

## Children's Church at Home 23 May 2021

### Acts 2:1-21

**Craft:** paper, pritt stick, scissors, card, tissue paper, string.

**First:** Can you speak English? Urdu? Russian? Swahili? Do you know sign language?

If you could speak any language at all, what would you choose?

Känner du Jesus? Connaissez-vous Jésus ? Conoce a Jesús? three different ways to ask a question. Do you know what it is?

**The Story:** [Acts 2:1-21 ERV - The Coming of the Holy Spirit - When - Bible Gateway](#)

Last week we learned about how Jesus' friends chose another person to replace Judas in the team. Now something amazing is going to happen. Jesus had promised them a present, a gift, but they had no idea what it would be.

Today is Pentecost, 50 days after Easter, and the time when Jewish people went to Jerusalem to celebrate their spring harvest festival, which was also called the Feast of Weeks.

Suddenly a terrible sound like a great wind came and then flames, and a flame seemed to rest on the heads of each of the team! And then they found they could speak lots of different languages! How astonishing is that? There were people there from all over, people who spoke lots of different languages, and they all heard Jesus' friends talking in their own languages! Soon a huge crowd were there, listening to them! And what were they talking about? Was it ...

The weather?

God and Jesus?

What they were planning to have for dinner?

'This is incredible,' exclaimed the people who were gathering round. 'What is happening?' 'Oh, they're just blabbering because they've had too much to drink,' said someone. 'Oh no they're not!' replied Peter. 'They're not drunk! Anyway, its 9 O'clock in the morning!' 'No,' he went on, 'this is a God thing. Don't you remember, the prophet Joel talked about this? Joel said that the spirit of the Lord would be poured out onto the people' (Joel 2:28-32) 'And that's what's happened. Now listen up and I'll tell you. Everyone who trusts God and believes that Jesus is his son will be saved! Just say sorry to God for the things you've done wrong and get baptized!'

**Video:** <https://youtu.be/OMQKy1Mx49M>

or if you like lego, <https://youtu.be/Ww-OsCm0ge4>

**Quiz:** what did the team hear? What did they see? What could they do afterwards? What did people think about it?

**Think:** What do you think God had in mind when he sent these windy fiery languages to the team? Did it work? How do you think people reacted? Have you ever been in an airport and heard people chatting in a million other languages and then suddenly you hear a voice speaking in English? It's so nice to be able to understand, isn't it? You can relax and listen. The people listening to the team explaining about Jesus must have felt that way too and if you read a bit more of the chapter, you'll see that loads of them decided straight away to become Christians and get baptised. Great, isn't it? We can think of this time as the beginning of the Christian religion.

Well, we don't all get hurricanes and fiery flames! Jesus' friends got the gift of languages from the Holy Spirit, a gift that they used straight away to carry on Jesus' work and tell people all about him. They got other gifts too. They were able to make disabled people well, for instance. We all have gifts from the Holy Spirit, and we can use them to do God's work. The Holy Spirit will give us ideas and opportunities to use those gifts. We can share what we know about Jesus. By being kind, generous, honest, (yes, always!), praying when we have questions or problems and always trying to do things the way Jesus wants us to.

**Craft:** make a flame mobile.

**Activity:** a game for several people: make a circle of chairs or cushions, with one less than the number of people playing. Sit down, with the extra person in the middle. The person in the middle starts by saying 'The wind of Pentecost blows for ...' and then mentions something about one of the people sitting round. For instance, 'The wind of Pentecost blows for anyone wearing red!' or 'The wind of Pentecost blows for anyone who plays football!'

Anyone who fits in this category has to jump up and quickly find a different chair. The person who was in the middle is also looking for an empty chair, and the one left without a chair becomes the new person in the middle.

**Prayer:** Dear God, you sent Jesus to teach people more about you. Then you sent the Holy Spirit to guide us. Help us to use the gifts you have given us to do your work and help us to dedicate everything we do to you. Please bless our family and all our friends, teachers and everyone who works at school. Amen.

**The Grace:** May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.