

Together @ Home

Lectionary Edition

Sunday 23rd May

Day of Pentecost
(Whit Sunday)



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Pentecost.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Acts 2 v 1–21

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

The other passages we might be thinking about at church this week are:

Ezekiel 37 v 1-14

Psalms 104 v 26-36, 37b

Romans 8 v 22-27

John 15 v 26-27, 16 v 4b-15

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Pentecost! Thank you that you did not leave us alone on our mission for you, but that you sent a helper, the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for the wonderful gifts of the Spirit which help us to live for you and to share your love with others.

We ask that just like at Pentecost that people today would see your Spirit at work in your church and come to know you.

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children
What does this story teach us about what the Holy Spirit is like?

It must have been amazing to experience the Holy Spirit at Pentecost – the arrival is described as a strong wind and the Holy Spirit appeared like flames on people's heads.

The story also tells us a lot about what it is like to be filled with the Holy Spirit and the different gifts that the Holy Spirit can give us. People spoke in many languages, Peter received wisdom and the ability to teach and share clearly. Peter also spoke about the promises that God had made to the prophet Joel – that the Holy Spirit would give people the gifts of prophecy and was available to all kinds of people.

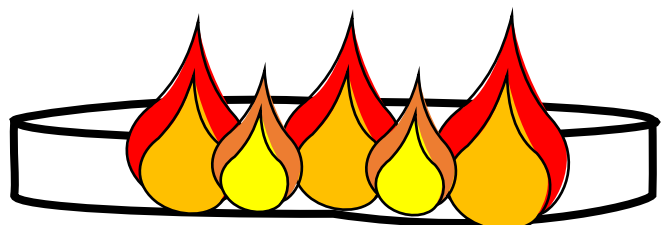
A question for children to ask adults
Can you share a time when you had your own experience of the Holy Spirit at work?

Family Activity 1

You will need: Card, pens, glue/tape, any craft materials you have around the house.

Create your fire crowns and remember the fire that appeared on the heads of Jesus' friends.

Use anything you have around the house to make them – cereal boxes are ideal to make your crowns and any red, orange or yellow paper or packaging could be used for the flames.





A verse to remember

1 Corinthians 12 v 4

There are different kinds of gifts, but they are all from the same Spirit.

This is the beginning of a passage all about the different gifts we can receive through the Holy Spirit – you can read the whole passage in 1 Corinthians 12 v 1-11. Why not read it together and see how many different gifts you can find.

Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it. Why not decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week?

Family Activity 2

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit filled Jesus' friends and they were suddenly able to speak in many languages. The people in Jerusalem were amazed that they could all understand what they were hearing about the "great things that God had done" in their own languages.

Play a game of charades with your family – can you pass on a message without using any words at all? Act out a favourite book or film title for others to guess without using any words.

Younger children might find it easier to act out being a favourite animal and making animal sounds to help you guess.



Knowing our Helper

We can call on the Holy Spirit to help us as we live for God each day. The Holy Spirit is a helper for all those who love and live for God, no matter their age.

With the help of the Holy Spirit we can become more like Jesus – showing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness – we call these the **fruits of the Spirit** (Galatians 5).

The Holy Spirit can also equip us with **gifts** and talents such as teaching, prophesying, healing and serving (1 Corinthians 12).



Active Prayer

Just like the disciples at Pentecost we can be filled up with the Holy Spirit today. Here are some activities to help focus your prayers connected to the Holy Spirit arriving at Pentecost.

Pour some water into different containers: and ask the Holy Spirit to fill you. Even though we are all different God can use all of us and we can all receive the Holy Spirit.

Light a candle: and ask the Holy Spirit to help you be a light in the world just like the disciples were.

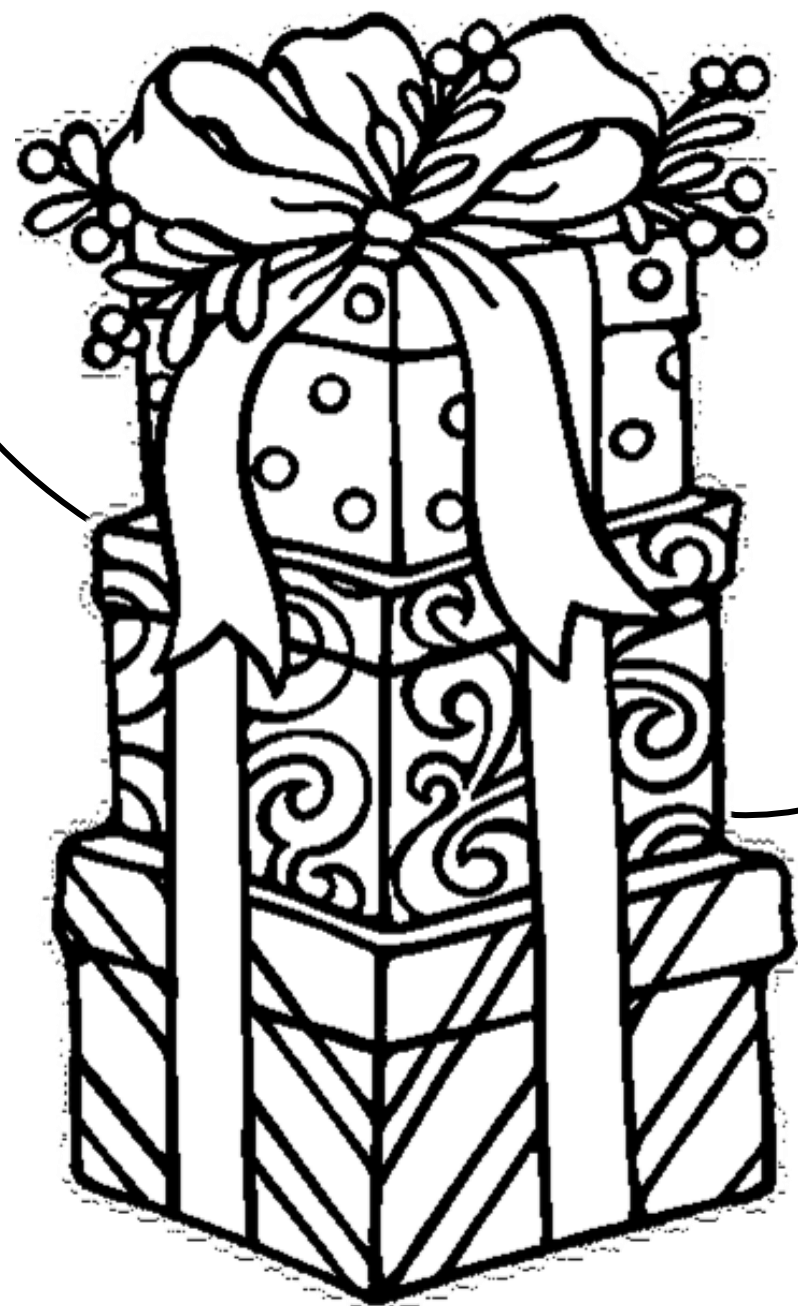
Blow some bubbles: blow some bubbles along your street and ask the Holy Spirit to move in your community and draw others closer to God. If you don't have any bubble mix, try making some using washing up liquid.

A colouring page you could print and colour together

There are
different
kinds of gifts,



but they are
all from the
same Spirit.



1 Corinthians

12 v 4

Puzzle Sheet

Draw your own picture of what you think Pentecost might have been like?

How many flames like this one can you find on the page?



Can you use the code to reveal the message?

a	b	c	d	e	f
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g	h	i	j	k	l
⊙	↩	⊕	△	➔	✧
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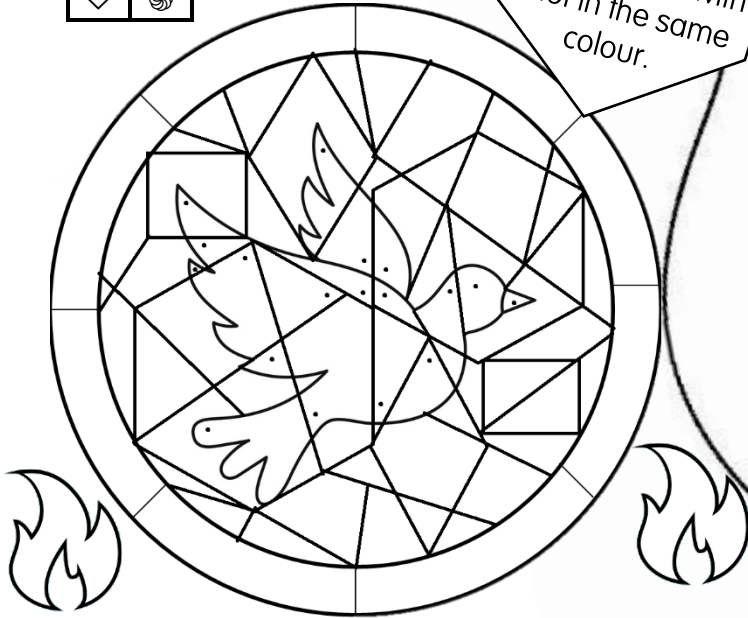
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Can you find all these Pentecost related words in the word search?

Colour the stained-glass window... colour all the shapes with a dot in the same colour.

wind
fire
Peter
heaven
Pentecost
Jerusalem
Holy Spirit
disciples
languages
flames

t s o c e t n e p w s p h q x
 m e n p c n w u i e b o h v f
 a e t o z d p n g t l p z c h
 x n l n k v d a e y m v r i a
 k q w a o s u i s c d g x y g
 h q f e s g j p f l a m e s z
 e e h g n u i y p s e e n p c
 l n a a i r r f p e q g z e z
 v c l v i o i e u l o g c t d
 s p x t e r i f j p f g a e a
 f k f j l n a m p i b q p r n
 q d n s n n x l w c u d v p j
 p d u n a n d e d s x a y w y
 g g h u t c f i t i n t h c x
 n k u c p r u w b d c f u u n



There are 10 flames hidden on the page.