

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Acts 2:1-21	The Holy Spirit comes
Monday	Joel 2:18-29	God will pour out his Spirit
Tuesday	Ezekiel 39:7-8,21-29	The Spirit is promised
Wednesday	Acts 4:5-21	Peter and John give witness
Thursday	Acts 4:23-31	The believers pray for boldness
Friday	Acts 8:14-25	Samaritans receive the Spirit
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	The Lord is our help and shield
Sunday	Matthew 28:16-20	Baptism in the Triune Name

Scripture Verse for this Week:

Jesus stood up and shouted, "If you are thirsty, come to me and drink! Have faith in me, and you will have life-giving water flowing from deep inside you, just as the Scriptures say." John 7:37-38 (CEV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayers for this Week:

"Send your Spirit upon me, O Lord. Renew me to sing your praises. Amen." (Psalm 104:30,33)

For Throughout the Day:

"Spirit of God, work in me this day. Amen." (1 Corinthians 12:6)

Mealtime Refrain:

"Come, Holy Spirit, Come: Fill the hearts of your people."

A Blessing to Share:

May the Lord Jesus give you his peace, fill your heart with his joy, and breathe into you his Spirit. Amen. (John 20:19-22)

Pentecost Prayer:

Come Holy Spirit, come. Bless our food and renew our hearts in Christ. Amen.

S C R I P T U R E

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S C R I P T U R E

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share an experience you have had with wind or with fire.
- When God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first Christians on the day of Pentecost, a strong wind came from heaven and tongues of fire came to rest on them (Acts 2:1-21). How were the believers changed as a result?
- In what ways have you experienced power of the Holy Spirit at work in your life?

Devotional Practices:

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 tells us that the Holy Spirit gives special gifts to all believers to use in serving him. For each member of your household, draw a large dove figure on white card and cut out. In your family devotion times this week, take a few minutes to talk about the gifts you see in each other. Write these gifts onto the "doves". Display them on your bedroom doors. Say prayers of thanks to God for the gifts he has given to each member of your household. As an additional activity, decorate your home with "flames" cut from red, yellow and orange paper, or with streamers of these colors.

Service:

1 Corinthians 12:7 tells us that the Holy Spirit gives us gifts to use for the "common good". Have a discussion about how members of your family are using their Godgiven gifts for the sake of others. Brainstorm ways in which you could use them more effectively.

Rituals and Traditions:

Plan an evening time when you can tell the Pentecost story around a bonfire or in front of a fireplace. Toast marshmallows to add to the experience!

Parent Toolbox: *Spiritual Gifts for Kids*

One of the joys of parenting is helping our children discover and grow into the gifts God has given them – including their spiritual gifts. 1 Corinthians 12 lists seven spiritual gifts:

- **Prophecy** – sharing the Word of God with others.
- **Helps** – a willingness to help others with their needs.
- **Teaching** – an ability to help others understand God's Word.
- **Exhortation** – the capacity to encourage and motivate others.
- **Giving** – a spirit of generosity.
- **Leading** – the ability to lead and direct others.
- **Mercy** – a sense of compassion for others and a willingness to act on these feelings.

Which of these gifts do you see evident in your children? Consider ways you can help your children use these gifts. Help them realize that God has a plan for them to serve others now, not just in adulthood. Talk to your church leaders about helping your children grow in their gifts.

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