



Construction Crew/ Kid Builders!

Where worship and fun collide!

525 Garden Dr., Marysville, OH, 43040

Tons of Tire

Memory Verse: "...surely I am with you always, even to the very end of the age." **Matthew 28:20**

Lesson Overview: This lesson is designed to introduce or help children revisit the Holy Spirit. As they look to their parents, kids often feel they do not need the Spirit of God for a number of reasons. Perhaps they feel their parents will look out for their spiritual needs, or maybe they do not see their parents living by the Spirit of God. Whatever the reason, children need to know that the Holy Spirit is just as important to them as He is to their pastor.

Requirements for the lesson: Tires! Lots of TIRES!

Object Lessons and Lead-in to the Lesson:

"Tons of Tires!" This is obviously a play on words for "Tongues of Fire." This begins the story telling of Acts chapter two, but with a slightly different twist.

Two people are involved in the narration of this story: a slightly mixed-up narrator, and a person in the know. The narrator begins to tell the story, explaining how the tons of tires fell on the disciples, and this obviously is the explanation for their acting drunk--they were dazed! Tires hurt! This is where the "person in the know" steps in and begins to "repair" the story by pointing out the gross errors within our tainted mess. As the knowing person begins to get the narrator straitened out, he or she should begin to get the revelation, and thus be able to finish the story.

Lesson:

DO THE OBJECT LESSON: *"Tons of Tires!"*

READ: Acts 2:1-18

1. God Gives Us His Spirit

Wow! What an incredible story. Jesus had died on the cross not long before this, but He rose from the dead just like He said He would. All of the disciples got to be with Him forty days after this, and then He returned to heaven to be with his daddy: God His Father.

QUESTION: Jesus made the disciples a promise before He went to heaven. What was it? (*To send His Holy Spirit to be with all men*)

When Jesus died on the cross, God the father caused many incredible things to happen. Not only Jesus was raised from the dead, but others were as well. But only Jesus as able to go up into heaven—everyone else died again. Can you imagine dying twice? One thing is for sure: you would definitely know that God was very real! God made the world go dark and an earthquake happen.

God likes to let His power be known—especially when He does an important thing like raising Jesus from the dead. God also wanted everyone to know for sure that He sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples and the other Christians at that time.

a. God Shows His Power

QUESTION: What special thing did God do when the Holy Spirit came to the Disciples and the others? (*The tongues of fire and the sound of the mighty rushing wind*)

QUESTION: Does it happen this way today when Christians receive the Holy Spirit? (*Yes and no. We don't see the fire and the wind, but it could happen that way or any other way that God chooses.*)

However, we do see one thing happen today that did happen in this story.

b. Why God Sent His Spirit

(1) Jesus Is No Longer With Them

(2) Companionship

(3) His Omnipresence

QUESTION: What happens when God fills others with His Holy Spirit? *(They do speak in tongues like the disciples did, and receive other gifts of the Spirit too)*

QUESTION: Why do you think God sent the Holy Spirit to the disciples? *(Allow the children to respond, and then continue)*

Let's see how well we did with these answers.

One very important reason is because the world didn't have Jesus to lead them anymore. Remember that Jesus had to die on the cross.

QUESTION: Why did Jesus have to die? *(For our sins)*

Since Jesus had died, He couldn't stay with the disciples. This is all part of God's big plan.

Another great reason is that Jesus wanted to be with them all. He wanted to be with them all of the time. Not only that, but Jesus knew that He could live within each one of us if His Father (God) sent the Holy Spirit. It's important to remember that the Holy Spirit is not a power, but as much a part of God as Jesus is. The Holy Spirit is like a person, just the way you think of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is everywhere just like God is everywhere. Jesus told the disciples and all of us that follow Him to go and make disciples everywhere we go.

QUESTION: What does that mean: to make disciples everywhere we go? *(To teach others about Jesus and help them to get Jesus into their heart.)*

Jesus wants to help every one of us to do this, but He couldn't be with all of us all of the time. That's why God had to send the Holy Spirit: so each one of us could have God with us all of the time.

QUESTION: How many people do you think are in the United States today? *(Around 300 million)*

Wow! That's a lot of people to be with. God's Holy Spirit can do it. He can be with all the people in the world.

2. Why God Did It.

It is an awesome thing that God decided to share His Holy Spirit with the whole world. He didn't have to do that, but He did. How exciting it must have been to be there when it all happened.

QUESTION: What is the most exciting thing that you have ever seen or did?

QUESTION: Why do you think He sent the Holy Spirit in such a great way? (*Allow responses*)

(1) To Make His Spirit Known

God wants everyone to know when He does something that important. If I told you that starting tomorrow that red traffic lights were now for "go" and that green ones were now for "stop", you would not believe me unless you had proof. God sent the Holy Spirit in such a great way so that everyone would know that it did happen just as Jesus said it would.

(2) Spreading The Holy Spirit

Another reason God sent His Holy Spirit is such a fantastic way was to spread His Spirit around the world quickly. He drew many from other nations that could take the Holy Spirit back to their homelands. They knew Jesus was real because they knew that what was happening was impossible. The disciples and others did not know their languages. This spread the Good News about Jesus quickly.

(3) To Show His Power

God also sent His Holy Spirit with power! It must have seemed like a tornado was brewing. The Holy Spirit is powerful, but He would never hurt God's people. No way! He came to help them with all His power.

READ: ACTS 3:1-8

This is the first miracle that the Holy Spirit worked through anyone. What an amazing thing.

QUESTION: Who in this class would like to have God heal someone? What if God wanted to heal someone by using you to do it like He did the disciples?

God still does many miracles through ordinary people every day. We just have to have faith and believe that He wants to use us that way. Just think how wonderful it would make us feel if God did such a thing through us. We would feel so grateful for the person that He healed, and we would

feel good because He chose us. God gave this power to the disciples so that He could save thousands through them. There are now millions of Christians on the earth today. If twelve disciples could save thousands, then just think how many more that all of the Christians in the world can save. God wants to give every one of us His Holy Spirit power so that others just don't have to take our word for it, but see it for themselves.

(4) Power Today

It's been a long time since Jesus died on the cross, rose again, and then sent the Holy Spirit. Who would believe a story that is supposed to have happened over 2000 years ago? The answer is simple: God's Holy Spirit is alive and well in the world today. He is here for anyone who wants to join with Him in all of His great power to save, heal, and send the old devil out of town in a hurry.

3. Experiencing God's Reality

QUESTION: Do you think that God still does these sorts of miracles today—now?

He does.

QUESTION: Why do you think that you should ask God for His Holy Spirit?

a. God's Purpose For You

God created you for certain things that He wants to do, and only you can do it. Yes, God had a plan for you from the beginning of time. That's why He sent His Holy Spirit: so He could help you. He doesn't want things in your life to be difficult. He wants to help you so you can do whatever He has for you to do very well. That's real love. Friends and family will let us down at some time or another, but God never lets you down. That's why we need His help.

b. Helping Others

God wants you to help others, and He expects it. God wants us to pray for people and see them healed. He wants us to give them special messages called prophecies, along with just helping others out. We can even send demons away from tormenting other people.

c. Fellowship With God

The most important thing about receiving God's Holy Spirit into our lives is that we get to talk with Him and be with him. God loves this so very much, and His Holy Spirit helps that to happen. If we have a problem, then God wants to help us fix it. If we have troubles, then God wants to take them away. If we are lonely, then God wants you to come to Him and

spend some time with Him. And God doesn't want us to just come to Him when we have things going wrong in our lives. He also wants us to share our good things with him too. His Holy Spirit is so much fun. He's having God with you all of the time.

d. We Need Him

We need God, even if we don't think that we do. God knows what you need more than anyone else does in the world. God cares so much about each one of us that He wants to give us what we need. We need God's Holy Spirit in our lives every bit as much as the food we eat and the air we breathe.

4. What's It Like?

QUESTION: So what do you think it's like to receive the Holy Spirit into your life? *(If there are children in the classroom that have received the Holy Spirit, you may want them to tell a bit about what it is like.)*

a. Receiving The Baptism of The Spirit

You may be wondering if it will be like getting electrocuted, or allowing yourself to be taken over by something, but it's not like that at all. Remember when you asked Jesus into your heart? It felt good when He took all of your sins away and made you clean. Letting the Holy Spirit come into your life is just as wonderful of a feeling.

b. Tongues and Prophecy

You may be wondering about when the disciples spoke in other languages, or when others in the church do it. This is something that you have to let God do through you. You have to do it: the Holy Spirit just makes it possible. He loves us so much that He gives us total control of what we do. Have you ever heard someone in church talk like it's God himself talking? This is called prophecy. Through the Holy Spirit, God puts that message in a person's heart. It is up to them to give the message or not to give the message. When they give it, then they are being obedient to God.

c. Slain In The Spirit

Sometimes you may see the pastor or another pray for someone and they fall to the floor. This may look scary, but it really is not at all. The person falling down is *letting* God do a special work in them. They can chose to let God do it or not to let God do it. The Holy Spirit does not force anyone. When The Holy Spirit does this, then God is giving them something wonderful, or taking something away that is not good for us.

Say that you are scared of something. Maybe it could be being away from your parents with a sitter. The Holy Spirit can fix that. He can lay you down under God's wonderful power and fix whatever the problem is. One thing is for sure: It does not hurt, you can decide to do it or not to do it, and it is wonderful. It's nicer than the most favorite thing that you can imagine doing.

TEACHER: please share a personal experience with the class.

5. Ministry Time

Give the children a chance to receive the Holy Spirit into their lives. If they are not yet saved, then they should receive salvation before praying for the Holy Spirit.

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