



THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

THE BIBLE

The Holy Spirit Appears at Pentecost: Acts 2:1-21; (Psalm 139:7-10)

INTRO! These activities introduce the ideas in this week.

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this <u>video</u>, "Run To Love." Allow the kids periods of time to run around the room.
- Today we are going to talk about how everyone can come to know God. God's waiting for us with open arms so let's run!

ACTIVITY | Holy Spirit Wind

• **INSTRUCTIONS**: Challenge each of your family members to build a church building out of whatever they can find around the house – lego, spaghetti and marshmallows, playdough, whatever!

ACTIVITY | Around the World in A to Z

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Sit with your family and come up with a list of as many countries around the world as they can think of by going down the alphabet. After five minutes, compare your list against a total list of all countries (you can find one by clicking here)
- Did you know there are 195 countries in the world? That's a lot of different cultures, languages, and traditions! And God cares about every single person in every single one of these countries!
- In today's Bible story, we're going to find out what Jesus wanted the disciples and us – to do in the world.

OBJECT LESSON | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Four

- INSTRUCTIONS: Find something that you can build with your family by following instructions. IE, a craft, a lego set, an origami shape, or a color-by-numbers page. Wrap it up in paper or gift wrap, or put it in a gift bag! Use the script below to help you use this as an object lesson to teach your children.
- The Holy Spirit is a special gift from God. God gives us this gift to show us love and kindness . . . and because we really need it! Why do we need the Holy Spirit?
- First of all, how do you feel when you get a gift? What if you got a gift on a day that you were feeling down? It would have helped you feel better to know that someone cares about you, right?
 - o The Holy Spirit is always with us and comforts us when we need it.
- It's important to know where a gift comes from and who it's for. We usually find this information on a card or a gift tag (Show everyone the gift tag that has your name on it).
 - Much like a gift tag tells us who the gift belongs to, the Holy Spirit lets us know that we belong to God.
- And when we get a nicely-wrapped gift, what do some of us like to do before opening it? We like to shake it and try to guess what's inside. We might make our best guess, but we won't know until we actually unwrap the box (Remove the wrapping paper).
 - o Whenever we don't know what God wants us to do, the Holy Spirit tells us!
- What do we have here I don't know know how to make this without instructions! What
 do I do? Ah, yes, I need to find the instruction manual (Pull out the instruction manual).
 - The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's instructions to us and guides us through each step.
- In order to do this, I need all the pieces. And here they are, inside this box (Dump out contents onto table)!
 - The Holy Spirit provides us with all the tools we need to draw closer to God our own "gifts" and abilities to do God's work.
- OLet's see what kinds of things people were able to do because of the Holy Spirit!

GO DEEPER. This part helps your kid understand why it's important.

SCRIPTURE | Acts 2:1-21

- Can you imagine being suddenly able to speak other languages?
- Imagine meeting a friend from another country who doesn't speak the language you speak. How could you communicate with them if you don't speak their language?
- Let's travel back in time to see what happened on a special day called Pentecost.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the Bible story from Acts 2:1-21.
- When the Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples, it was a time when their city was filled with people visiting from other countries who spoke other languages.
- Even though all of Jesus' followers at first came from a single culture, God wanted them to know that it shouldn't stop there. God was giving the disciples power through the Holy Spirit to start doing amazing things for God beyond their own borders.

• When anyone believes in Jesus, they can receive the Holy Spirit. When we have the Holy Spirit in us, it's like having God's help wherever we go.

THE BIG IDEA | The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

- INSTRUCTIONS: Have everybody say the big idea with you out loud!
- The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 4

• INSTRUCTIONS: Play this week's teaching video.

POLL | World Traveler

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show <u>this video</u> of the most iconic landmarks around the world. Ask your family which of these places they would most want to go and tally the responses.
 - o **PRETEEN HACK:** Ask questions like the following: Would you rather travel somewhere cold or hot? / Would you rather visit the mountains or water? / Would you rather travel for spicy food or sweets? / Would you rather travel in a small group or with a lot of people? Have kids write down each of their choices. Then provide travel books, brochures, or devices connected to the internet and have them search for a place to visit that would fit most of those criteria.
- Aren't each of these places around the world so cool? What makes the world even more special than all of these landmarks is the people!
- Each one of us is different. We look different, we speak different languages, and we
 have a variety of cultures. But even though we are so different, there is one thing we
 have in common: God loves us. And God has provided a way for all of us to love God
 back. The Holy Spirit is for everyone!

ACTIVITY | Legacy Language

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use a translator app to find translations for today's Big Idea in various languages. Honor each language you choose by learning them as accurately as possible.
- In today's Bible story, we heard about how the people were all speaking different languages, but they were able to understand each other.
- So, we are going to practice saying today's Big Idea, **the Holy Spirit is for everyone**, in a few other languages!

SCRIPTURE | Psalm 139:7-10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read Psalm 139:7-10 together.
- Who is the spirit that is being talked about here?
- This psalm reminds us that the Holy Spirit is everywhere we can't hide from the Holy Spirit. How does that make you feel?
- Maybe it makes you feel a little afraid because you think God is just waiting around for you to make a mistake. But that's not the case. The Holy Spirit is everywhere because God loves you and wants to be with you. And there's no place that is out of reach for the Holy Spirit.

This is how we know that the Holy Spirit is for everyone!

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

REFLECTION | Super Spirit

- Can you name your favorite superhero? What power do they have?
- Imagine all the superpowers in the world coming together in one person the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit is for everyone, can help everyone all over the world at the same time, and is available 24/7!
- The Holy Spirit is better than any superhero we could ever think of. The Holy Spirit reminds us when we are alone, upset, or scared, that God is with us. The Holy Spirit guides us and helps us know how to love God and love others.

RESPONSE | Holy Spirit Hunt

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each member of your family a bible, or direct them to go on an electronic device to www.bible.com. Race to see who can find and read each verse first!
- How do we get the Holy Spirit? (Luke 11:13)
 - We need to ask God.
- What must we do before inviting in the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:38)
 - We need to repent. We need to turn away from sin and follow God.
- What is another name for the Holy Spirit (John 14:16)
 - o Helper, Advocate, Counselor (depending on your translation).
- Where does the Holy Spirit live? (John 14:17)
 - The Holy Spirit lives within us.

MEMORY VERSE | Time Travel Verse

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** go through the memory verse with your family. Get them to repeat it after you, small sections at a time, and see if they can do it without you saying it first. Practice every week there will be one memory verse a month!
- ROMANS 8:14(NIV) For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

PRAYER

Dear God, we are so grateful your love includes all of us. Thank you for giving us the
Holy Spirit, so we're never truly alone. Help us to be the ones who remind the world
that the Holy Spirit is for everyone. Amen.

WRAP IT UP. These help your kids do something with what they learned.

DISCUSSION

- Where were the disciples when the Holy Spirit appeared?
- What happened when the people were filled with the Holy Spirit?
- What did people think about the disciples when they heard them speaking their own languages?
- Re-read Psalm 139:7-10. Where is the Holy Spirit?
- If you could learn to speak another language, what would it be?
- How does knowing that the Holy Spirit is for everyone affect how you treat others?
- What is one way the Holy Spirit can change you?

ACTIVITY | Decoder Gadget

- **INSTRUCTIONS**: Give each family member the Decoder printable and scissors. Have them cut out the two circles, overlap them at the middle, and bind them together by poking a brad, a paper clip, or a pencil through the middle. If you can't make that work have them just hold it together! Have them rotate the circles and line up the letters in any position they want. The bigger circle is for the letters in the original text, and the smaller circle will be the code letters.
 - PRETEEN HACK: Afterward, have kids write a one-sentence message they can share about God in code. They can swap papers and try to crack each other's code using the decoder gadget.
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Let them play with the decoder ring and ask them to call out what new letter is under the original letters each time they turn the ring.
- Write today's Big Idea: The Holy Spirit is for everyone. Then under it, write the
 message in code, using your new decoder. Once you line up the letters, keep it in that
 position for the whole code!