



# Rotation Model Sunday School Lesson Plans

## “Pentecost: Wind, Fire, and Faith”

**Memory Verse:** “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8, NIV)

### Learning Center Overview:

**Holy Word Cinema:** View the Voice of the Martyrs DVD “The Messengers” disc #2 and answer the onscreen review questions. Students will learn the Bible memory verse with Cal & Marty software.

**Creation Station (Art):** Students use their breath and a straw to “inspire” their creation of a special Pentecost painting.

**Bible Skills & Games:** Students will participate in a number of “leaf blower-powered games” and create a “Mighty Wind Disciples Gallery” to share their enthusiasm for learning God’s Word with others in the church.



Home / Sunday School Lessons and Resources / LESSONS: ACTS  
/ Writing Team Lesson Set: Pentecost ~ Wind, Fire, Faith!  
/ (WT) Pentecost Bible - Background and Lesson Objectives

## (WT) Pentecost Bible - Background and Lesson Objectives



The Writing Team   Fortifying our Supporting Members

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### Pentecost: Wind, Fire, and Faith! Bible Background for Teachers

#### Scripture for the Lessons

Acts 2:1-8, 12-18, 36-47

~ the story of Pentecost

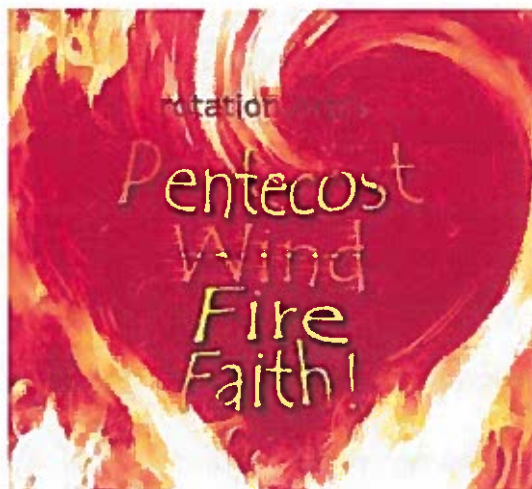
(Teachers should read the entire story

Acts 1:1-2:41)

#### Key/Memory Verse

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

-- Acts 1:8 (NRSV)



Note: We've written this background in such a way as to give teachers things to remember to share with their students. Consult a commentary for more traditional background commentary on the passage.

#### Lesson Objectives

After studying the story of Pentecost during this Rotation, student will be able to:

- Locate the story of Pentecost in their Bibles.
- Have a working knowledge of the story's outline and key points.
- Describe the transformation that the disciples underwent.
- Articulate how the symbols of wind and fire describe God's Spirit.
- Reflect on how God's Spirit "feels" and what it may be moving them to do in their lives.
- Understand what it means to "witness" to Christ.

## Bible Background

### What does the story of Pentecost mean to a child?

The typical "Sunday School answer" is to call it "the church's birthday," and talk about flames appearing over the disciples. And indeed, those are worthy teaching points, and good images to get started with, however, in the Rotation Model, you'll have four or more weeks to explore this story more deeply, which is a very good thing, because there's more here than "birthdays and flames."

#### The story of Pentecost is a story about...

- **scared** disciples becoming bold.
- **empty** disciples becoming filled with the Holy Spirit.
- **clueless** disciples finding the right words to share their faith.
- **ordinary** people suddenly believing in a life-changing truth.

#### On a personal level, the story of Pentecost teaches us...

- that we are not alone (God's Spirit takes over for Jesus).
- that it is God who powers our faith, and not we ourselves (faith is a gift we can grow).
- that God calls us to become members of his fellowship (the Church).
- what the presence of God feels like when it's around you and in you!

#### On a theological level...

- it is the beginning of the Church,
- and the dramatic emergence of the third person of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Comforter whom Jesus promised would take his place after he was gone.

#### Pentecost was originally a Jewish feast day

Feast days were prescribed in the Book of Leviticus. You're undoubtedly familiar with the Feast of Passover commemorating the Exodus story. This was the festival Jesus was celebrating when they arrested him. Then three days after Passover, on a Sunday, the festival of the "first fruits" was also celebrated. It was like a "spring" festival.

Then the Book of Leviticus specifies that 50 days after the Festival of First Fruits another festival should be celebrated to give thanks for the first harvest of summer. This "Feast of Harvest" was also known as "Feast of Weeks." In Hebrew the festival was called "Shav-u-ot" (literally: "weeks"). In Greek, Shavuot is translated as "Pentecost," the festival held on the "50th Day." (Pente = 50).

God loves symbolism. We have the cross, an empty tomb, and on the harvest festival, God sends his Holy Spirit to begin the harvesting of souls for Christ! God rushes in like a mighty wind, appears like a fire, and moves the disciples to speak in the language of the people gathering for the Pentecost festival.

That last part always surprises: God speaks in the language of the people, not the disciples. Not in the language of the Pharisees, but in a way that makes sense to the "foreigners" who have come to Jerusalem from many places and cultures. The implications of that are profound, but for the moment,

**let's just remember that this is what TEACHERS are doing in Sunday School! ...sharing an amazing story in amazing language.**

*"your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams." (Acts 2:17)*

### **Jesus' Instructions...**

After his resurrection, Jesus appeared and gave his disciples the "Great Commission" before ascending into heaven. He said, *"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."*

*He must have known that would be scary, and maybe even dangerous.  
Jesus knows we need help.*

So he told his disciples to stay in Jerusalem and to wait for the gift the Father would send: the Holy Spirit. Imagine being with them in Jerusalem WAITING and WONDERING. They must have felt a great deal of confusion, fear, anxiety, impatience, and perhaps even skepticism.

### **God rocks the symbolism again!**

1. The Holy Spirit appeared on **Sunday morning at 9 a.m.!**
2. God's Spirit felt like a rush of **"violent" wind**. Wind was a biblical symbol of divine power of creation and renewal. In fact, the word for "spirit" is the same as "wind" in Hebrew. You can't see the air, only the things it moves. Same thing with God.
3. **Tongues of fire** appeared on the heads of believers. Fire was a symbol of God's might and holy presence. God was in the burning bush. He guided as a pillar of fire in the Exodus. Remember those two disciples on the road to Emmaus, who said they felt like their hearts were burning, after walking with Jesus?
4. The disciples began **speaking in different languages**, but amazingly, those present heard the words in their own native languages. This is a miracle designed to teach us two important ideas: (1) The message is for all, and (2) Needs to spoken in a way that makes sense to each person.

Note: For some reason, churches like to include the "dove" symbol at Pentecost to represent the Holy Spirit. However, there's no "dove" in Acts 2. God's Spirit alighted on Jesus at his baptism. Pentecost is about a mighty wind and flames!

### **What does God's Spirit feel like?**

It's important to help our kids know the answer and the symbols God uses to teach us are a BIG help! Fire heats up, cleanses, clears, and leaves a mark, but you can't grab it. God is like that. The Spirit-wind-fire isn't something you can bottle. The wind doesn't always blow, or move you. God is like that too. And the thing about wind and fire is that you don't always see or feel them. They

come and go. Indeed, remember Elijah's story? God didn't speak to Elijah through the wind and fire or earthquake, but in a still small voice. In all three cases, however, you feel moved. God's Spirit "moves" people, and it moves each of us in unique ways.

One of the things the Spirit moves us to do is BE TOGETHER. That's part of the Pentecost story too: the beginning of churches. A sign that the Spirit is moving within you is when you feel moved to be with other believers in worship, prayer, study and service.

### **BTW: What happens when you share the Good News?**

This may come as a surprise to some children, but the story tells us that not everyone wants to hear about Jesus. Some scoffers show up, taunt Peter and the disciples, and even accuse them of being drunk! (How about your students and parents? Any "scoffers" among them? Some shout, "boring!" or "busy," instead of, "you're drunk." How did Peter answer them? )

## **More life application**

### **The story of Pentecost tells us to:**

1. Get out of your group and into the crowd. Be witnesses! (Act 1:8)
2. Invite people to believe and join. (How can you do this?)
3. Be bold and allow yourself to be moved by the Holy Spirit to speak about Jesus.
4. Be courageous when naysayers and scoffers do their thing.

### **A Few Life Application Questions:**

- Who's the crowd you could witness to?
- What words could you use to invite others to come to church with you?
- How can you change your faith from weak to bold?
- Who are the naysayers and scoffers around you, and what can you tell them?

### **What does it mean to "witness"?**

A witness tells others what they know. A witness is not a prosecutor or judge or preacher. They do not pretend to know everything or have all the right answers. They tell what they experienced, how their life has changed.

In some churches, the idea of "witnessing" is something akin to standing in a group and telling your faith story. Certainly there's a time and place for that — when it is done humbly. Notice that the disciples "witness" to a receptive crowd and used language that others could understand.

How does your character and behavior "witness" to others about Jesus?

How is your attendance and conduct in church a witness to your family and friends?

Jesus witnessed with his compassion and forgiveness. How could you do that?

If someone were to ask you, "why are you a Christian," what would you tell them?

## The Trinity

Some teachers use the Pentecost story to talk about the concept of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Let us suggest that you save that important concept for another time. Pentecost has so much in it already. That said, please make this connection: **The Holy Spirit *IS* the Spirit of Christ.** Jesus didn't leave his disciples then, and he doesn't leave us now.

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Written by Jaymie Derden and Neil MacQueen for the Rotation.org Writing Team

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 Attachments

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# Video Lesson Plan

## Supply list:

- "The Messengers" DVD
- Laptop Computer/TV
- PowerPoint "Pentecost" presentation preloaded
- Cal & Marty Memory Game software preloaded with "Pentecost" verse already loaded

## DVD and Review Questions


Watch the first 15 minutes 24 seconds of DVD "The Messengers"

Video will end with old John talking to the guards. When he says, "That was just the beginning" stop play.

After watching the video, use the preloaded PowerPoint on the Sunday School laptop computer to answer review questions for the video.

Where in Jerusalem did the disciples remain, praying and waiting for the Holy Spirit?

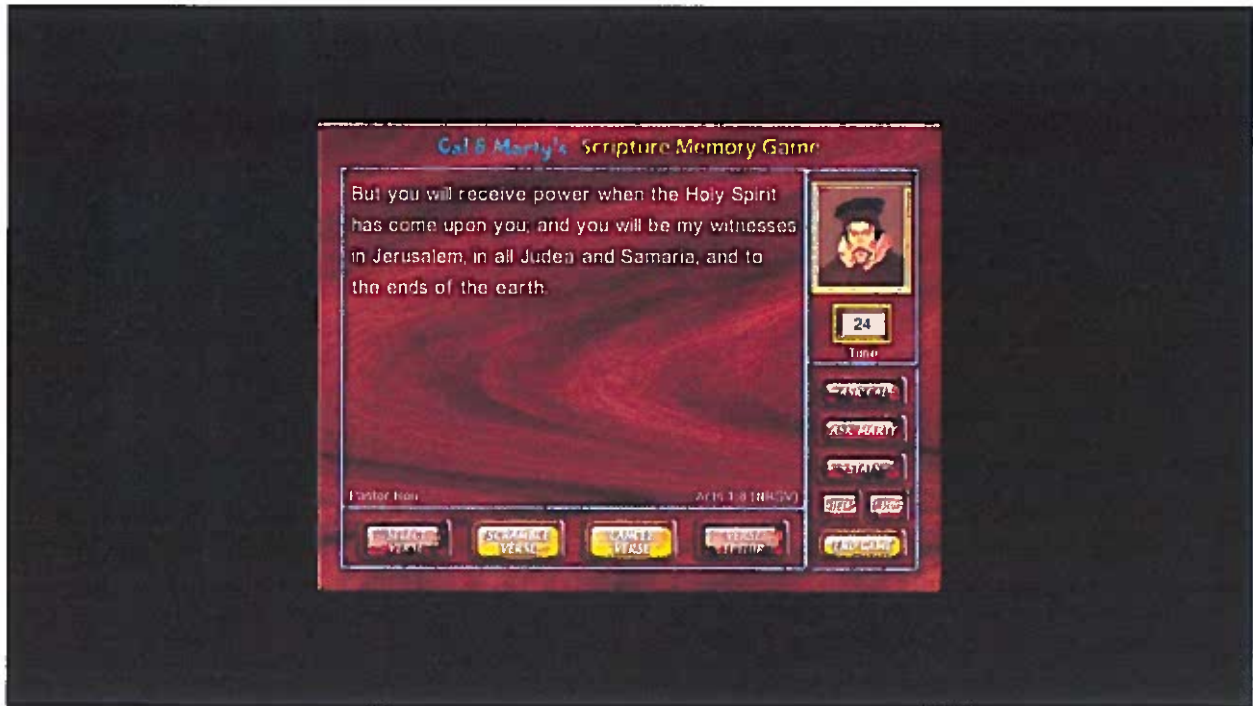
- A. In an upper room
- B. At a church
- C. At the Temple
- D. At a McDonald's



## Cal & Marty Scripture Game

1. Click on Cal & Marty icon on the laptop home screen to open software program.
2. Once program opens, click on "Teacher" name to start program.
3. Click on "select verse" and then click "Pentecost" from menu options of verse sets and click "Acts 1:8" to open verse.
4. Read verse together as it first appears on the screen. (only 30 seconds to read verse)
5. When verse scrambles, hand wireless mouse to volunteer student to begin unscrambling verse. (See photos below) Students will drag words from word bank at bottom of screen to where they fit on the line above. Once student completes verse, re-scramble the verse and let another student have a try as time permits.
6. Click "end game" button to exit software program.

Close with prayer.



This is what the screen will look like when verse first appears.



This is what the screen will look like as students place words in order.

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/ Writing Team Lesson Set: Pentecost ~ Wind, Fire, Faith!  
/ (WT) Pentecost: Faith, Wind, & Fire! ~ Art Workshop

## (WT) Pentecost: Faith, Wind, & Fire! ~ Art Workshop



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### Pentecost: Wind, Fire, and Faith! Art Workshop

#### Summary of Activities

Each student will create a painting of Pentecost *by painting with their breath* through a straw to reflect and remember that God "paints" (creates) with his breath (literally, the Holy Spirit). God breathed life into the disciples on Pentecost to create the Church, and breathes into us.

#### Scripture for the Lessons

Acts 2:1-8, 12-18, 36-47 ~ the story of Pentecost  
(Teachers should read the entire story Acts 1:1-2:41)

#### Key/Memory Verse

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." – Acts 1:8 (NRSV)



#### Lesson Objectives

See the [Bible Background](#) at rotation.org for this set's complete list of objectives, and lots of great "ways to explain this story" to your kids.

#### Preparation and Materials

- Read the [Bible Background](#) and scripture.
- View the [video demonstration of blow paint technique](#) on youtube.
- Assemble the paints, various sizes of straws, and **heavy art paper** for the canvas.  
You can use any variety of art paint. Thin them to the consistency of milk.

- Test paper for experimenting with techniques.
- Pencils to sketch with.
- Smocks, table coverings, and clean up supplies.
- Music to play in the background.
- A large fan for the Bible reading (and for hastening the drying of the canvases).
- Collect pictures of Pentecost to show and inspire your students. Some attached to this lesson at rotation.org.
- Find and mark a Bible storybook that tells the story of Pentecost.

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## Lesson Plan

### Open: A Demonstration about the Spirit

**Say:** I want you to take a small piece of paper and write these words on it: "My Life," "Care," "Love," "Forgive," and "Serve." Put a small fold in the paper so that it doesn't lay flat. Now take your straw and try to move your piece of paper. The straw and air you blow through it represents God's life-giving, empowering Holy Spirit.

**Say:** Now put your hand in front of the air coming out of your straw. Your hand represents the things we do to try and block God's Spirit from being part of our lives.

**Ask:** What are some of the things people do to try and "block" God from their life? (deny he exists, sinful thoughts and actions, make excuses for not wanting to worship, pray, learn, what else?)

**Say:** This is why we come to church, to learn how to catch God's Holy Spirit a little better, and open ourselves up to God's Spirit, rather than block it. And when we do that, "caring, loving, forgiving, and serving" (and all the other good things God wants to create in it us), can be more than just words on a piece of paper.

(Note: In this Lesson Set's "Bible Skills and Games" Workshop at rotation.org, students play several "blowing/guiding" games.)

### Dig: Read the Story of Pentecost from a Bible Storybook

One of the reasons we're having you use a storybook is that it should have a picture of the first Pentecost.

**Say:** In today's lesson, you will be using your straw to create a painting of the story of Pentecost. You will be blowing paint across a canvas.

**Begin reading** the story of Pentecost from your favorite age-appropriate Bible storybook. When you get to verse 2, the rush of the mighty wind, turn on the fan so that it blows on your students! (A great memory sensory "hook" for this story.)

After reading the story, while the fan is still roaring away, note that the word "wind" in the language of the Old Testament (Hebrew) is the same word for "spirit." The "spirit" gives life, literally it means, "breath." God's spirit breaths life into us and brought to life the first church of believers after the resurrection of Jesus. And we believe that same spirit blows through our church, and through each of our lives!

**Creative Reading Tip:** When I did this lesson with my kids, I spoke the storybook words loudly and straight into the fan. It creates a fun "fan voice" effect, which is another memorable sensory hook. We then took turns reading different select verses from the story into the fan. It was a "blast." 😊

## Paint!

Pass out the paint supplies and tell the students what you hope they will create: **a painting of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and in Your Life.** Share some ideas about what they could include.

Perhaps show them your own painting that you have made ahead of time. Show them some pictures of other people's Pentecost Paintings (Examples abound in Google Images. A few have been attached to this lesson.)

**Start with a practice canvas and show them some techniques, then give each student their "final" canvas when they are ready.** Turn on some music and don't forget to circulate, offering advice, demonstrating more techniques, asking questions, and making points.

### Painting Tips:

- Have kids practice techniques, and see how the paint moves with different sizes of straws and quantities of paint.
- Show them how to drip the paint onto the canvas and then blow it around so as not to mix colors from different cups.
- Have them experiment with different directions and techniques, such as, swirling to convey action, shapes to convey meaning. Use brushes and fingers to create as well.
- Consider adding keywords with a brush using a darker paint before adding blow paints. Or, use a wax crayon to draw on the canvas, which the paint will not adhere to.
- Practice on a separate sheet before adding a major new element/idea to their painting.
- Encourage students to lightly trace on their canvas if they want.
- Bend two corners of your canvas to make it easy to turn.
- Leave a 1" border around your painting. This will give you a clean area to hold as you turn your page and can be cut off.
- Avoid getting paint underneath canvas.

### Things to include in your painting:

- Yourself
- The disciples
- The Spirit
- Actions: Giving, Lifting Up, Embracing, Exciting, Praising, Loving, Speaking, Moving
- Words, if desired, such as, "I will pour out my spirit," and "Dreams and Visions."

## A Few Teaching Points You Can Make During the Art Project

Rather than just painting a bunch of Pentecost flames, I want you to think about placing yourself in your Pentecost painting, and not just set yourself on fire 😊. Instead, you might think of blow-painting the good things God surrounds you with (like...) or the things God wants to grow in your life (like...).

--How would you represent the Spirit of God in your painting? Is it coming down from heaven? Is it surrounding you? Does it embrace, protect, or lift you? Is it trying to move you? ("Flames" are one way

to represent the Spirit. So is a dove and water.)

--If the air you blow represents God's Holy Spirit, and the paper represents your "life," what does the paint represent? Its different colors? (What could red represent in your life? Green? Blue? Perhaps they are gifts from God, or attitudes. Perhaps red is "love" and green is "caring about the world.")

--Maybe our church is one of the sources of "paint" in your life. Maybe you didn't know that there are other colors out there and were only painting with blue. Maybe you didn't realize there was forgiveness, salvation, grace. But the church, and spiritual people in your life add paint to your life which God's Spirit can use to teach you something beautiful.



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--How would you blow paint and what color would you choose to symbolize things that God wants for you, such as, "prayer," "Jesus," "scripture."

--Does everyone have the same colors or the same amount? If God blows on the same color in two different lives, does it turn out the same way? (demonstrably not!) The life God "paints" with you will be different than the life God paints with the person sitting next to you, but they both come from the same God.

--Try painting with your hand in front of your straw. How well does that work! Trying to block or ignore God's Holy Spirit isn't a good thing.

--If you make a mistake, let it dry a bit, and then let your Holy Spirit straw blow some white paint over it. The prophet Isaiah tells us that "though our sins are like scarlet red, God can make them as white as snow." (Is 1:18)

--Do you notice how each of the paints looks like it is moving and going somewhere after the Spirit has moved it?

## Closing

As the end of class approaches, encourage students to begin drying their projects under the fan. (You will need to fasten them down so they don't blow away.) Then one by one, have each student present and interpret their drawing. Be sure their name is on it somewhere, and invite them to help you post them on a wall outside the classroom (if that's what you want to do with them). Add a sign titled, "Pentecost: Wind, Fire and Faith!"

## Adaptations

For younger children, simplify your language. They can also use cut out symbols, such as the dove or a flame (so that the scene is recognizable).

For groups with more time or older students, create a second larger Pentecost canvas for each student to add themselves to. They can also add a representation of your church coming to life with the Spirit.

For an interesting alternate way to create "flame-spirit" art, use a salad spinner per [this website's fun tutorial](#).

*Written by the Rotation.org Writing Team  
from a lesson idea by member Peggy Franciosa  
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*Photo credit: Peace Pres, Bradenton FL*

*Additional copyrighted images attached under the "Fair Use" rule  
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## Attachments

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### Images (5)



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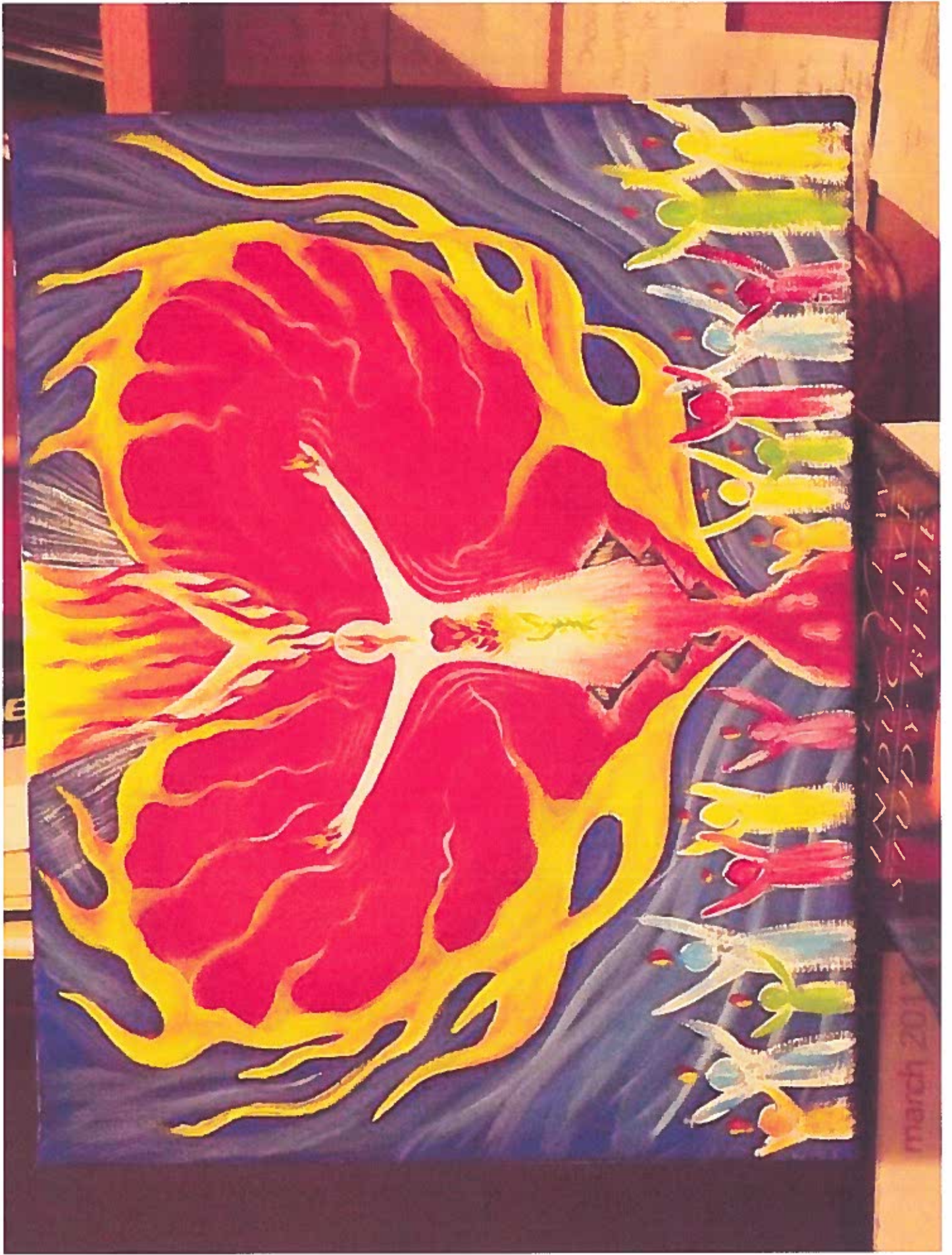












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/ Writing Team Lesson Set: Pentecost ~ Wind, Fire, Faith!  
/ (WT) Pentecost: Wind, Fire, Faith! ~ Bible Skills & Games Workshop

## (WT) Pentecost: Wind, Fire, Faith! ~ Bible Skills & Games Workshop



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### Pentecost: Wind, Fire, and Faith! Bible Skills & Games & Leaf Blower 😊 Workshop

#### Summary of Activities

Students will participate in a number of "leaf blower-powered games" to explore the story order of Pentecost, and the larger story of Jesus' appearances after his crucifixion. To finish, using a leaf blower and a camera they'll create a "Mighty Wind Disciples Gallery" to share their enthusiasm for learning God's Word with others in the church.



#### Scripture for the Lessons

Acts 2:1-8, 12-18, 36-47 ~ the story of Pentecost  
(Teachers should read the entire story [Acts 1:1-2:41](#))

#### Key/Memory Verse

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." -- Acts 1:8 (NRSV)

**Bible Skill emphasized in this workshop:** Understanding where the Pentecost story fits in the larger narrative "after" the cross.

#### Lesson Objectives

See the [Bible Background](#) at rotation.org for this set's complete list of objectives, and lots of great "ways to explain this story" to your kids.

#### Preparation and Materials

- Read the [Bible Background](#) and scripture.
- Leaf Blower (electric, not high powered).
- Goggles or protective eyeglasses.
- Camera/cellphone camera.
- 4 x 6 index cards.
- Red and yellow tissue paper.
- Markers.
- Butcher paper for game board.
- Bell & a timer (watch/phone).
- Painter's Tape.

## Lesson Plan

Tip: To do all the games you'll need to keep this lesson moving. If you're short on time, have fewer teams in Game 1 and prepare the Game 1 Event Cards and Game 2 Tissue Paper Quote in advance.

## Open

Welcome your students and explain how the lesson will unfold. Tell them that they need to pay close attention to the scripture reading as the games will depend on their memory of it!

## Bible Study

Print and read aloud the "[Interactive Reading of Acts 2](#)" script found in this lesson set's Computer Workshop lesson. It presents the scripture in a kid-friendly version "with parts" to read. (In the Computer Workshop lesson, the script is acted out, but here in the Bible Skills & Games Workshop you will only read-aloud the script.)

**Then ask these 3 voting questions...** (walk to one side of the room or the other to vote)

1, On the Day of Pentecost, before the Spirit blew in, who would you most likely have been:

- (A) Hiding with the disciples wondering what was going to happen.
- (B) Standing outside in the crowd having no clue you were about to meet the Holy Spirit.

Comment: Notice that in our story, the Holy Spirit didn't just affect the disciples, it moved the crowd who heard the good news. Acts 2:17 says The Spirit will be poured out on everyone!

2. When the Holy Spirit whooshed in like the sound of a mighty wind, as a disciple would you have:

- (A) Wondered what was happening and been a little bit afraid when somebody said it was the Holy Spirit.
- (B) Immediately realized it was the Spirit and been excited.

Follow-up: Remember when the angel visited Mary and the Shepherds? The first thing the angel said was, "do not be afraid." The presence of God can feel a little unsettling.

3. Yes or No. There have been times in my life where I have felt God close to me, felt my faith a little more strongly, felt the spirit move me at a special time or place.

Follow-up: Ask those who said "yes" to describe their experience. Note that the Holy Spirit affects people differently and gives different gifts. It can bring calm and healing in the midst of trouble, and it can energize and strengthen those who need help. Awe, love, forgiveness, endurance – these too are signs that God is with you. Sometimes its not a feeling, but something you just know, such as, being sure you are in God's hands.

**Share with your students this point of view:**

Pentecost is a wonderful example of what the Holy Spirit often feels like, ...like a wind that blows in and enables ordinary people like us to believe and do amazing things. And when we feel that presence, it often feels like a burning flame within our hearts.

God knows it's not easy to believe that Jesus is Lord, and that's why Jesus called the Holy Spirit the "Helper." God's Spirit helps us do what we cannot do on our own: believe, share, love, forgive.

Accepting the Holy Spirit into your life is the difference between someone who "gets it" and wants to be here to grow their faith, and those who feel forced to be here and can't wait to leave. One person let's the wind lift up their faith, and wants to grow the flickering flame of faith within them, while another person resists the wind and douses the Spirit with a cold bucket of attitude.

**I want to suggest that Pentecost is as important an event as the Cross and Resurrection, and here's why:** Pentecost is what Jesus was resurrected to do: help others believe in God and serve him with their whole heart. **Pentecost began on Easter** with the resurrection of one person, then the 11 disciples, then 500 in Galilee, and then to 3000 on Pentecost Sunday, and then you and me —now we're in the crowd and telling the story.

*Today's games are designed to help you remember how Pentecost is part of this resurrection story, —a story that continues to this very day.*

## Leaf Blower Game #1: Jesus & the Disciples After the Resurrection

Write the following "EVENTS" on 4 x 6 index cards, one event per card. Then bend the cards so that they don't lie flat. Toss them randomly on the floor near a wall.

On a large piece of butcher paper, draw squares in a row, one square for each card. This "game board" will help students arrange the cards after they have grabbed them all.

Split into teams of two or three students each, and have one team go first while the others watch (and learn!).

**Start a timer and turn on your leaf blow to wildly mix up the cards you've tossed on the floor. Yell "GO" —while still blowing the cards around,** so that they have a fun time trying to catch the blowing cards. After they catch all the cards, turn off your leaf blower and keep timing how long it takes them to put the events in order.

**When they think they have them all in the right order, they ring a bell which stops the clock.** You then check their list against the timeline list in this lesson and tell them how many are wrong. Then



RESTART the clock to fix their order until they ring the bell a second time to stop it. Check their order and add 10 seconds to their total elapsed time for each wrong card. See which team can get the lowest time.

**Options:** Depending on the number of teams you have, you can play this game a second time, but removing two of the cards ahead of time. See if they can figure out which part of the story is missing. Then give them the missing cards and have them try to fit it in the right sequence.

### Events (one per card)

1. Crucifixion on Friday, about 30 A.D.
2. Resurrection on Sunday morning.
3. Jesus appears on Sunday afternoon to Cleopas and another disciples on the road to Emmaus, Luke 24.
4. Jesus appears on Sunday evening to the 11 disciples in the upper room, Luke 24.
5. Jesus appears a week later to the disciples and Doubting Thomas in the upper room, John 20.
6. Jesus appears to 500 in Galilee, Matthew 28:16-17.
7. Jesus eats fish with the disciples by the Sea of Galilee, John 21.
8. Jesus appears at Bethany outside of Jerusalem and ascends to heaven, Luke 24:50.
9. Pentecost, "Fifty" days after the Resurrection, Acts 2.
10. Jesus appears to Saul/Paul about four years after Christ (34 A.D.), Acts 9.
11. Faith in Jesus spreads across the Roman Empire
12. I believe in Jesus as my Lord and Savior

**Tips:** For Younger grades - remove some of the cards. Draw images on the cards, such as a cross, to help non-readers/early-readers remember what you tell them is on the card. Give them help in the form of clues to help all complete the game.

After playing, point to a couple of the cards and ask the students what that part of the story is about. Add a little bit of information and move on.

### Leaf Blower Game # Two: "A Mighty Wind!" Pentecost story order

Have your students HELP YOU write the following 12 events/quotes from the Pentecost story script on pieces of tissue paper (this will start the learning process). Allow them to illustrate the tissues to help non-readers. Then, place the tissues on top of piece of paper that you have balanced on top of the leaf blower nozzle, count down to turn on the blower and watch the tissues fly!

Keep the blower going for a moment and aim it at a few pieces that the kids are leaping after, and see how long it takes them to grab the tissues and put them in the right order.

You can do this in groups of two or three students at a time. It's not a contest, and those watching the first group will undoubtedly learn the order from those who have gone before them (and that's the point).

### Pentecost Quotes/Events (one per tissue paper)

1. Suddenly a sound like a rush of a mighty wind came from heaven.
2. Something like flames appeared above disciples' heads.
3. A crowd gathers, excited to hear the disciples speaking in their language.



4. The crowd was amazed and perplexed and began to ask questions.
5. Naysayers accuse disciples of being drunk.
6. Peter says "it's only 9 o'clock in the morning."
7. Peter quotes the Prophet Joel about this being the time to "see visions and dream dreams."
8. "I will pour out my spirit on all people."
9. "People of Israel listen! You put Jesus to death, but God raised him to life."
10. "God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."
11. The crowd asked, "Brothers, what shall we do?"
12. "Repent and be baptized."

Note: These are taken from the Acts 2 script used in the Bible Study above. If you plan on using another translation, adjust the wording to be written on the tissue paper.

## Reflect: A Picture of Me being "blown away" by the Holy Spirit

This simple but fun reflection captures your kids enthusiasm for learning about the Holy Spirit and shares it with others. Have your camera ready!

Each student take turns wearing safety goggles and having the leaf blower aimed at their face. Have them tape some strips of yellow and red tissue "flames" in their hair (which the blower will whip around wildly) and open their mouth so the air stream inflates it. The more fun the better!

Print the photos and hang them in a public gallery with captions, such as, "The Holy Spirit Blows My Mind!" "I'm on Fire for God!" etc.

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## For younger students:

Read aloud the story script and have them "do as you do" as you read the story. As you read the story, act out the parts, such as, stand boldly with your hand in the air when Peter talks, and wave your hand on top of your head like a flame when the disciples are mentioned.

Younger children do benefit from learning story order, but you will need to reduce the number of pieces and use illustrations for each event along with a simple keyword. For example, on the resurrection Event card draw an empty tomb and the word "Alive!" For Emmaus #3, draw a road and two persons. For #12, "draw a picture of your heart and the letters "me" inside it.

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 Attachments

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## Acts 2 ~ The Reader's Script

For the Rotation.org Writing Team's Computer Workshop Lesson at [www.rotation.org](http://www.rotation.org)



Look through the reading and assign the underlined parts. When the reader(s) gets to the underlined part they say the name of the part and pause to let the parts do/say a line that that part would do. For example, Disciples sing a heavenly note and look beatifically toward the sky. Crowd goes "rumble rumble, we're amazed." Holy Spirit goes "russhhhhhh, crackle crackle." Peter stands boldly and poses whenever his name is read and he speaks. You can add motions if you'd like. See lesson plan for more suggestions. This scripture reading is a modified version.

1 When the day of Pentecost came, the Disciples (!) were in Jerusalem all together in one place.

2 Suddenly a sound like the rush of a mighty wind (!) came from heaven and filled the whole house where the Disciples (!) were sitting.

3 The Disciples (!) saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

4 All of the Disciples (!) were filled with the Holy Spirit (!) and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit (!) empowered them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews (!) from every nation under heaven.

6 When the crowd (!) heard this sound, they (!) came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them (!) speaking in his own language.

7 Utterly amazed, (!) the crowd asked: "Are not all these disciples (!) from Galilee?

8 Then how is it that each of us in the crowd hears them in his own native language?

*[In this next part, the reader points at a "crowd" person as they read the different nationalities and that person has to say something (made up) in their "native" language. Pause after each country/nation is read for the person to react.]*

9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

10 Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome

11 Jews and Cretans and Arabs - we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

12 Amazed and perplexed, the crowd (!) asked one another, "What does this mean?" (!)

13 Some naysayers (!), however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

14 Then Peter (!) stood up with the 11 Disciples (!), raised his voice and addressed the naysayers (!) and crowd (!):

"Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

15 These Disciples (!) are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning!

16 No, instead, this moment is the one foretold by the prophet Joel:

17 "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit (!) on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions,  
your old men will dream dreams.

19 I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below,  
blood and fire and billows of smoke.

21 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

22 "People of Israel, listen to this: Jesus was ...put to death by nailing him to the cross.

32 (But) God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

36 "Therefore let all Israel (!) be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

37 When the crowd (!) heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter (!) and the other Disciples (!), "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38 Peter (!) replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (!).

