The Gift of the Holy Spirit

Before Jesus returned to heaven to be with His Father, He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for a special gift from God, the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts chapter 1 verses 4 and 5). So the disciples, along with many other believers, waited in a large room in Jerusalem for the promise to be fulfilled. On the day of Pentecost, while they were all gathered together in prayer, there was a great noise from Heaven, like a strong wind blowing that filled the whole room and they saw what appeared like small flames of fire resting on each person there.

All of the believers who were present were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts chapter 2 verses 1 to 4). And as Jesus had promised, through the gift of the Holy Spirit they were given power from heaven to be His witnesses throughout the entire world. That was an important day for the young church and the beginning of many great adventures as God worked through Jesus' followers. Many of these exciting stories are recorded for you to read in the book of Acts. And God's mighty works didn't stop there. He has been doing mighty deeds through the followers of Jesus throughout the centuries, and continues to do so today!
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Reformation at Home: Locate a Bible that is special to your family and make sure your child knows where it is. Consider purchasing a Bible that is designed especially for young children. Read a Bible storybook together at bedtime.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119:105).
DAY 2 ACTIVITY SHEET

Africa

Check it out! Become a Mission Friend. Learn about Africa with Gina the Giraffe. missionfriends.lcms.org | 888-THE LCMS
- Ethiopia is a very large country, about twice the size of Texas.
- Coffee, grain sorghum, and castor beans are crops believed to have originated in Ethiopia. Coffee beans are a major export.
- For the majority of its history, a monarch ruled Ethiopia. Today, Ethiopians elect a president.
- Amharic is the official national language, but English is taught in most schools.
Philip and the Ethiopian

Philip, one of the men chosen by the apostles to help with the care of the church, (see Acts chapter 6, verses 1 to 7) was visited by an angel who told him to go to a certain place south of Jerusalem.

Philip obeyed and journeyed to the area where he observed a man reading a text while sitting in a chariot. The man was the treasurer of Queen Candace, the queen of Ethiopia, and was returning home after having been in Jerusalem to worship.

When Philip saw him, he was sitting in his chariot reading in the book of Isaiah in chapter 53. Philip asked him, "Do you understand what you are reading." The man answered, "I don't know, can you explain the text to me?" So Philip sat with him and told him the Good News of Jesus. Then Philip baptized the Ethiopian man.

After this, Philip was suddenly taken away by the Spirit of the Lord, and the man from Ethiopia "went on his way rejoicing."

You can read this story in Acts chapter 8, verses 26 to 40.
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WHO ARE MY TEACHERS?

THEN PHILIP ... TOLD HIM THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS.
Acts 8:35
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Justification

“Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Rom. 5:1).

Reformation at Home: Read a favorite Bible story with your child at bedtime. Talk about the ways God shows His love and power in the story.

Martin Luther knew that there is nothing we can do to earn favor in God’s eyes. God already loves us, and that’s why He sent Jesus to earth for the salvation of all people. We are made just by our faith, which is a special gift from God.
After the miracle by the temple gate when the lame man was healed, Peter and John and the other apostles continued to preach the Good News about Jesus to all in Jerusalem. Many people believed and were added to the young Church. Some became jealous of the apostles and had them put in the public jail. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison gates, led them out and told the Apostles: “Go and tell the people all about this new life” (Acts 5:17–25).

Persecution continued in Jerusalem and many believers had to flee the city. (Acts 8:1–4.) But one man was set on arresting as many believers as possible, and even asked for letters of recommendation to go to Damascus to arrest and bring back many of the believers to Jerusalem. His name was Saul of Tarsus.

Saul was interrupted on his journey to Damascus, when suddenly a light from heaven shone around him that was so bright it caused him to fall to the ground. And he heard a voice saying “Saul, Saul! Why do you persecute Me?” Saul answered, “Who are you, Lord?” The voice answered “I am Jesus, whom you persecute. Get up and go to the city where you will be told what you must do.” (Acts 9: 1–9.)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>First, Paul was...</th>
<th>Second, Paul heard....</th>
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<tr>
<td>Third, Paul could not....</td>
<td>Fourth, a man came and told Paul....</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth, Paul was....</td>
<td>Finally, Paul told others....</td>
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light/dark

stop/go

© LCMS
Day 3 Teacher Resource

sit/stand

hate/joy
<table>
<thead>
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Opening of Prison Doors and a Jailor’s Heart

On a missionary journey, Paul and Silas travelled to Macedonia. While preaching there, a slave woman who was a fortune teller followed them everywhere they went, while shouting about them being servants of God. Paul, disturbed by her continual shouting, commanded the evil spirit to come out of her, and she was instantly freed of the spirit. However, when her masters found out, they were angry because they could no longer make money by using her to tell fortunes.

The woman’s master grabbed Paul and Silas and took them to the magistrate, where they were accused of disturbing the peace of the city. The magistrate found Paul and Silas guilty and had them thrown into jail. But though in jail, Paul and Silas continued to trust God and were singing hymns and songs of praise. Suddenly, an earthquake shook the prison and their chains fell off and the prison doors were opened.

The prison guard was very frightened and thought all the prisoners had escape, but Paul comforted him that they were still there, and then prayed for the guard, who believed and was saved and all his family.

What another wonderful miracle of God’s protection and help. Do read this amazing story in Acts chapter 16.
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Martin Luther wanted people to know that God’s love for them is special and everlasting. God’s love, grace and forgiveness are for all people. As Christians, we know that we will have eternal life in heaven.

“For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life” (John 6:40a).

Reformation at Home: Spend some time outside, looking up at the sky. Talk with your child about how big God’s world is and that He created it all. Ask your child, “What do you think heaven will be like?” and “Tell me why heaven is so special.”
JESUS GIVES ME NEW LIFE.

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.”

John 11:25
Paul and his companions travelled many places preaching the Good News of Jesus; many heard the word and received it gladly. Now the time was at hand for Paul to go on what would be his final journey—to Rome, travelling through Jerusalem. After leaving Greece and on his way to Jerusalem, Paul stayed several days in Troas, there one day, Paul preached to the disciples. Many came to listen, amongst them a young man named Eutychus, who sat by the windowsill. Paul talked long into the evening and the poor young man, tired from the long day, fell asleep and fell out of the window. Everyone rushed out; and found that Eutychus had died from the fall. But Paul threw his arms around Eutychus and prayed for him and young Eutychus rose, shaken, but alive. Then Paul returned to finish his teaching until daylight.

Read this amazing story in Acts chapter 20, verses 6 to 12.
Sleeping in Church

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For this story, you’ll be telling the story through stick figures. Don’t worry if you’re not an artist — you can see from the sample drawings that we’re really using basic drawings.
To start, draw a house with three floors.
On Sunday, Paul gathered with Christians. They were gathered upstairs in a house. Paul was leaving on Monday. Draw Paul in the open "doorway."

Paul told them God's Word. Draw a speech bubble.
He told them God’s Word until it was late at night on Sunday. *Draw a moon outside.*

The Christians heard God’s Word upstairs in a house. Late at night, the Christians heard God’s Word. There was a Christian boy. He was sitting at the window. The window was upstairs. *Draw someone in the window.*
It was late at night. The boy fell asleep. The boy fell down. He fell down out of the window. *Draw an arrow from the boy to the ground.*

The boy fell down and died. *Erase the boy & the arrow and draw the boy on the ground.*
Paul went downstairs to the boy. *Draw an arrow down from Paul.*

Paul picked him up. Paul said, "He is alive!" *Erase Paul, the arrow, and the boy. Draw Paul and the boy standing up.*
God gave the boy life! He was dead and then he was alive. Draw smiles on their faces.

Paul told the people God’s Word until Monday morning. Erase Paul & the boy & the moon. Draw Paul back upstairs. Draw the sun in the sky.
Day 5 Teacher Resource

Paul left. Erase Paul. The Christians were filled with joy that the boy was alive. Draw taller people outside the house smiling around a boy.