made in such a bold request was that he would die to self so that Christ would be evident in his everyday living. Just as God has provided a tangible example of what He is like through Jesus His incarnate Son, we also have tangible examples of what godliness looks like through mature, Spirit-filled believers. How do we know if a peer is Spirit-filled and therefore to be imitated? Consider what Paul wrote in Galatians 5:16-26:

I say then, walk by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I tell you about these things in advance—as I told you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, we must also follow the Spirit. We must not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

"The works of the flesh are obvious," Paul states in verse 19. Hence, we avoid following ungodly examples and instead pursue following after examples that are in accord with the characteristics described in verses 22-23. The Bible's impact on a life must be taught and shown. It is not an either/or scenario but rather a both/and blessing. We have a message that must be modeled so that those who are growing

will know what it looks like to live out our faith and not just hear a theory about it. We seek to walk by the Spirit so that others

Discipleship is a process in which we learn by watching someone else encounter life and apply God's truth to it. The Spirit of God works within the church to provide for the needs of the body by giving us others to disciple as well as those who can disciple us.

Materials: computer or tablet

Using your internet browser, search for "What does 'Jesus is Lord' sound like in French?" Play the phrase for your kids. Try this search with several different languages.

Review the story from Acts 2.

Ask: "What amazing things happened on the day of Pentecost?"

Recall how the Holy Spirit came just as Jesus had promised. The Holy Spirit was described as a rushing wind and like flames of fire. After the Holy Spirit came, the disciples could speak different languages. The Holy Spirit gave the disciples courage and strength to share the good news of Jesus with thousands of people.

Ask: "What were some things Peter shared about Jesus?"

Comment how Peter reminded the people that the prophet Joel had said God would pour out His Holy Spirit on all humanity. He told about all the miracles and wonders God did through Jesus. Even though it was God's plan for Jesus to die on the cross, He did not stay there but rose from the dead. When the people heard all that Peter said, they knew it was true and wanted to be saved. Over 3000 people were saved that very day.

Sing a song from the curriculum and praise God for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pray, thanking God for keeping His promise to send a Helper—the Holy Spirit.

Ask God to help your family to be more like Jesus.