

CITY SG – May 13-15, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Level Up (The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost) • Acts 2:1-41

Today's Bottom Line: God sent the Holy Spirit to help you.

Monthly Memory Verse: *So we can say boldly, "The Lord helps me. I will not be afraid."*
Hebrews 13:6a (NIRV)

1. Freeze Charades

Bible Story Review

***Non-Reader Option**

What You Need: "Story Cards" in bag and "Freeze Charades Leader" Page (1 set per group)

What You Do:

- Direct a kid to pick one scene from the bag of Story Cards but not share it with the group.
***If your kids cannot read, pull them aside to whisper what the card says**
- Instruct the kid to act-out the scene silently in front of the group when you say, "Go!"
- Direct the kid to stop and hold their last position when you say, "Freeze!"
- Challenge the rest of the kids to guess which scene from today's Bible story they're acting out.
- Continue until all cards have been played or repeat, based on time and interest.
 - If a kid seems stuck on how to act-out a scene or is a little shy, feel free to whisper an idea in their ear to boost their confidence. **Use the "Freeze Charades Leader" Activity Page if needed.**

What You Say:

"God calls us to some big things—bigger than us! God asks you to be a friend who is a good influence on others. God asks you to make wise choices. God asks you to do the right thing, even when it's hard. But here's the best part: God doesn't expect you to do this alone. You can be confident in doing the things God asks you to do, because **God sent the Holy Spirit to help you.**"

2. Secret Decoder

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: "Secret Decoder" Page and pen (1 per kid)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Secret Decoder" Page and a pen.
 - *Option: Have the kids decode the verse in pairs.*
- Instruct the kids to "decode" the secret message by filling in the letters to the memory verse!
- When they're finished, direct the kids to read the memory verse to the group. (*Or have them follow along as you read it.*)
- Ask:
 - What kinds of situations do you find yourself afraid or nervous in?

- When you need a boost of confidence, how can you remind yourself that God is with you?

What You Say:

“Great job solving today’s secret code! What does our secret code say? *(Pause for kids to repeat the memory verse.)* That’s right! This month’s memory verse is no secret. In fact, it’s what can give us confidence! You can be confident that the Lord is your helper. You don’t have to be afraid to live the way that Jesus is asking you to live because **God sent the Holy Spirit to help you.**”

3. Story Picture

Application Activity

What You Need: “Holy Spirit” Activity Pages, markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Holy Spirit” Activity Page.
- Direct the kids to color their pictures.
- As the kids color ask these questions:
 - Can you see the wind?
 - Then how do you know when the wind is blowing? *(we can feel it or see it move things)*
 - How is the wind like the Holy Spirit? *(Even though we can’t see him we know he is there)*
 - Why did God give us the Holy Spirit? *(It’s how God can be with us, even though we can’t see Him. The Holy Spirit is always with us and helps us do the right things.)*

What You Say:

“You all did a great job coloring these pictures from today’s Bible story! Just like the wind, even though we can’t see God, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit! When we believe that God is always with us, we can have confidence as we show others God’s love. And remember, you never have to do it on your own because **God sent the Holy Spirit to help you.**”

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed.

What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle.
- Tell the kids that you’ll lead them in a CHAT with God.
- Remind the kids that last week, you talked about C for Confess, when we tell God the wrong things we’ve done or said and ask for forgiveness.
- Share that this week you’ll continue the CHAT with the letter H, which stands for Honor.
- Invite the kids to pray to God, focusing on honoring the great things God has done and is doing for us.
- Close your group time in prayer.

What You Say:

“If you remember our conversation from last week, we said that praying is just like talking to God! We can come to God with everything going on in our lives. There’s nothing too big for God. We talked about having a CHAT with God and how each letter in CHAT represents one way we can talk to God. Who remembers what the ‘C’ stands for? *(Invite responses.)* That’s right! ‘C’ stands for ‘confess to God.’ We can have confidence that God will love us, no matter what mistake we’ve made or what we’re going through. Remember, we don’t have to go through life alone because **God sent the Holy Spirit to help you.**

“Today, we’ll talk about the letter H. ‘H’ stands for ‘honor God.’ We can have confidence in exactly who God is! We can honor Him by talking about what the Bible says about Him. What do we know to be true about God? *(Invite responses—God is faithful, loving, forgiving, perfect, a healer, holy, unchanging, etc.)* That’s right! God is so good to us. So good, in fact, that God sent the Holy Spirit to be with us! With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can live with confidence and show the love of God to others. *(Lead the kids in prayer.)*

“God, there is so much to love about You. You invite us to love others because You love us first. You love us completely and perfectly, and we know that won’t ever change. You are our loving God, who is always faithful, ready to forgive us, and is always near us. We love You for exactly who You are. We pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”