

# KID'S CHURCH



## Family Studies - Week 2

This term we are starting an 8 week series in Acts and we're going to try something a little different. Each week we'll send home 2-3 short bible passages to read together as a family and 1 or 2 suggested questions. It doesn't matter if you don't do these studies, it's just there to be a help to those families who want to use them.

Suggested answers are also provided, not to be read word for word to the kids but just to inform parents thinking in case you have no idea where the question is heading.

If you do use these studies it would be great to know how you found them.

The bible text provided is from the Children's International Bible. It's a good translation with a reading age of 6



# Acts 21:13

## Pentecost

2 When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like that of a violent rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were staying. 3 And tongues, like flames of fire that were divided, appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 Then they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages, as the Spirit gave them ability for speech.

5 There were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 When this sound occurred, a crowd came together and was confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. 7 And they were astounded and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 How is it that each of us can hear in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites; those who live in Mesopotamia, in Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking the magnificent acts of God in our own languages." 12 They were all astounded and perplexed, saying to one another, "What could this be?" 13 But some sneered and said, "They're full of new wine!"

## Suggested Questions

*What's going on in this passage that's weird?*

*Is it hard to believe?*

*How do we know this really happened?*

*How can we receive the Holy Spirit and why doesn't it look like this?*

The day of Pentecost was a very special time in history. It was the first time that God poured out his Spirit on all his people. This is what they had been waiting for (as we can see from the prophet Joel in the next study.) It was important for people to be able to look and see that what Jesus had done in dying on the cross and rising again worked! God's people could now enjoy an intimate and powerful relationship with him. God's very Spirit would now come and live inside his people, guiding them and helping them. Isn't that amazing?

We have the bible to tell us what the Holy Spirit can do. The bible is God's word and is true. We don't need tongues of fire or rushing winds. As we grow as Christians though we will see the work of the Spirit in our lives, making us more and more like Jesus.

# Joel 2:28-32

## God's Promise of His Spirit

28 After this

I will pour out My Spirit on all humanity;  
then your sons and your daughters will  
prophesy,  
your old men will have dreams,  
and your young men will see visions.

29 I will even pour out My Spirit  
on the male and female slaves in those  
days.

30 I will display wonders  
in the heavens and on the earth:  
blood, fire, and columns of smoke.

31 The sun will be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood  
before the great and awe-inspiring Day of  
the Lord comes.

32 Then everyone who calls  
on the name of Yahweh will be saved,  
for there will be an escape  
for those on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,  
as the Lord promised,  
among the survivors the Lord calls.

## Suggested Questions:

*What things in this passage do we see happening  
in the new testament?*

*What does this tell us about the bible and God?*

The bible though many books is one story. It's the story  
of God's plan to save his people. Even in the book of Joel,  
hundreds of years before Acts, we see that God already  
knew what he was going to do.

Our God is magnificent, amazing, full of grace and love.

Spend some time thinking of the things God has done in the  
bible that you can praise him for...

# Acts 1:12-26

## A New Apostle Is Chosen

32 “God has resurrected this Jesus. We are all witnesses of this. 33 Therefore, since He has been exalted to the right hand of God and has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit, He has poured out what you both see and hear. 34 For it was not David who ascended into the heavens, but he himself says:

The Lord declared to my Lord,  
‘Sit at My right hand

35 until I make Your enemies Your footstool.’

36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know with certainty that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah!”

## Forgiveness through the Messiah

37 When they heard this, they came under deep conviction and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles: “Brothers, what must we do?”

38 “Repent,” Peter said to them, “and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” 40 And with many other words he testified and strongly urged them, saying, “Be saved from this corrupt generation!”

## A Generous and Growing Church

41 So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about 3,000 people were added to them. 42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to the prayers.

43 Then fear came over everyone, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. 44 Now all the believers were together and held all things in common. 45 They sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as anyone had a need. 46 Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with a joyful and humble attitude, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved.

## Suggested Questions:

***In verse 38 Peter tells the people to “repent and be baptised” if they want to be saved. What does this mean?***

To repent means to turn away from our sins and turn towards God. It doesn't mean we have to do the right thing for Jesus to save us. It just means we have to know how sinful we are and say sorry to God and ask him to help us. He will give us his Holy Spirit and one day when Jesus returns we will be free from sin. What an amazing promise!

Baptism was important, but it didn't do anything magic. It was a symbol of showing that a person had received the Holy Spirit and was now a part of God's family. We still baptise people today when they turn to Jesus or sometimes when they're born into a home that serves Jesus.

***What did the church look like back then? Do you think they could have done these things without the Holy Spirit?***