

Lesson: The Feast of Pentecost – Part 2

Summarized Content:

Review: On the day of Pentecost in history, God gave us two important tools:

the 10 Commandments (God's instructions) and the Holy Spirit (God's power).

Pentecost also signifies God's laws written on stone first and then in people's hearts with the help of God's power (Holy Spirit) so that we can begin to become more like God in the flesh...overcoming sin. Overcoming sin is a pre-requisite for sanctification by God.

Review: Review the 10 Commandments given by God through Moses.

Review: Just after Christ ascended to Heaven, Christ breathed His spirit out on His disciples, and sent God's power to those waiting in the upper room on Pentecost.

Review: God's Spirit is given to Christ's followers by the laying on of hands of other true followers of Christ at baptism.

God's spirit makes us His kids. (Romans 8:12-17)

God gave us examples of what happens to good disciples (blessings vs. Aaron & Israelites - curses) and wicked servants on the day of Pentecost. (Blessings – Acts 2:1-4 and Curses – Ex. 32:19-29)

Read more about God's blessings for those who serve Him well – Deut. 28:1-14 and those who do not serve Him properly – Deut. 28:15-68)

Scriptures:

John 15:15-16

Romans 8:12-17

Matthew 25: 14-30 (Parable of the Talents)

Deut. 28:1-68 (Blessings and Curses for God's servants)

Activities:

Exploring God's Word:

- Review the content above that was learned in the previous lesson. Ask children questions as a review or play the Pentecost Truth or Myth Game from the previous lesson.
- As a group read the first 2 scripture passages listed above. Discuss their meaning and the role of God's power in us. Explain that God is a God of order and that He has expectations of His servants. The Bible is full of examples, but Pentecost has a negative example as well as a positive example for us to learn from. Read Ex. 32:19-29 and Acts 2:1-4, 38-47 to make this point...allow children to identify which were the evil servants and which were the good servants, listing what each kind of servant did to show their love for God. Compare and contrast characteristics of evil and good servants with a Servant T-Chart (see handout).

Understanding God's Word (choose from the activities below):



Parable of the Talents: Read and act out the Parable of the Talents found in Matt. 25:14-30. As a group identify which were the evil servants and which were the good servants. Discuss several meanings of "talent". Ask students to add characteristics of evil and good servants to their Servant T-Charts (see handout).



Blessings & Curses: Write some of the blessings and curses on different index cards or pieces of paper large enough to read. Divide the children into 2 groups, a group of evil servants and a group of good servants. As a blessing or curse is handed to each group of children, ask them to act out what it might feel like to receive them. Change roles so that each group experiences the other type of servant. As a group, discuss your feelings during the experience. Older children can write about what they learned from this experience.



Walking in His Footprints Picture: Becoming a good servant and walking in Christ's footprints requires us to do several things: 1. Repent of your sins. 2. Clean the sin out of our lives. 3. Receive God's power through baptism. 4. Obey God's laws. 5. Teach others about God's plan to make everyone sons of God. Prepare small cards with these steps in advance. Have children complete the footprints page by gluing the steps on the correct footprint. Ask them to place today's date where they are on this path and to continue that practice a few times a year to track their own growth. These can even be laminated so that children can keep them visible as a reminder.



Footprint Magnet Clips: Using colored foam prepared in the shape of a foot print, have children decorate the print with a variety of items, including the scripture reference: John 15:15-16, a reminder that each of them was chosen by God to be a good servant. Glue each foot print to the front of a wooden clothespin and attach a small magnet to the back of the clothespin. Clips can be used to connect papers or hang things from a magnetic surface.