Preschool–Grade 6

Pentecost

Sunday School Lesson for Preschool (Ages 3–5), 20–30 minutes

Main point: God keeps His promises. He gave the Holy Ghost.
Bible passage: Acts 2. Read Acts 1:4–14 and Acts 2:1–41 yourself before class.
Memory verse: "ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" *Acts 1:8 (KJV).* The old word **ye** means you. The **Holy Ghost** is God's own Spirit.
You need: a Bible, a small square of tissue paper or paper for each child, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: put a bookmark in your Bible at Acts 2.

1. Opening game: Blow and Watch (5 minutes)

Give each child a small paper square to lay on the table. Everyone takes a big breath and blows their square across the table. Pick them up and play again. Ask: "Can you see your breath? No! But you can see what it does." Say: "Today we will hear a true story about a sound like a big, strong wind."

2. Bible story (5 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Acts 2. Say: "This story is true. It is in God's Word." Read each line slowly and do the motion. When you see **Say it with me**, the kids say the line back to you.

Jesus said they should "not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4). *(Sit very still.)*
Jesus went up to heaven in a cloud (1:9). *(Point up.)*
His friends waited and prayed together (1:14). *(Fold your hands.)*
One day they were all together in one place (2:1). *(Scoot close together.)*
Suddenly a sound came from heaven, like a rushing mighty wind (2:2)! *(Say "Whoosh!" and sweep your arms side to side.)*
Little flames, like fire, sat on each one (2:3). *(Hold your fingers up over your head like a flame.)*
They were all filled with the Holy Ghost (2:4). **Say it with me: "God kept His promise!"**
They spoke with other tongues, words God gave them (2:4). *(Point to your mouth.)*
People from many lands heard them in their own language (2:6). *(Cup your hand by your ear.)*
Peter stood up and told everyone about Jesus (2:14, 36). *(Stand up tall.)*
The people asked, "What shall we do?" (2:37). *(Shrug your shoulders.)*
Peter said: repent, be baptized in Jesus' name, and receive the Holy Ghost (2:38). *(Hold up three fingers.)*
About three thousand people were added that day (2:41)! *(Open your arms wide.)*
Say it with me: "God keeps His promises!"

3. Questions to ask (3 minutes)

1. What did the sound from heaven sound like? *(A rushing mighty wind, Acts 2:2)*
2. What sat on each one? *(Something like fire, little flames, 2:3)*
3. Who stood up and told the people about Jesus? *(Peter, 2:14)*

4. Memory verse (3 minutes)

Say: "Jesus said, 'Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.' **Ye** means you." Teach the motion: hold up both hands on "ye shall receive power," then bring your hands down over your head on "the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Say the verse with the motion three times: in a normal voice, in a whisper, and in a happy loud voice. Then say "Acts 1:8" and clap three times.

5. What this means for us (3 minutes)

Say: "God loves you! Everyone has done wrong things. That is called sin (Romans 3:23). Jesus is God. He came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins. He was buried. Then He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! In our story, Peter told the people what to do (Acts 2:38). We repent: we tell God we are sorry, and we stop doing wrong. We are baptized in Jesus' name, down under the water, and our sins are washed away. And God gives us the Holy Ghost. That is God's own Spirit in us. When people are filled with the Holy Ghost, they speak in other tongues, words God gives them (Acts 2:4)."
Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

6. Activity: Flames on the House (5–10 minutes)

Give each child a take-home sheet. In the drawing box, help them draw a simple house. Then they draw small red, orange and yellow flames on top. While they color, ask: "What sound came from heaven? Who told the people about Jesus?" Kids who finish early can blow their paper squares again.

7. Prayer

Say each line, and the kids say it after you:
"Thank You, God, for keeping Your promises.
Help me tell others about Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen."

Tips for little ones: keep the story moving. If they get wiggly, do the "Whoosh!" and the flame fingers again. Send the take-home sheet home so parents can tell the story again this week.

If a child asks about speaking in tongues: answer simply and warmly. When God filled them with the Holy Ghost, they spoke with other tongues, words God gave them (Acts 2:4). Peter said the promise is for children too (2:39). Invite the child to talk with their parents and pastor.

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