

# The Day of Pentecost

*This is a simplified overview of this Holy Day for younger children. Please check the lessons for older children for more information and referenced scriptures that support the text.*

God has a special plan for all of us. He wants us to be in His "Family"!<sup>1</sup> The Holy Days teach us about this plan.

The Day of Pentecost is a special Holy Day. It teaches us what happened after Jesus went to be with God in heaven.

Before Jesus went away, He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem until the Day of Pentecost. Something very important was going to happen on this Holy Day. God was going to send them His Holy Spirit!

God's Spirit is His power.<sup>2</sup> He gives it to us to help us live His Way of Life. We need to have God's Holy Spirit in us so we can live forever. So you can see why this was an important day!

## God Sends His Holy Spirit

When the Day of Pentecost came, a noise like a strong wind filled the house where the disciples were waiting. They saw something that looked like flames of fire standing over each person. Then they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages.<sup>3</sup> It was a miracle!

Many other people were in Jerusalem that day. They had come to keep the Feast of Pentecost too. They came from different

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<sup>1</sup> The Bible reveals that God is creating a "family" and that His Plan is to make us part of that family. Please see "The Holy Days and God's Plan" lesson in this series for more information about this.

<sup>2</sup> This is a simplified explanation! You'll find more information in the 13+ version of this lesson.

<sup>3</sup> What happened on that Pentecost and the fact that the disciples were able to speak in foreign languages when they received God's Spirit was a special miracle that God allowed for that particular Day of Pentecost. This isn't what usually happens when people receive the Holy Spirit!

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countries and spoke different languages. When they heard the disciples speaking, they were amazed! They could understand what the disciples were saying! They heard the disciples telling everyone about the great things God had done.

Some of the people were confused by what they heard. HOW could the disciples suddenly speak in different languages? "What did it mean?" they wondered. But other people started making fun of the disciples and said they were drunk!

So Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, stood up and began to speak in a VERY loud voice. He told them, "These men aren't drunk! God told us this would happen. He said He would give His Spirit to all kinds of people. He said that one day everyone who believes in Jesus and trusts in Jesus will be saved! This is what is happening today! (Acts 2:14-21; Luke 16:31, condensed and paraphrased!).

What Peter said teaches us something about the Day of Pentecost. It teaches us what it pictures in God's Plan. You see, all the followers of Jesus at that time were Jews.<sup>4</sup> But on that Day of Pentecost, God showed that salvation (the opportunity to live forever in God's Family) wasn't just for the Jews! It was for EVERYONE!

One day, EVERYONE in the WHOLE world will have the chance to receive God's Holy Spirit. One day, everyone will have the chance to become part of His Family! What a wonderful day that will be!

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<sup>4</sup> The Jews were God's people, some of the descendants of Abraham, God's friend in the Old Testament.