

Morning Overview

Lesson: Peter's Sermon and All Things in Common

Lesson Objective:

In today's lesson our children learn about Peter's sermon on Pentecost and how new believers shared all things in common. Peter's sermon is where the apostle stands and delivers the Gospel for all those gathered in Jerusalem. The power of this sermon is evident by many people hearing and believing the message. These new believers stayed together, ate together and gave up possessions to help others. This is the powerful effect of hearing the Gospel! Please look to the Acts trifold to help explain how the Holy Spirit grew the Church as well as what goes deepest to the heart (Peter's Sermon/the Gospel) goes widest to the world (they had all things in common, shared their possessions).

Teaching Summary:

- God's promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps His promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God has promised to always be with His people. He is with us through the presence of the Holy Spirit.
- The disciples have now become Apostles because they had seen the resurrected Jesus.
- Peter preaches a sermon about Christ's life and resurrection. Many people hear it and believe!
- Many people are added to the church daily.
- This new group of believers stay together, share meals together and work to help out those in need.
- This new group of believers is well liked by other people. More people continue to be added to the group each day!

Scripture: Acts 2:14-47

Scripture Memory for May: Acts 13:32 (ESV)

We tell the good news: *(put both hands close to your mouth ... move hands outward away from mouth)*

What God *(point to heaven)*

promised our ancestors, *(put one open palm of your hand on top of other (also open) and then bring them to your heart ... like "cross my heart ...")*

He has fulfilled for us... *(make a fist and pound it against an open palm ... like a judge banging a gavel)*

by raising up *(put both hands below your waist ... then raise them up)*

Jesus *(sign language motion for Jesus ... put middle finger from one hand into palm of other and alternate back and forth)*

Craft: All Things in Common

Supplies: Yellow cardstock, verse sticker, picture square, glue

Instructions: 1. Glue 4 square paper to cardstock.

2. Attach verse sticker to the top of cardstock.



If child has already done craft first hour, have them work on a coloring sheet.

Story

Transition

Boys and girls, do you like to share? What do you like to share with your friends and siblings? What do you not like to share? In our story today, we learn that the Holy Spirit does something incredible, where people share everything with each other! Let's find out more...

The Holy Spirit Comes

Jesus had promised the Holy Spirit would come to His disciples. As the disciples, now Apostles, waited for the Holy Spirit it finally came! The Holy Spirit came upon the Apostles and they were able to speak to lots of different people in their own language. People asked, "How is this possible? We are from different places around the world. But we hear these men telling in our own languages about the great things God has done!" The crowd was amazed and confused. They asked each other, "What does this mean?" Some people began making fun of the apostles, saying, "They have had too much to drink!" and "They are being silly!"

Peter's Sermon

But Peter stood up with the 11 apostles. In a loud voice he spoke to the crowd: "Everyone listen to me. Pay attention to what I have to say. These men have not had too much to drink! It is only nine o'clock in the morning! But long ago the prophet Joel explained what would happen. He told us that Spirit would come freely to all kinds of people. All sorts of amazing things will happen!" Peter told the crowd to look to God to be saved. He told them of how Jesus came and did miracles, wonders, and signs. Everyone knew it because they all saw it!" Then Peter scolded the crowd, "Jesus was given to you by God, but you killed Him! With the help of evil men, you nailed him to a cross! But God knew all this would happen. This was God's plan which he had made long ago. And then God raised Jesus from the dead. God set him free from the pain of death. Death could not hold Jesus!" When the people heard this, they were very, very sad. The crowd asked Peter and the other apostles, "What shall we do?"

The Bible tells us Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." That day many people believed what Peter told them about Jesus!

All Things in Common

The Bible tells us the apostles were doing many miracles and signs. And everyone was in amazement of God. All the believers that heard Peter's sermon stayed together. They shared everything! They sold their land and the things they owned. Then they divided the money and gave it to those people who needed it. The believers met together in the Temple every day. They all had the same purpose. They shared meals in their homes, happy to share their food with joyful hearts. They praised God, and all people liked them. More and more people were being saved every day; the Lord was adding those people to the group of believers.

Questions for Review

Have children answer "yes" or "no."

- Did Jesus promise the Apostles that the Holy Spirit would come? (Yes)
- Did Peter tell the whole crowd about his favorite baseball player? (No! He preached to them about Jesus and the Holy Spirit.)
- The Holy Spirit came to God's people so they would know God was with them for forever. (Yes – God always keeps His promises; Matthew 28:16-20)
- Peter told the crowd after His sermon to go home and think about what he said. (No! Peter told the crowd to repent and be baptized.)
- The Apostles did many miracles, wonders and signs in front of many people after Peter's sermon. (Yes)
- The new followers of Jesus sold their possessions and shared their money and other possessions with those in need. (Yes)