

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**FUNDOCY Homework: The Holy Spirit Comes**

Lesson Taught on October 24, 2021

Homework Due: November 7, 2021

*Do you need some power in your life? Are you interested in making a positive impact in your world for God? The book of Acts is an amazing historical adventure of revolution, suspense, drama and humor as the early church is born. It tells of a world set on fire by a small group of people who had witnessed Jesus' death and resurrection and were filled with a power the world had never seen before. This same Holy Spirit power is available to all who follow Christ today. We only need to ask, seek and knock.*

**Part I: The Lesson**

1. Read Acts 1:1-5.
2. The book of Acts tells of how the church got its start following Jesus' death and resurrection. Many believe Luke (the same person who wrote the Gospel of Luke!) wrote this book.

To whom did Luke write the book? (Hint, it's in Acts 1:1)

\_\_\_\_\_

This name means "lover of God".

3. Acts 1:4-5 includes some of Jesus' last instructions to his apostles. He told them "for \_\_\_\_\_ baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the \_\_\_\_\_ not many days from now"
4. Use a dictionary to define "apostle":

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Read Acts 1:6-8. Jesus instructs the apostles that they "will receive \_\_\_\_\_ when the Holy Spirit has come upon" them, and says that they will be \_\_\_\_\_ for Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.
6. What does it mean to be a witness?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Read Acts 2:1-4.

- a) It says “When the day of \_\_\_\_\_ had come, they were all together in one place.” This event is remembered in the church by a festival of the same name...and it is the day on which 8<sup>th</sup> graders are usually confirmed!
- b) We celebrate this festival because it is the day on which the people were filled with what? \_\_\_\_\_ (Hint: Look at Acts 2:4...the people were filled with ....)

8. Read Acts 2:5-13. What miracle happened when they received the Holy Spirit?

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9. The book of Acts is a story of God’s power unleashed on the world through the Holy Spirit. How do *you* define the Holy Spirit?

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10. The Holy Spirit is... :

- a) A scary ghost
- b) A cousin of Holy Cow
- c) A spirit of God that came into being on that first Pentecost
- d) God’s Spirit that first called creation into being and now helps us know Jesus

11. By “all the ends of the earth” Jesus meant we are to witness to:

- a) Everyone everywhere
- b) Everyone who is receptive everywhere
- c) Everyone who looks like us everywhere
- d) Everyone from every nation who happens to visit our church on Sundays from 8:00 - 11:00

## Part II: Reflection Questions

1. What is the most exciting event you ever witnessed?

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Did you tell anyone about it? \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. When was the last time you felt especially close to God?

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What part do you think the Holy Spirit had to play in this moment?

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3. Have you ever prayed for the Holy Spirit to fill you? \_\_\_\_\_

Why or why not?

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### **Peter and the Early Church**

*On Pentecost day, Simon Peter was gripped by the Holy Spirit's power. He preached a convincing sermon to Jews who were gathered in Jerusalem from all over the world. That day 3000 people were baptized and the church was born. After that, the Christian church grew through the loving acts and bold witness of Jesus' followers. And now, over 2000 years later, you and I are a part of this church!*

#### **Part I: The Lesson**

1. Last time, we studied the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Now that the crowds have received the power of the Holy Spirit, they must decide how to react. Read Acts 2:37-40. What does Peter tell them to do?

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2. Read Acts 2:41-42.

a) How many people were added to the church that day? \_\_\_\_\_

b) What did they devote themselves to? (2:42) \_\_\_\_\_

• What do you think it means to devote oneself “to the breaking of bread”? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Read Acts 2:43-47. List four things believers in the early church did:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

4. What did God do? (Acts 2:47)

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5. Not everyone was happy that the church was growing. Peter and John, two leaders in the church, were called before the council (like the government) and questioned about what they were doing. Read Acts 4:18...what are Peter and John commanded to stop doing?

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6. Read Acts 4:19-20. How do Peter and John respond?

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7. Read Acts 4:32-35, which further describes how the believers chose to live. Was the early church a selfish church, or one that shared with others? \_\_\_\_\_

8. The first church of Jesus in Jerusalem:

- a) Met in homes,
- b) Devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayers,
- c) Sold their possessions and shared everything,

- d) All of the above, and day by day the church grew
9. When the religious authorities ordered Peter and John to be silent about the healing of the lame man, they said:
    - a) "Be silent yourselves!"
    - b) "Okay. We don't want to make trouble!"
    - c) "Okay. But you are going to have to pay us off!"
    - d) "We cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard!"
  10. In Acts 2:39, Peter said, "God's promise is for you...":
    - a) "...for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him,"
    - b) "...for your children, and for all who are far away,"
    - c) "...for your children, and for all who are near in Jerusalem,"
    - d) "...and for you alone"

**Part II: Reflection Questions**

1. What do you think would happen if everyone in our church (or in our community!) acted the same way as the early church acted?

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2. Which of the things the early church did (studied Jesus' teachings, devoted themselves to prayer, enjoyed food and fellowship with one another, worshipped, shared everything), do you most enjoy? \_\_\_\_\_

Which do you least enjoy? \_\_\_\_\_

Which do you feel you should do more of? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think the Holy Spirit is as active in the church today as it was in the early church?

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Why or why not?

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Now stop, fill in the blanks and pray...

Gracious God,

Thank you for the gift of this day and the gift of your Holy Spirit. This day, I give you thanks for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Please help me with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ this coming week. Thank you for hearing my prayers. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.