

# Did You Hear?

*Acts 2; The Acts of the Apostles, pp. 35-46*

**H**ave you ever had to wait for something you really wanted? You asked your Mom or Dad and they said you had to wait a while.

*Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to His disciples, but they had to wait. When the Holy Spirit came, it was not at all what they expected.*

**T**he city of Jerusalem was spilling over with people. The dusty streets were clogged with noisy travelers from all over the world. People shouted and pushed their way through the crowds. Donkeys brayed. Babies cried. Thousands of Jews were visiting the holy city of Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost.

The disciples and many of the believers were gathered together, worshiping and praying to God. But no one in the group expected

the exciting thing that was about to happen! Nothing like it had ever happened before.

Suddenly, a strange sound came from the sky. It sounded like a strong, mighty, rushing wind. But it was not wind. It sounded like a hurricane. But it was not a hurricane. The sound entered and filled the whole house. It was so loud that people outside looked around desperately to see what was happening.

Then the sound died away. The believers looked at each other. They saw what looked like tongues of fire.

Spreading through the room the fire touched each person. The Holy Spirit! The believers were suddenly filled with the Holy Spirit! They were filled with new thoughts that were not their own—just like the prophets of old! They could hardly believe what was happening! And they began to praise the Lord loudly.



# The Message

God gives us skills  
to serve Him.

## Memory Verse

“I will pour out my  
Spirit on all people” ’ ’  
(Acts 2:17, NIV).

The crowd outside the house grew larger. The people packed together as they tried to see inside. “What’s happening in there?” they asked one another. “Did you hear what I heard?”

Then the crowd heard something different. It sounded like everyone in the house was talking and shouting at the same time. Now what?

“Quiet! Listen!” A man from Syria flung his arm in the air. “I hear someone in that house speaking my language!”

“Me, too!” a traveler from Egypt gasped. “Someone in that house is speaking my language!”

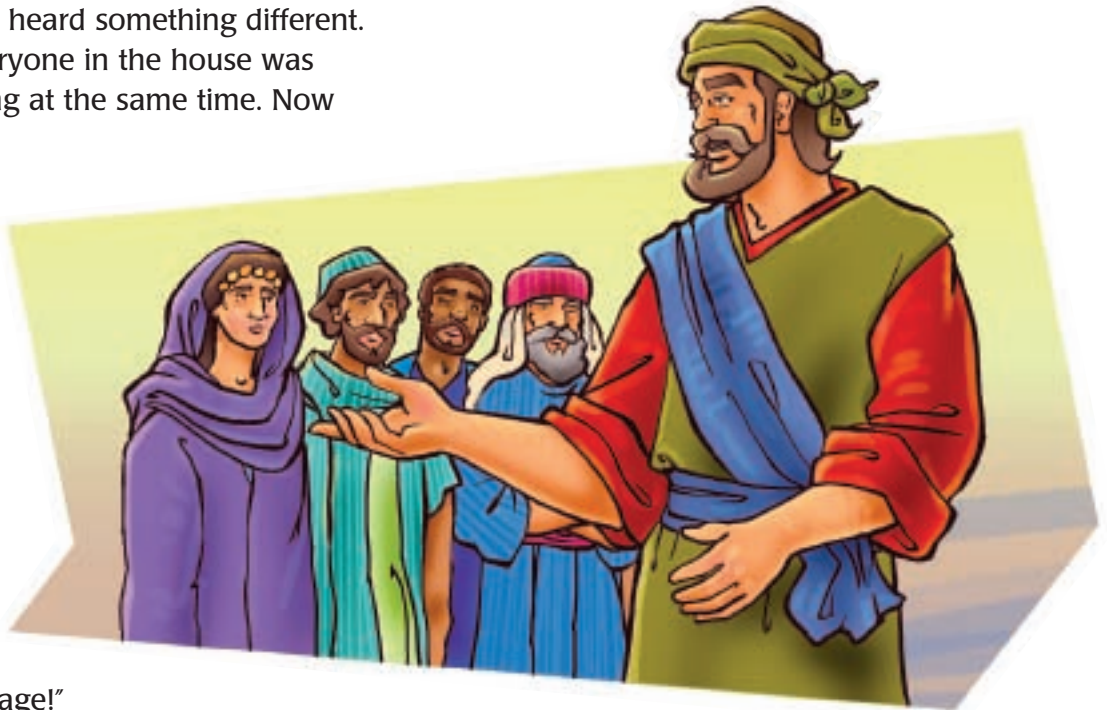
“Nonsense!” a rough voice spoke up. “Those people in that house are just drunk!”

“Drunk! Drunk! Drunk!” some unruly characters chanted.

Suddenly another voice shouted, “Here they come!”

Peter and the other apostles came out of the house. Peter began to speak in a very loud voice so everybody could hear him. “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem,” he began. “Listen to me and let me tell you what this means. These people are not drunk as you suppose.”

Peter then told the crowd about Jesus. He



told them that Jesus had died for their sins. He told them that Jesus had risen from the dead and was now in heaven. He told them that God would forgive their sins. He promised them that they, too, could receive God’s gift of the Holy Spirit.

The people listened quietly. And many people believed what they heard. About 3,000 people were added to God’s church that day!

The Holy Spirit will fill your life too. He will help you to tell others about Jesus. With whom will you share the good news?

## S A B B A T H

**DO** The Holy Spirit has been compared to the wind. If possible, go for a walk to a windy place and watch things move in the wind. As you walk, talk with your family about Bible stories you know that mention the Holy Spirit.

**SING** Sing some thank-You songs. Then thank God for sending His Spirit to be with your family.

## M O N D A Y

**READ** Read and discuss Acts 2:14-22 during worship today. Then read Joel 2:28-32. How are these texts alike? Why do you think Peter used these words?

**DO** Prepare a pitcher of juice for your family. As you pour it out, tell about God pouring out the Holy Spirit on the disciples.

**MAKE** Fanfold a piece of paper and decorate it. How does the breeze from fanning yourself remind you of the Holy Spirit?

**SING** Sing a song about the Holy Spirit. Then thank God for the many blessings He gives you.

## S U N D A Y

**READ** During family worship read and discuss Acts 2:1-13. What did you learn about the Holy Spirit? Look on a Bible map and find the places mentioned in verses 9-11.

**DO** Cut out 10 flame shapes. Write the words of the memory verse on the flames. Mix them up, then put them in the right order. Do this several times. Use this to teach the verse to your family.

**DO** If it's a windy day, take a friend kite flying and tell them how the Holy Spirit is like the wind. If it's not windy, see how many ways you can create a breeze.

**PRAY** Thank God for the ways the Holy Spirit is with you.

## T U E S D A Y

**READ** For worship today read and discuss Acts 2:23-41. How many people were baptized? How many people go to your church? How many more than that were baptized by Peter? Divide the number of people who go to your church into the number baptized. How many churches like yours could Peter and the apostles have formed after the Holy Spirit came?

**THINK** Think of four different ways to illustrate the Holy Spirit and share them with your family.

**ASK** The Holy Spirit is also called a helper. Find three ways to help someone else today. Ask God to help you do so.

## W E D N E S D A Y

**READ** Read John 16:13 with your family. Ask them: How will the Holy Spirit guide us? Ask each person to tell about a time the Holy Spirit helped them.

**DO** During worship, light a candle and look at the flame. Draw a picture of the flames coming to the disciples at Pentecost. Ask your family: Why doesn't the Holy Spirit come to people as flames today?

**THINK** Think about your pastor. Ask God to bless him or her with the presence of the Holy Spirit.



# T H U R S D A Y

**READ** Read Acts 2:37-39 with your family today. When Peter talks about "people far off" (NIV), who does he mean?

**THINK** How many things in your home create wind? (For example: hair dryers.)

**DO** Name different ethnic groups who live in your town. Learn to say "God loves you" in a different language. Ask an adult for help.

**PRAY** Thank God for His never-ending love.

The Holy Spirit was given a special and bigger work to do after Jesus went back to heaven.



# F R I D A Y

**READ** During family worship read and discuss Acts 2 again. What have you learned about the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit mean to your family?

**SING** Say your memory verse together and sing "This Little Light of Mine" (Sing for Joy, No. 134). Then ask God to be with your family as you celebrate the Sabbath.

## Did You Hear? PUZZLE

Directions: Use the code to find out what caused the sound of a mighty rushing wind to fill the room where the people prayed.

1 4 3 9    7 5 2 6 2 8

H I L O P R S T Y  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

