

Adventures with GOD!

PENTECOST (C.2.SPRING.2)

Biblical Reference	Acts 2:1-21, 37-41
Key Verse	Acts 4:33
Key Concept	The Holy Spirit gives me power and courage to carry out the mission that God has given me.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draw or describe how the promise of the Holy Spirit coming was fulfilled. 2. Tell what the apostles and other believers received when the Holy Spirit came. 3. Describe the results of the arrival of the Holy Spirit. 4.

Life Application:

The Lord Jesus Christ promised his disciples that he would send someone special when he was no longer with them. This promise was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost, 40 days after Jesus left the disciples and ascended to the father. The Holy Spirit came just as Jesus promised. As believers we too receive the Holy Spirit, who gives us courage and empowers us to live as disciples of Jesus, sharing the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection with others.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW Adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Mural		5 minutes
Group work	Information sheets, Bibles, paper, dictionary, markers	15 minutes
Bible exploration	Bible, signs	10 minutes
Bible verse	Illustration	5 minutes
Activity		5 minutes
My GROW Adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute



Adventures with GOD!

INSTRUCTIONS

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do that first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out stretched palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read Acts 2:1-21 twice and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you though the story?

Mural: Ask a few volunteers from your group to help make a silhouette of the city of Jerusalem. Have poster board, markers, scissors, black paper available .This silhouette will then be put on the mural.

Group work: Today they will investigate about the city of Jerusalem and the day of Pentecost. Make enough copies of the information sheets found in the following pages. Provide other materials so they can make a collage to present to the other group, which will represent what they learned about either Jerusalem or the day of Pentecost. IN their presentation they will include things like important facts about the city, people, customs, etc. Have Bible dictionaries available and other materials that will help them with their investigation. Ask your pastor or another ministry leader for some possible resources.

Bible exploration: Open your Bibles. Ask them where we find the story of Jesus' life (the gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, John). When Jesus was on earth, he gave his disciples a special commission (which you studied last week). He also gave the a promise (that he

Adventures with GOD!

would send the Holy Spirit.) He told his disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the promise to be fulfilled. Have the group that was assigned Jerusalem give their presentation.

Now, turn to chapter 2 in the book of Acts. This is the story of the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was sent to the disciples of Jesus. Read Acts 2:1-21. Have the group that was assigned Pentecost give their presentation – describing what the festival of Pentecost was historically and what happened on that particular day. Then read Acts 2: 37-41.

As you talk about the Bible text, reiterate some of the important facts about Pentecost (write these on colored paper signs)

- It sounded like a loud wind
- There were what appeared to be tongues of fire present
- The people who were gathered started speaking in different languages, and people from different countries heard their languages being spoken
- Peter preached with power
- Many many people (3000) put their faith in Jesus and were baptized.

This was just the beginning for the disciples. The book of Acts narrates some of the amazing things that God did through the disciples and how the church had its beginning. For example: They continued to meet together to pray and study (Acts 2:42-47, God performed miracles (Acts 3:1-10), they shared things in common and took care of those in need (Acts 4:32-37). This semester together you will look at this amazing story of God working through ordinary men and women who were committed to sharing the gospel with others. In the same way the Holy Spirit equipped them, the Holy Spirit also equips us to share with others.

Bible verse: Have the teams make an illustration of the Bible verse to share with the other team. Have them say the verse back and forth to each other.

Activity: There is an activity sheet called “Living out the great commission.” Make a copy for each child to work on individually. Be available if they have questions.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story)

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead)

O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week)

Adventures with GOD!

W: Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

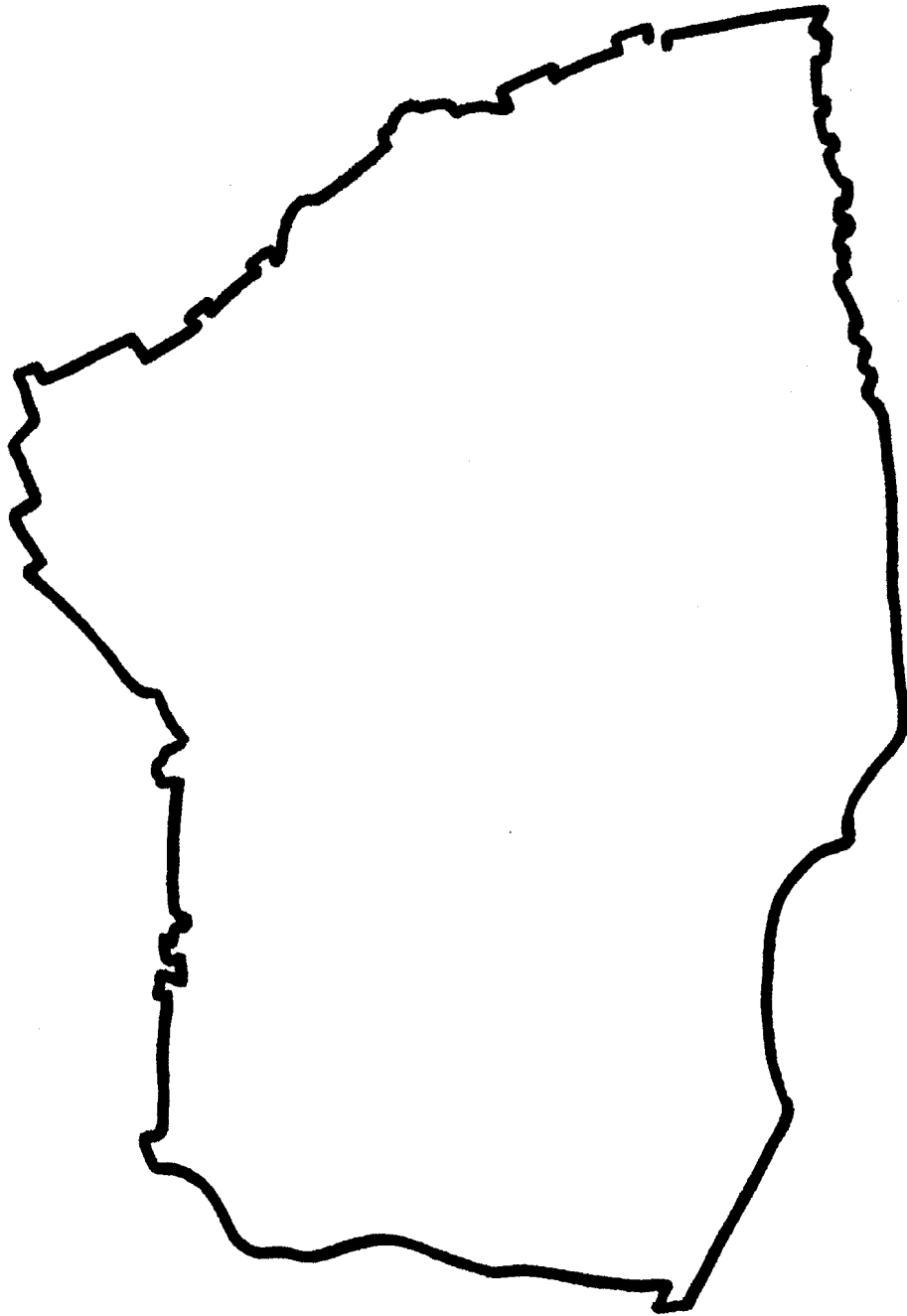
Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen



Adventures with GOD!

ILLUSTRATION

A SILHOUETTE OF JERUSALEM (THE BORDERS OF THE CITY)



The Evangelical Covenant Church

Adventures with GOD!

ACTIVITY SHEET

LIVING OUT THE GREAT COMMISSION

1. Where are some places that you spend the majority of time that can become places where you share with others about Jesus?

2. Write the names of two or three people you would like to tell about Jesus and what you are learning about him?

3. What are some practical ways you can live out the great commission?

4. Has anyone ever asked you about why you follow Jesus? How did it feel?



Adventures with GOD!

INFORMATION SHEET

JERUSALEM

Here you will find some basic information about the city of Jerusalem, where the disciples were gathered waiting for the Holy Spirit to come. Read Acts 2:1-13, along with the information on this sheet and in other resources. Then, answer the following questions.

David made Jerusalem the capitol of his kingdom and began the task of making it a religious center for the Jews. The ark of the Covenant was brought here, and later David's son Solomon built a temple for Jehova. He built walls around the city to protect it. He also built an amazing palace.

For the Jews the name Jerusalem meant a foundation of peace. It was considered a holy city, the city of the kings, the capitol of Judah.

What was the city like during Jesus' lifetime?

Where did the people come from to celebrate the Pentecost?

What happened during the festival?



Adventures with GOD!

INFORMATION SHEET

THE FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST

Read the following verses and give a description or draw a picture representing the day of Pentecost (also known as the festival of the weeks):

Exodus 23:16

Exodus 34:22

Leviticus 23:15-21

Deuteronomio 16:9-12

Then read the following verses and tell what was special about this particular celebration of Pentecost:

Acts 2:1

Acts 20:16

1 Corinthians 16:8

