

PENTECOST

Thought for the day

The Holy Spirit of God is poured out in power on the expectant disciples, just as Jesus promised.

Readings

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Aim

To know the events of Pentecost.

Starter

Give each child a different coloured bunch of wool lengths. (For larger numbers of children make several groups.) With the bunch of wool provide a written message, reading it out to the child as you give it, and checking they know what it says. Now they all go round giving their message, and one length of their wool, to every other child. Here are the messages:

1. The disciples were waiting and praying.
2. Pentecost means fifty days after Passover.
3. Jesus had promised to send the Holy Spirit.
4. The Spirit sounded like a rushing wind.
5. The Spirit looked like flames of fire.

(Add to these or prune them as necessary for your group.)

Teaching

Everyone should now have a bunch of different coloured wools. They lay these out in front of them. The children can now help you tell the story of Pentecost, by remembering the messages which went with each colour of wool.

Once everyone has added the bits of the story, pull it all together by reading the events as told direct from Acts, using a suitable translation. We have all been working together to tell the story today, and the Holy Spirit empowers us to work together with God and one another for good every day of our lives. What a lot of good can happen by seventy years' time if all of us, and all the children in all the other Rocks groups, work in the power of the Holy Spirit every day for the rest of our lives!

Praying

Come, Holy Spirit of God,
come to me and fill my life.
Let me live in your strength from now on,
and work with you
so that great good gets done!

Activities

The children can make flame crowns from their sheets. Provide flame-size pieces of shiny red or orange paper to add to their coloured flames, and staple them to the rim. They are also encouraged to think of a quiet space during the day at home where they can get in touch with God each day, and pray the week's prayer.

Notes