

Pentecost

May 30 -
June 5 2022

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-12

THEME: The Spirit Marches Victorious Through the Word

SONG: CW21 479 God's Holy Spirit Came /
CW93 590 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

VISUAL: John 3:16 written out on posters in 4-5 different languages; audio recordings of John 3:16 spoken in 4-5 different language (use Google Translate for this); WELS Missions website

OBJECT LESSON

Prepare the posters in each language, but do not put the Bible reference on them. Save the reveal for the end of the object lesson as a surprise! Choose student volunteers to hold up each language poster for everyone to see. If the students are willing, have them try to read the passage in the language on the poster. Play recordings of the spoken languages for the students and see if they can identify the languages spoken. (If you have any students who are bilingual, invite them to speak John 3:16 in their native language, if they are willing. If your pastor comes to chapel, maybe ask him to say John 3:16 in Greek, Latin, German, or Spanish.)

BIBLE TRUTH

Ask the students if anyone could identify or understand the language on the poster or spoken in the audio recordings. Ask them if they can think of any times in the Bible where people heard languages they didn't quite understand. (Many might say the Tower of Babel, others may say Pentecost.) Introduce the reading by asking the students to listen for how the Scriptures describe the different languages. Read Acts 2:1-12.

Review the background of the Day of Pentecost. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he gave instructions to his disciples to remain in Jerusalem and wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Ten days after Jesus' ascension, the Holy Spirit came and miraculously gave them the ability to speak and understand many different languages. They used this newfound ability to speak the good news about Jesus to everyone

in Jerusalem. 3,000 people who heard the message that day came to believe in Jesus as the Savior!

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Review the Great Commission with the students. Many of them should be able to recite it from memory. Ask if any of them can name any countries where the WELS has missionaries. Display the WELS Missions website and explain how we send missionaries all over the world to spread the Word. Remind the students where saving faith comes from: hearing the message about Christ. Direct the children to the work of the Holy Spirit, who comes to us through the Word to create and strengthen our faith.

PRAYER

Holy Spirit, thank you for the blessings you bring to us through your Word. Thank you for creating faith in our hearts and keeping that faith strong through regular study of Scripture. Use all of us to help spread that Word to other people, so that many more may come to believe in you as the one true God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



HEART IMPRINTS

1st
Sunday
after Pentecost
June 6-
June 12, 2022

SCRIPTURE: Numbers 6:22-27

THEME: Through the Word, the Triune God Blesses Us

SONG: CW21 483 / CW93 195 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

VISUAL: Whiteboard and markers; various objects (your choice)

OBJECT LESSON

Hold up the objects you have collected one at a time and ask the students to count them. "How many books am I holding?" They should obviously answer, "One!" Next, ask for some student volunteers to come up one at a time and stand in front. Ask the students to count how many students are standing in the front. They should obviously answer, "One!" Ask the students, "Can any one thing ever be more than one thing?"

BIBLE TRUTH

In the Bible, we learn something mysterious about God. The Bible teaches us that there is only one true God. But our one true God is three separate and unique persons — the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. How can three persons be only one God? This is something that we cannot ever understand. This is something that can only be understood by faith (Hebrews 11:1). By faith, we understand that God is triune. "Triune" is a special word that means "three in one."

God wants us to make sure that we are worshiping only him. Our worship services here at church show this very clearly that we worship our Triune God. At the beginning of every service, our pastor says we are worshiping "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." That tells us right away who we're worshiping. At the end of the service, the pastor speaks God's blessing to us. Even this blessing tells us that our God is three persons in one. Read Numbers 6:22-27.

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

It's important to know that our Triune God blesses us. Each person in the Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — gives us important blessings. We call God the Father our Creator. He created the world and everything in it, even us! We call God the Son our Redeemer. He became a human being to live a perfect life under God's law; to die in our place on the cross; and to rise again to defeat death forever. We call the Holy Spirit our Sanctifier. He created faith in our hearts so that we can believe that Jesus is our Savior, and that by believing we may have eternal life. God wants to bless us with his name at the end of our worship so we know that we are at peace with him. That peace can only come from knowing our sins are forgiven and that our God truly loves us.

PRAYER

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we cannot begin to understand the mystery of your unity. Help us always to trust your Word, where we learn this amazing mysterious truth. Continue to shower your blessings upon us as we seek to share your mysterious, amazing truths to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



**HEART
IMPRINTS**

2nd Sunday
after Pentecost
June 13-
June 19, 2022

SCRIPTURE: Luke 8:26-39

THEME: Through the Word, the Lord Crushes Evil

SONG: CW21 863-864 / CW93 200-201 A Mighty Fortress
is Our God
CW21 744 / CW93 556 Rise, Shine, You People

VISUAL: Superhero action figures (or pictures of
superheroes); pictures of their archenemies.

OBJECT LESSON

Show action figures/pictures of superheroes. Ask students to identify them/if they can identify them. Then ask if anyone knows these superheroes' archenemies (i.e. Superman has Lex Luthor; Batman has the Joker; Green Lantern has Sinestro; etc.). These superheroes all have what it takes to defeat their enemies. Ask students if they know what kinds of powers these superheroes have.

BIBLE TRUTH

Ask if the students know who God's enemy is. Hopefully they will answer "the devil" or "Satan." Next, ask if the students know what God uses to defeat his enemy. Read Luke 8:26-39.

The devil knows that he can't defeat God. But he still tries to hurt God by attacking God's people. In Bible times, sometimes people became possessed by demons. A demon is an evil spirit that does the devil's bidding. In our Bible reading, Jesus showed he had the power to drive out a demon that was possessing someone. What did Jesus use to defeat this enemy? (Students should hopefully answer, "His word!")

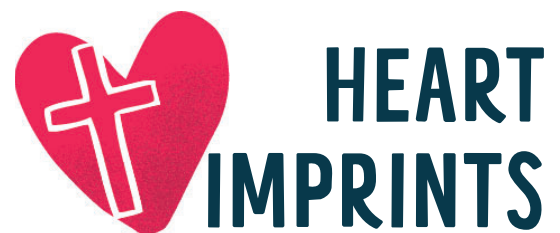
DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

The devil is after us each and every day. Even though it may sound scary, it's true. God tells us to be on our guard against the devil's attacks (1 Peter 5:8). The devil comes at us every day with temptations, trying to get us to sin against God. What can we do? Who can help us?

Remember when Jesus was on the cross? What words did he say to show us our sins had been forgiven? (Students should answer, "It is finished!") Jesus defeated the devil for us! That's why Jesus came to this world in the first place (1 John 3:8). Through faith in Jesus, we now have the power to resist the devil's temptations (James 4:7). By faith we know how God wants us to live. The Holy Spirit works in our hearts every day to help us live for God. Our enemy, the devil, has been defeated. God uses his Word to keep us strong in the faith so that we can continue to resist the devil every day. God also uses us, like he told the man who had been rescued from the demons, to proclaim his Word to others so he can defeat the devil in their lives too."

PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank you for defeating our enemy, the devil, for us. Through your death on the cross, our sins are forgiven. By your gift of the Holy Spirit we have come to believe and trust in you as our Savior. Keep us strong in the faith by your holy Word, so that we may enter the eternal joy of heaven, where we will be forever free from the devil's schemes. In your name we pray. Amen.



3rd Sunday
after Pentecost
June 20-
June 26, 2022

SCRIPTURE: Luke 9:57-62

THEME: Through the Word, Christ Creates Committed Followers

SONG: CW21 695 /CW93 469 Take my Life and Let it Be

VISUAL: sports gear (jerseys, hats, posters, etc.) representing the local popular team or your personal favorite team

OBJECT LESSON

Proudly display your sports gear for the students – wear it, model it, show it off however you wish. Some students may cheer, others may object (depending on the teams in question, of course). Talk about how awesome it feels to be a fan when your team is doing really well. Maybe share some personal stories of seeing a win in person. Then talk about how it feels when your team is doing really poorly. Is it easy or hard to be a fan then? Are fans really true fans if they abandon the team when things are tough?

BIBLE TRUTH

Many people were following Jesus. They liked the miracles he was doing. They liked some of the things he was teaching about. But did they really want to commit to Jesus? Did they really want to stick around and follow Jesus no matter what? Read Luke 9:57-62.

In our reading, some people made excuses when Jesus asked them to follow him. Others tried to follow him, but when Jesus asked them to do something difficult, they couldn't do it. Following Jesus isn't easy. But it has wonderful and eternal rewards.

DISCUSSION AND APPLICATIONS

Following Jesus isn't easy. How often do we think that we would rather stay in our nice warm beds in the morning than get up and come to church? Or how many times have we continued to play video games or watch sports on TV when we should have been studying our memory work for school? Or maybe sometimes

we think we're following Jesus really well, but then something bad happens in our lives, and we run away from Jesus instead of closer towards him.

Thankfully, Jesus was totally committed to saving us. Several verses earlier, Luke writes, "Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem." He was "all in" to save us. He came to this earth because of those hard times that we experience. Jesus came to follow God perfectly because he knew we couldn't. Jesus came to die on the cross to pay for all the sins we've committed when we've followed our own desires instead of God. And now, Jesus is with us every day to help us when those temptations arise. He is living and ruling in our hearts through his Word, encouraging us with his promise that he will never leave us, no matter how many times we may leave him.

PRAYER

Dear Jesus, forgive us for the times we have chosen to follow our own desires instead of yours. Help us as we struggle with temptations every day. Lead us always back to you through your precious Word. In your name we pray. Amen.

