

Teacher Tip:

There is a video of a class performing this song with the actions online.

SONG**'The Spirit of God is Upon Us'**

Introduce the song, 'The Spirit of God is upon Us' (Track 17, p. 234) and chat about the words. Explain to the children that the words of the song reflect what Jesus' friends did after the Holy Spirit came upon them on the day of Pentecost. Once the

Spirit of God had come upon them, their task was to share the Good News of God's love with others. This was their mission, and the Holy Spirit helped them to do it. You can sing this song throughout the week.

SCRIPTURE**'After Pentecost'**

Explain to the children that we know how Jesus' friends got on with their mission. We can read about it in the Bible. Then read, 'After Pentecost'.

**'After Pentecost'**

(Adapted from Acts 2:44-47)



After the Holy Spirit came to them at Pentecost, the friends of Jesus began to live in a new way. The Holy Spirit helped them to pray. They often met to pray to

God our Father and to sing hymns of praise. The Holy Spirit also helped them to share. Everyone shared what they had with one

another. They shared money and food and stayed in each other's houses.

The Holy Spirit also helped the friends of Jesus to speak about God the Father. They went around from town to town, telling the people about God our Father, just as Jesus had done. This was the mission Jesus gave to them.

The Holy Spirit helped Jesus' friends to remember Jesus as he had asked them to at the Last Supper. They met on Sundays to pray together. Many people joined the friends of Jesus and the Holy Spirit helped them to show love to one another and to live like Jesus.

Having read the Scripture story, check for understanding using questions such as, 'What did the friends of Jesus begin to do after Pentecost?'

Then dig deeper using these or similar questions:

- I wonder ... why do you think so many people joined these first friends of Jesus?

- What sorts of things did they do because they wanted to live like Jesus? What way had Jesus taught them to live?
- What things did these friends of Jesus do that we, as friends of Jesus, still do today?

Prayer Space:

Place a globe (or map) in the prayer space and spin it (or point to lots of different places) to illustrate the range of countries where Jesus' Good News has spread.

VIDEO**'The Holy Spirit Helps Jesus' Friends'**

Begin by recalling the story, 'After Pentecost' and by singing the song, 'The Spirit of God is upon Us' (Track 17, p. 234). Then play the video in which a teacher tells a class about the growth in the number of followers Jesus had. Afterwards, chat about it and about how Jesus' mission can be carried on, using these or similar questions:

- Who took on the mission to spread Jesus' message to the world?
- We can carry out the mission of Jesus by *telling* people about God and God's love for the world but in what ways could we *show* other people that we are friends of Jesus?
- Do you know anyone who is a friend of Jesus? What kinds of things do they say? What kinds of things do they do?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1T4dNRa-hM>

<https://vimeo.com/196199758>

<https://vimeo.com/195596748>

THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS UPON US

The spirit of God is upon us.
Jesus has brought us good news.
May God bless you, may God bless you.
We move on now to share the news