



## What is Pentecost?—Part 2

A Study Guide for Parents Teaching their Children God's Way

**The beginning of the New Testament** is the record of the beginning of a new era in God's plan. The four gospel books (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) tell the history of Jesus Christ as a human being on this earth. Though these books do not include every little thing Jesus Christ did while He lived as a human being, (John said at the end of his book that he didn't think there could be enough room in all the books in the whole world to record everything that Jesus did!), God did give us enough details of His life for us to learn to be like Him. So what does Christ have to do with Pentecost. Well, just about everything! After Jesus came and lived a perfect life on earth and died for every single person in the whole world, He was resurrected to eternal life. He was the first one to be given that gift, (He is the First of the Firstfruits) and He did it so we all could have a chance to be resurrected to eternal life too!

Let's have a look at what happened on the first Pentecost after Jesus Christ was raised from the grave!

**This Study Guide** is a continuation of "What is Pentecost-Part 1". It is written for the purpose of helping parents teach their children vital Biblical topics in a focused, easy-to-follow format. Each section is not meant to be taught in one lesson, rather the topics are organized so parents can choose specific areas of focus and gear lessons toward the learning styles and ages of their children. Each topic is presented in a straightforward manner with accompanying verses for study. The main study should always come from the Scripture itself, while these lessons can act as a guide for reading passages from the Bible. Each Lesson packet includes memory verses, questions for meaningful discussion, and activities (added at the end of the packet). Also, though some things may be labeled as Level 1, 2, or 3, the activities, questions, and scriptures for memorizing can be used to fit the needs and learning levels for children of all ages. Enjoy!

# Pentecost in the New Testament:

The word Pentecost is first used in the New Testament in the book of Acts. This book of the Bible is about the time just after Jesus Christ lived on this earth as a human being, died for our sins, and was resurrected. The apostles and disciples (the people who heard and followed Jesus Christ) were so excited to teach the whole world about Jesus Christ and about God's plan! But, there weren't very many disciples yet. How were they supposed to tell everyone in the whole entire world about Jesus Christ and His Father and the plan they had? (at that time they didn't have the internet, or airplanes, or even cars!) It's hard to speak to everyone in the world when you have to walk! The disciples needed help. God knew this and thankfully, helping them was part of His plan all along. So, how did He help them?

## Read Acts 2\*

*\*If you want to get some more context for the story, read the last few chapters of the book of Luke and the first chapter of Acts. Did you know Luke wrote both books?*

### Take a minute to think:

What do you think it would be like if suddenly the windows burst open because the wind was blowing so hard and suddenly something like divided tongues of fire started burning above everyone's heads?



## The Helper

To help the disciples, God sent them something incredible! He sent each one of them a portion of His Holy Spirit! What is God's Holy Spirit? Basically, it is God's power. It is the power by which He created the universe (all the planets, stars, the whole earth, the animals, and even people!). It's the power that He uses to communicate with us, -- the power He uses to accomplish His will. So when He gave the disciples His Holy spirit, He was giving them a little bit of His awesome power! Those who have God's Holy Spirit have a connection to God unlike anything else. This connection is what God uses to perform miracles through human beings, like He did with Peter and the other apostles. (There are many miracles in the book of Acts if you are curious to know in what ways God's people used His Holy Spirit)

## What does the Holy Spirit have to do with Pentecost?

If you read **Acts 2:1** again, you will remember that God gave His Holy Spirit to the disciples on Pentecost. Why Pentecost? Remember: Pentecost is about the firstfruits, God's people, called to be His children

first. God didn't give His Holy Spirit to everyone in the world on the day of Pentecost. Who *did* He give it to? Those who were following Him. How do people follow God? By doing what He says --by keeping His commandments!

Remember how God gave the Israelites His commandments around the time of Pentecost? God was setting the Israelites apart as His special people. In a similar way, in the New Testament, God was setting His apostles and disciples apart by giving them the Holy Spirit as well as His Law! They were already keeping God's Ten Commandments, but God was giving His people more help to keep it and to preach the good news of God's plan to the whole world!



### Consider:

Why do you think God still wants us to keep His Ten Commandments? (Hint: Think back to why God wanted the Israelites to keep His Commandments)

## Special Gift of the Spirit on Pentecost

When God sent His Holy Spirit to His people on Pentecost, what special miracle happened? **Acts 2:4-13** talks about a special gift that the disciples were given on that day. They were able to speak in many different languages! Why do you think God gave them this special gift? Remember, God wanted the disciples to tell *everyone* about Jesus Christ. One hard thing about that is that there are many different types of people in the world who speak many different types of languages. God gave the disciples the ability to speak in many different languages so all the people who were listening could understand what they were saying, no matter what language they spoke! Isn't that amazing?

### Think for a moment:

If someone was speaking to you and you couldn't understand what they were saying, do you think you would pay very much attention?



*Be looking ahead to the next lessons! In Part 3 we will have a look at how we keep Pentecost today...*

# Memory Verses

## Level 1

Acts 2:1 “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place”

## Level 2

Acts 2:2-4 “And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

## Level 3

John 14:15-18 “If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

# Questions for Meaningful Discussion

## Level 1

1. What important events happened before the Day of Pentecost that we read about in Acts 2? If you need a reminder go back and read the last couple chapters of the books of Luke, and the first chapter in the book of Acts.
2. What were the people doing when God sent the Holy Spirit to His disciples?
3. Do you know any other languages besides English? Have you ever tried to talk to someone who spoke another language? What was it like? Were you able to understand what they were saying?

## Level 2

1. Why do you think Jesus Christ called the Holy Spirit a helper?
2. What was the message about that God wanted the disciples to have help delivering?
3. Have you ever heard the phrase that someone is “on fire” for something? It doesn’t mean that person is literally on fire. It usually means that they are excited, passionate, or zealous about something. How do you think that would relate to what happened on the Day of Pentecost spoken of in Acts 2?

## Level 3

1. Take some time to consider what the Holy Spirit is. Simply explained, it is God’s awesome power by which He acts. What are some examples in the Bible of God using His Holy Spirit to do something? What are some examples of God using people to do things through His Holy Spirit?

2. God gives His Spirit as a gift, but there are conditions that must be met in order for a person to receive this precious gift, for God must be sure that the gift is used properly and with the right attitude. What are the conditions for someone to receive the Holy Spirit from God? (Hint: Peter talks about it in His message on the Day of Pentecost, saying if you meet these two requirements, “you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”)
3. God gives His spirit to those who have been baptized. Usually, a person doesn’t get baptized until they are old enough to fully understand the kind of commitment and sacrifice they are making to God. But what about kids? Do they miss out on God’s special gift? Absolutely not! Do you know how? Check out 1 Corinthians 7:14 to find out!

## Activities

### A Variety of Languages

God created many different languages. Use this opportunity to introduce your child to several.

Related Verses: 1 Corinthians 12:10; 14:10

**Directions:** Below is a list of phrases translated into various modern languages. Do you recognize and similarities between them? Can you pronounce them all? Have fun saying the phrases outloud to each other, then discuss when it might be useful to know another language when preaching the gospel.

English: God’s Kingdom is coming soon

Spanish: El reino de Dios viene pronto

French: Le Royaume de Dieu arrive bientôt/Dieu crée une famille/Bonne fête de la Pentecôte

German: Gottes Königreich kommt bald

Russian: Божье Царство скоро (Bozh'ye Tsarstvo skoro)

Italian: Il Regno di Dio sta arrivando presto

Portuguese: O Reino de Deus está chegando em breve

Japanese: 神の王国はまもなくやってくる (Kami no ōkoku wa mamonaku yattekuru)

Hindi: भगवान का साम्राज्य जल्द ही आ रहा है (Bhagavaan ka saamraajy jald hee aa raha hai)

Thai: อาณาจักรของพระเจ้ากำลังจะมาในไม่ช้า (Xānācākṛ khxng phracēā kǎlāng ca mā nī mī cĥā)

Hebrew: הממלכה של אלוהים בקרוב (read right to left!)

English: God is creating a family

Spanish: Dios esta creando una familia

French: Dieu crée une famille/Bonne fête de la Pentecôte

German: Gott schafft eine Familie

Russian: Бог создает семью (Bog sozdayet sem'yu)

Italian: Dio sta creando una famiglia

Portuguese: Deus está criando uma família

Japanese: 神の王国はまもなくやってくる (Kami no ōkoku wa mamonaku yattekuru)

Hindi: ईश्वर परिवार बना रहा है (eeshvar parivaar bana raha hai)

Thai: พระเจ้ากำลังสร้างครอบครัว (Phracēā kǎlāng sĥāng khxrbkhrāw)

Hebrew: אלוהים יוצר משפחה (read right to left!)

## Recognize the Language!

One of the first steps to learning other languages is learning to recognize them. See if you can match the following list of phrases to the correct language.

Related Verses: 1 Corinthians 12:10; 14:10

English	Feliz fiesta de Pentecostés
Filipino	Happy Feast of Pentecost!
Finnish	Fröhliches Pfingstfest
French	праздник Пятидесятницы (Schastlivyy prazdnik Pyatidesyatnitsy)
German	Buona festa di Pentecoste
Hebrew	Feliz Festa do Pentecostes
Hindi	五旬節の幸せな饗宴 (Gojunsetsu no shiawasena kyōen)
Irish	पिन्तेकुस्त की शुभकामनाएँ (pintekust kee shubhakaamanaeni)
Italian	สุขสันต์วันเพ็นเทคอสต์ (Sukhsānt' wān phēn the khx̌ t)
Japanese	תענית שבועות של חג שמחה
Myanmar (Burmese)	Féile Sona na Pentecost
Portuguese	Onnellinen helluntai
Russian	ပင်တေကုတ္တေ၏မင်္ဂလာပွဲ
Spanish	Maligayang Pista ng Pentecostes
Thai	Bonne fête de la Pentecôte

\*Note: These translations came from Google Translate, so complete accuracy may be questionable

### Variations:

1. Have one person try to pronounce one of the phrases, while another guesses. You can turn it into a game with points to add some friendly competition!
2. With a large group of people, have everyone sit in a circle with one person in the middle. Pass out one phrase of a different language to each person (don't let anyone know what you have

been given). Tell the player in the middle what language they are trying to find (out of the phrase handed out in the circle). On the count of three, have everyone in the circle say their phrase at the same time. The player in the middle will need to guess which player in the circle is speaking “their language”. It may take a couple tries! Once the player in the middle guesses, swap out with the player whose language was chosen. Play continues until all the languages have been guessed!

This activity provides a great teaching tool to explain how people naturally hear their own language above others they can’t understand. Talk about how this effected the people in Jerusalem at the time God poured out His Holy Spirit on His church.