

LightUnit 1-1

of Jesus, met with them. About one hundred and twenty men and women had come together. The people prayed and praised God. And eagerly they waited. Jesus had not told them exactly when or how the Holy Spirit would come, but they believed His promise.

One day Peter stood up in the middle of the group and said, “Brothers, long ago the Holy Spirit spoke through David about Judas, who was one of us.” Judas, you remember, guided the men who arrested Jesus. With his reward money, Judas bought a field and in this field he died.

“God’s Word says to let another man take the place of Judas,” Peter explained. “And now we must do that.”

Peter told the group what was required of the man who would replace Judas. “He must have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was with us, from the time Jesus was baptized and until the day He ascended into Heaven,” Peter said. The new disciple would have the same duty as the other eleven: to tell others about Jesus. How could he tell about Jesus’ death, resurrection and **ascension**, unless he had witnessed it?

The group chose two men, Joseph Barsabas (bār’ sə bəs) and Matthias (mə thī’ əs). They prayed, “O Lord, You know the hearts of all men. Please show us which of these two men you have chosen to take part as a minister and apostle. He will be the one to fill the place left by Judas.”

The men cast lots to see which man God had chosen: Joseph Barsabas, or Matthias. And the Lord chose Matthias. He then joined the other eleven as an apostle of the Gospel.

Still the apostles waited together for the promise of God’s Holy Spirit and His power.

Questions for Discussion

Why did Jesus stay on earth forty days after His resurrection?

– *He needed to teach them more about the Kingdom of God.*

Whom did Jesus promise to send to the disciples after He went back to Heaven?

– *the Holy Spirit*

What command did Jesus give just before He ascended?

– *The disciples were to begin at Jerusalem and go into all the world teaching, preaching, and baptizing in His name.*

What happened while Jesus blessed His disciples?

– *He began rising up into the sky and a cloud hid Him from the disciples’ sight.*

What requirements did the man who took Judas’ place need to meet? Why?

– *He needed to have been with the disciples from the time of Jesus’ baptism until His ascension. His duty was to tell others about Jesus, so he needed to be a witness of all that had happened.*

How did the apostles know whether Joseph Barsabas or Matthias should be the new apostle?

– *They cast lots and God showed them which one He had chosen.*

Lesson 1

he tell about Jesus’ death, resurrection and **ascension**, unless he had witnessed it?

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to fill the place left by Judas.”

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FROM THE STORY

Write numbers to tell the order.

- 3 Jesus commanded the disciples to spread the Gospel.
- 4 Jesus disappeared into Heaven.
- 5 Matthias was chosen to take Judas’ place.
- 1 Jesus rose from the dead.
- 2 Jesus was seen by the disciples many times in forty days.

Write S for same or D for different.

- S How Jesus went to Heaven—how He will return.
- D How the disciples felt before the resurrection—how they felt after His ascension.
- S Duty of the eleven disciples—duty of the new disciple.

THAT’S OUR GOD

Match the instructions Jesus gave to His disciples before He left.

- b tell others
- c begin the work
- a take the message
- c wait for the Spirit

- to the world
- about Jesus
- in Jerusalem

Lesson Story

Forty days had passed since Jesus had risen from the dead. Now ten more days had passed since Jesus went up to Heaven. The disciples and other friends of Jesus were still waiting for God’s Holy Spirit and power to come upon them. Perhaps they wondered how much longer they would need to wait, but every day the group met to pray and praise God.

It was now fifty days after the Passover season when Jesus had been crucified. Do you remember which of the Jews’ feast days was celebrated fifty days after Passover? If you answered “The Day of Pentecost (pen’ ti kost),” you are right. Many Jews had come to Jerusalem to celebrate this special day.

You remember that several times in the past God had punished the Jews by allowing them to be taken captive to enemy lands. After years in exile, many Jews were able to come back to the land of Israel. But some chose to stay where they were. In spite of living far from their homeland, these Jews were still loyal to the temple at Jerusalem. They tried to make the long, hard trip to Jerusalem for one of the yearly feasts. The Bible tells us that at this time Jews “out of every nation under heaven” were staying in Jerusalem. So we can imagine the city was overflowing with extra people.

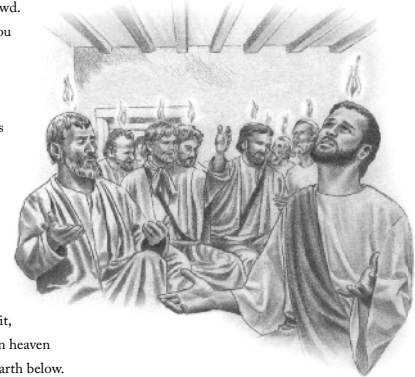
The disciples, friends, and family of Jesus met together early on Pentecost morning to worship God. All at once a roaring like the blast of a strong wind swooped down from heaven and filled the whole house. Everyone saw what looked like flames, or tongues, of fire appear and rest on each person. The Holy Spirit came and filled them all. Immediately the people began to tell of the wonderful things Jesus had done. But they were speaking in different languages—languages they had never learned or spoken before. The Holy Spirit was giving them the words to say.

News of what was happening soon spread over the whole city. Perhaps someone rushed from the room to tell others. Maybe a stranger passing by heard someone speaking the language of his native country. Crowds began to clog the street outside the house. Everyone was astonished and bewildered. Each person heard the language of the land of his birth. “Are not these men from Galilee? How is it that we hear them speaking our language?” the people wondered.

“What is the meaning of this?” some asked. Others mocked, “Those people have had too much

Lesson 2

He raised his voice to be heard over the noisy crowd. Boldly he said, “All of you men of Judea and Jerusalem, listen to me. These people are not drunk. God has sent His Holy Spirit upon them. What you see is what the Prophet Joel wrote about long ago. He said that ‘God will pour out His Spirit upon all people. Through His Holy Spirit, He will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth below. Anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.’”



FROM THE STORY

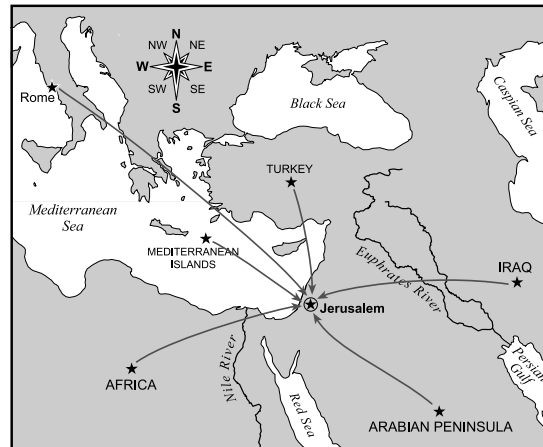
Use the map on the next page. Begin at the star in each area and draw a line to Jerusalem. Write a word from the list that tells which direction you traveled.

northwest south west southeast northeast

1. northwest Arabian Peninsula
2. west Iraq
3. southeast Mediterranean Islands
4. northeast Africa
5. southeast Rome
6. south Turkey

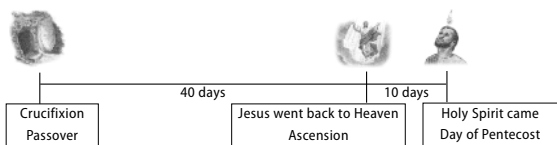
6

Lesson 2



Fill in the blanks.

7. 40 days Jesus stayed on the earth after His resurrection
 + 10 days the disciples waited in Jerusalem for the Spirit
50 days after Passover is the feast of Pentecost.



7

wine. They are drunk!”

Peter stood up with the eleven apostles. He raised his voice to be heard over the noisy crowd. Boldly he said, “All of you men of Judea and Jerusalem, listen to me. These people are not drunk. God has sent His Holy Spirit upon them. What you see is what the Prophet Joel wrote about long ago. He said that ‘God will pour out His Spirit upon all people. Through His Holy Spirit, He will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth below. Anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

Questions for Discussion

How many days after Jesus’ ascension was the Day of Pentecost?

– *ten days*

Explain why was Jerusalem filled with Jews from faraway lands.

– *They had come back to Jerusalem for the Day of Pentecost.*

What came and rested on each person?

– *A flame or tongue of fire.*

How were the apostles able to speak in languages they had never studied?

– *The Holy Spirit told them what to say.*

How did the crowds react when they heard the apostles speaking in their languages?

– *They were surprised and puzzled; some mocked and said the apostles were drunk.*

Where to Find Answers

Activity	Location
From the Story	
1-6	map exercise
7	page 4, paragraphs 1 and 2
8	page 5, first paragraph
9	page 5, second paragraph
10	page 5, second column, first paragraph

That’s Our God

11-13 given

Lesson 2

Circle the letter of the correct answer.

8. Why were Jews of so many nations in Jerusalem?
 - a. They were invited by the priests to hear the Holy Spirit.
 - b. They were freed from exile and moving back to Israel.
 - c. Loyal Jews traveled from other countries for the feast.
9. How did the Holy Spirit come upon the believers?
 - a. He came silently by night.
 - b. He came like a roaring wind.
 - c. He came with the rumbling of an earthquake.
10. Why were the people amazed when the disciples talked?
 - a. They all heard about Jesus in their own language.
 - b. They were hearing about Jesus for the first time.
 - c. Before this no one had heard the disciples speak.

THAT’S OUR GOD

From the last paragraph of the story, complete the sentences to tell what happened that God had promised by the Prophet Joel.

11. He revealed (poured out) to all people His _____ Spirit _____.
12. In the sky and on the earth He showed _____ wonders _____.
13. Anyone calling on His name would be _____ saved _____.

WE REMEMBER

Cross out the wrong answer.

14. Before Jesus’ ascension He told the disciples to ~~pick Matthias to take Judas’ place, tell others about Himself, wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit, take the Gospel to the world.~~
15. Jesus promised His Spirit would come and ~~give comfort for hard times, provide power for preaching the Gospel, prevent them from getting sick or dying, be with them while they waited.~~
16. Matthias’ duty was ~~the same as the other apostles’, to tell others about Jesus, difficult because he had never seen Jesus.~~



The Pentecost crowd stood in the street listening as Peter continued to preach with confidence. “Fellow Jews, hear my words,” Peter said. “Jesus of Nazareth performed many miracles, wonders, and signs when He lived among us. You all know that. That should show you how God approved of Him. Yet according to God’s great plan, He allowed Jesus to be betrayed and delivered into your hands. You gave Him to the Romans to have Him killed. Wicked men

nailed Him to the cross and crucified Him. But God raised Jesus from the dead because it was not possible for death to hold Him. “You all know that David, our ancestor, was king over Israel,” said Peter. “Many years ago he wrote these words, ‘I see the Lord always before me. Because He is at my right hand I shall never be shaken. Therefore my heart rejoices and my lips praise God. Even when my body dies I will rest in hope because You will not leave my

We Remember

14	page 1, second column, first paragraph
15	page 2, first paragraph
16	page 2, last paragraph

Lesson 3: Peter Preaches to the People in Jerusalem

Pages 9-12

Acts 2:22-36; Psalm 16:8-11

Objective

1. *Name the main points of Peter's message.*

Review Questions

What would you have heard and seen if you had been with the disciples when the Holy Spirit came?
– *a roaring like a strong wind and tongues of fire resting on each person*

Why were people so amazed when they heard the disciples talking?
– *They all heard about Jesus in their own languages.*

Lesson Story

The Pentecost crowd stood in the street listening as Peter continued to preach with confidence. “Fellow Jews, hear my words,” Peter said. “Jesus of Nazareth performed many miracles, wonders, and signs when He lived among us. You all know that. That should show you how God approved of Him. Yet according to God’s great plan, He allowed Jesus to be betrayed and delivered into your hands. You gave Him to the Romans to have Him killed. Wicked men nailed Him to the cross and crucified Him. But God raised Jesus from the dead because it was not possible for death to hold Him.

“You all know that David, our ancestor, was king over Israel,” said Peter. “Many years ago he wrote these words, ‘I see the Lord always before me. Because He is at my right hand I shall never be shaken. Therefore my heart rejoices and my lips praise God. Even when my body dies I will rest in hope because You will not leave my soul with the dead or allow my body to decay. You will make me live again and bring me into Your presence once more.’”

“Men and brethren, I am going to speak plainly,” Peter went on boldly. “David could not have been talking about himself. You know that David died and was buried. You can see the tomb that holds his body here in Jerusalem. No, David was speaking as a prophet. God had promised him that one in his family would forever rule over all of God’s people. This was the promise of Jesus Christ. David was writing about the time Jesus would rise from the dead.

“Jesus, too, died and was buried. But His tomb is empty! He is alive! He arose from the dead and

ascended to Heaven. We saw Him, talked with Him, and watched Him ascend into Heaven. He is sitting at the right hand of God. Now, let the people of Israel know without any doubt that God has made this same Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

A lot of people heard Peter’s sermon. Likely many of them had seen Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey. Perhaps they had scattered palm branches before Him. A lot of them probably had witnessed the miracles Jesus performed. Maybe they had even joined the mob shouting, “Crucify Him!” Some of them may have watched as Jesus was beaten, forced to carry His cross, and nailed to it. Possibly some in this crowd had stood near the cross watching while He took His last breath. Those who had been there surely remembered the strange darkness and the earthquake when He died. Could it be that they had crucified the Messiah?

Questions for Discussion

Peter wanted to convince the Jews that Jesus was the Messiah. His message could be summarized in three main points:

1. The Jews themselves had seen proofs in Jesus’ life.

What did Jesus do that proved He had God’s approval?

– *He performed many miracles, wonders, and signs.*

2. The Scriptures had prophesied of Jesus.

Who wrote these words, “You will not leave my soul with the dead or allow my body to decay”?

– *David*

Explain how we know he was not writing about himself.

– *David’s body was still in his tomb.*

3. Peter and many others had seen Jesus after His resurrection.

How could Peter be so sure Jesus had risen from the dead?

– *He had seen Jesus with his own eyes.*

What had happened at Jesus’ death that should have helped people believe that He was the Messiah?

– *There had been strange darkness and an earthquake.*

Where to Find Answers

Activity	Location
From the Story	
1	page 9, first paragraph
2-4	page 10, first paragraph
5	page 9, top of second column
That’s Our God	
6	page 9, first paragraph
7	page 9, first paragraph
8, 9	page 10, second paragraph

Lesson 3

FROM THE STORY

Circle the correct answer.

1. On the Day of Pentecost, Peter preached to
 - a. Gentiles
 - b. Romans
 - c. Jews

Write D for David or J for Jesus.

2. D King for a short time
3. J King forever
4. D His body stayed in a tomb in Jerusalem
5. J Death couldn’t hold Him

THAT’S OUR GOD

Circle the correct answer.

6. How should the Jews have known that God approved of Jesus?
 - a. by reading the Scriptures
 - b. by the miracles and great works Jesus did
 - c. by the response of the Romans to Jesus’ words
7. Why didn’t God stop the Romans from crucifying Jesus?
 - a. He wanted to teach them a lesson.
 - b. It was His plan for Jesus to die to make atonement for sin.
 - c. It was the Jews’ idea and they wouldn’t listen to God.

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We Remember

10	page 1, first paragraph
11	page 5, second paragraph
12, 13	page 6
14	page 4, last paragraph (continues to next page)
15	page 5, first paragraph

Lesson 3

8. What did Peter want the Jews to know without a doubt?
- a. Jesus is Lord and Messiah.
 - b. David was their ancestor.
 - c. The Romans were responsible for the crucifixion.

Answer this question.

9. Where was Jesus when Peter was preaching that day?
_____ in Heaven _____

WE REMEMBER

Circle T for true or F for false.

- 10. T F Jesus spent fifty days on earth after His resurrection.
- 11. T F The Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost.
- 12. T F The Prophet Joel prophesied about the Holy Spirit.
- 13. T F John preached a powerful sermon on the Day of Pentecost.
- 14. T F Passover is fifty days after the Day of Pentecost.
- 15. T F Jews from many nations came to Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost.

Lesson 4: A New People of God

Pages 13-16

Acts 2:37-47

Objectives

1. Give examples of how Peter's message affected his listeners.
2. List ways the new church was like a family.

Review Questions

- Give two ways the Jews should have known that Jesus was the Messiah.
– by Jesus' miracles and signs and through the prophecies in the Scripture
- What did Peter want his listeners to know without a doubt?
– Jesus, whom they had crucified, is both Lord and Messiah.

Study Words

possessions: (pə ze' shənz) things that belong to someone

Lesson Story

After hearing Peter’s message, many of his listeners realized how wicked they had been. They understood now that they had rejected the Messiah for whom they had been waiting many years. They had killed Jesus, God’s only Son, whom He had sent. They knew that God had brought this same Jesus back to life and had given Him a place of honor and power in Heaven. Guilt pierced deep into their hearts. “What shall we do?” they begged Peter and the apostles.

“Repent of your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus,” Peter answered. “God will forgive your sins, and you shall receive the Holy Spirit. This gift is promised to you who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and also to your children, as well as those in distant lands.”

Peter continued preaching. He said that the gift of forgiveness of sins was and is for all. But one must ask to be forgiven and then obey God’s commands. He must repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus. Then that person will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. He urged the people to separate themselves from the sinners around them.

The listening crowd understood Peter’s words. Many of them chose to accept his words and believed in Jesus Christ as their Saviour. They were baptized in His name. How glad they were to know God had forgiven their sins!

That day three thousand new believers were added to the number of Jesus’ followers in Jerusalem. They joined the one hundred and twenty who met in the upper room to fellowship and pray. All these believers became a new people of God, called the church.

The church was like a family—brothers and sisters in the family of God. They loved each other. They enjoyed being with one another and spent much time together. Often they visited in each others’ homes to break bread and praise God.

These brothers and sisters in Christ also willingly shared with one another. Those who had money gave to those who did not. Some sold land and **possessions**, and then divided the money among their poor brothers and sisters in the church. Everyone was happy, loving each other and being loved by one another.

Every day the believers met in the temple to praise God and to worship Him. They listened as the apostles taught about God and how He wanted them to live. When others in Jerusalem saw how happy the new believers were and heard the Gospel preached, they believed on Jesus too. Daily God added more and more people to His family, the church.

Questions for Discussion

How did many people feel after hearing Peter’s message? Why?

– *They felt guilty. They understood they had rejected and killed God’s only Son, the Messiah they had been waiting for.*

What did Peter tell them they must do?

– *Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus.*

What will God do for a person who asks to be forgiven?

– *He will forgive him and give him the Holy Spirit.*

Lesson 4

break bread and praise God.

These brothers and sisters in Christ also willingly shared with one another. Those who had money gave to those who did not. Some sold land and **possessions**, and then divided the money among their poor brothers and sisters in the church. Everyone was happy, loving each other and being loved by one another.

Every day the believers met in the temple to praise God and to worship Him. They listened as the apostles taught about God and how He wanted them to live. When others in Jerusalem saw how happy the new believers were and heard the

Gospel preached, they believed on Jesus too. Daily God added more and more people to His family, the church.



FROM THE STORY

Number these in the order they happened.

1. 5 “God will forgive you and give you the Holy Spirit.”
- 1 Jesus was crucified by wicked men, but He rose again.
- 4 “Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus.”
- 2 Peter’s message revealed guilt in their hearts.
- 3 “What shall we do?”

LightUnit 1-4

How would you compare the new believers to a family? How would you contrast the two?

– *They loved each other and enjoyed spending time together. They willingly shared with each other. They did not live together in one house.*

What explanation do you have for the way the church grew?

– *When other people heard the Gospel preached and saw how happy the new believers were, they believed on Jesus too.*

Where to Find Answers

Activity	Location
From the Story	
1	page 13, paragraphs 1 and 2
That's Our God	
2	page 13, last full paragraph
3	page 14, last paragraph
4	page 13, last paragraph (continues to next page)
5	page 13, second paragraph
How They Lived	
6-8	page 14, first paragraph
9-10	page 14, second paragraph
We Remember	
11	page 5, second paragraph
12	page 9, first paragraph, page 10, paragraphs 1 and 2

Lesson 4

THAT'S OUR GOD

Underline the correct answer.

- In one day God increased the number of believers from 120 to _____.
a. 3,000 b. 1,200 c. 3,120 d. 2,000
- After that, God added more people to the church each _____.
a. day b. week c. month d. year
- Jesus' followers were like a family in all these ways **except** _____.
a. they loved each other
b. they all lived together
c. they were like brothers and sisters
d. they visited and ate meals together
- God will forgive and send the Holy Spirit when people _____.
a. sell all their land
b. repent in the name of Jesus
c. break bread together

HOW THEY LIVED

Circle T for true or F for false.

- T F Each believer gave the same amount of money.
- T F The church members gladly shared with each other.
- T F Believers had to sell all their land and belongings.
- T F Once a week the brothers and sisters went to the temple.
- T F Other Jews were affected by the joy of the believers.

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Lessons 4, 5

WE REMEMBER

Underline the correct answers.

- The Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost, the Passover, like an earthquake, a roaring wind and gave the apostles power to speak in many languages, choose a new apostle.
- On the Day of Pentecost Peter, John preached to a crowd of mostly Jews, Romans and told them that Jesus' birth, miracles showed that God approved Him and that His death had been In God's plan, a mistake. He said that David, Jesus was a king for a short time, but David, Jesus is king forever. He wanted the Jews to know for sure that Jesus was dead and buried, is Lord and Messiah.

Lesson

5

Review and Quiz 1

Use this checklist to review for Quiz 1:

- I know the meanings of the study words.
- I reviewed all the *We Remember*s in Section 1.
- I reviewed all the exercises in Lesson 4.

When you are ready, ask your teacher for Quiz 1.

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Lesson 5: Review and Quiz 1

Pages 16; 59, 60

Remind students to study these:

- the study words for this section.
- the answers for the *We Remember* sections.
- all the exercises in Lesson 4.

Bible Elective LightUnit 1

Quiz 1

Name _____

Date _____

80	100
----	-----

Score _____

Complete the sentences. (4 points each blank) [12]

3,000	family	Jerusalem	40	world
Jesus	Pentecost	temple	120	

1. The disciples were instructed to tell others about Jesus, to start their work and wait for the Spirit in Jerusalem, and to take the Gospel message to the world.
2. Jesus was on earth for 40 days between His resurrection and ascension.
3. The Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost.
4. The number of people who joined God's family after Peter's sermon was about 3,000.
5. The new believers were like brothers and sisters in a family and went to the temple to worship.

Circle T for true or F for false. (4 points each) [12]

6. T F The Spirit made the disciples able to speak in many languages.
7. T F Jesus' miracles showed that God approved of Him.
8. T F After Pentecost the church stopped growing.
9. T F The new apostle had different duties than the other eleven.
10. T F Jesus' crucifixion was part of God's plan.
11. T F Peter tried to convince the Jews that David was a king.
12. T F After the sermon on the Day of Pentecost, many Jews felt guilty.
13. T F Matthias was with Jesus during His time on earth.

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LightUnit 1 – Quiz 1

Write the letter of the correct answer. (4 points each) [14]

14. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would do all **except** C.
 - a. comfort them during sadness and pain
 - b. give them power to spread the Gospel
 - c. provide food so they wouldn't have to work
15. The brothers and sisters in the church b.
 - a. were not allowed to own land
 - b. gladly shared with those in need
 - c. had to give away all they owned
16. In response to the sermon on the Day of Pentecost, a.
 - a. many people asked, "What shall we do?"
 - b. the Jews chased the disciples away
 - c. the Romans crucified Jesus
17. To be forgiven and receive the Holy Spirit, you must first C.
 - a. follow all the Law of Moses
 - b. sell your land and possessions
 - c. repent in the name of Jesus

Match. (4 points each) [20]

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. <u>d</u> preached on the Day of Pentecost 19. <u>a</u> took Judas' place as a disciple 20. <u>e</u> wrote that God promised His Spirit 21. <u>C</u> fifty days after Passover 22. <u>b</u> a king for a short time 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Matthias b. David c. Pentecost d. Peter e. Joel
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Section 2

Lesson 6: Silver and Gold Have I None

Pages 17-21

Acts 3:1-26; 4:4, 22

Objectives

1. Identify the source of Peter's power to heal the lame man.
2. State that Peter used this opportunity to preach the Gospel to the Jews.

Review Questions

What question did many people ask after hearing Peter's message?

– *What shall we do?*

In what ways were Jesus' followers like a family?

– *They loved each other, ate together, and spent time together.*

Lesson Story

The disciples and believers met in the temple every day to worship God. One day, Peter and John were on their way to the three o'clock prayer time at the temple. They saw a lame man lying near the temple gate called "Beautiful." The man, about forty years old, had been crippled all his life. His friends carried him to the gate on the east side of the temple every day and laid him beside it. There he sat until his friends carried him home again.

All day the lame man begged for money from the Jews and others who entered the "Beautiful" gate of the temple. Many of them pitied the poor cripple who had begged there for so many years.

As Peter and John neared the gate, the beggar called out to them, asking for money. Peter and John stopped in front of him, gazing at him for a moment. "Look at us!" Peter commanded. And the lame man lifted his eyes to look at the two apostles.

Many passersby likely looked the other way when they saw the lame beggar. And the lame man probably avoided looking into the faces of the passersby. Many people believed sin caused lameness, blindness, or disease. Some people wanted nothing to do with those who suffered. Many crippled and blind felt ashamed that they must beg for a living. This lame man was used to having the proud Pharisees draw attention to their good deeds. He probably thought the two apostles wanted him to notice their kindness as they handed him some money.

Peter and John looked kindly at the lame beggar, who expected a coin or two. But neither apostle handed him any money. Instead Peter told him, "Silver and gold have I none. But what I have, I will give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!" Then Peter took the lame man by his right hand and lifted him up.

Immediately the lame man's feet and ankles became strong and healthy. He jumped up, stood, and walked. For the first time in his life, he was walking! He followed Peter and John into the courtyard of the temple. He was so happy, he didn't just walk, but leaped and praised God all the way.

When the people saw him leaping and walking and praising God, they were astonished. This was the same lame man who had begged at the temple gate for many years! How could he be walking? They gathered around him and the two disciples, wondering what had happened.

"Why are you so amazed at this?" Peter asked the crowd. "Why are you looking at us as though we performed this miracle by ourselves? It was not our power or holiness that made this man, whom you all see and

know, walk; it was through the name of Jesus. This man’s faith in Jesus made him strong and completely well.”

Peter then began to preach again to the Jews. “The God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and our fathers has shown the power of His Son, Jesus. You gave Him to His enemies. You denied Jesus when He stood before Pilate, who was determined to set Him free. You refused the Holy and Righteous One, and demanded that a murderer, Barabbas, be freed instead. You killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

“My brothers, I know that you did not realize you killed God’s Son; neither did your leaders. The things about Jesus’ suffering, which God told through all His prophets since the world began, have come to pass. God raised His Son Jesus from the dead, and sent Him to bless you and turn every one of you from your wickedness. Now, repent of your sins, and God will forgive you. But whoever does not repent will be destroyed. And in His time, God will send Jesus Christ again.”

Many in the crowd believed Peter’s words, and many more believers were added to the church.

Questions for Discussion

What did many people believe about lameness and disease?

– Many believed lameness and disease were caused by a person’s sin.

Peter said, “What I have, I will give to you.” What did Peter have?

– He had the God-given power to heal in Jesus’ name.

How did the lame man show his joy when he was healed?

– He leaped and praised God.

Describe how Peter used this miracle as an opportunity to begin preaching.

– A crowd had gathered; Peter told them he had not healed by his own power, but through the name of Jesus.

In your own words, tell the main points of Peter’s message to the crowd.

– You killed the Son of God, but God raised Him from the dead. If you repent, God will forgive you. If you don’t, you will be destroyed.

Lesson 6

Peter then began to preach again to the Jews. “The God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and our fathers has shown the power of His Son, Jesus. You gave Him to His enemies. You denied Jesus when He stood before Pilate, who was determined to set Him free. You refused the Holy and Righteous One, and demanded that a murderer, Barabbas, be freed instead. You killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. We are witnesses of this.

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your leaders. The things about Jesus’ suffering, which God told through all His prophets since the world began, have come to pass. God raised His Son Jesus from the dead, and sent Him to bless you and turn every one of you from your wickedness. Now, repent of your sins, and God will forgive you. But whoever does not repent will be destroyed. And in His time, God will send Jesus Christ again.”

Many in the crowd believed Peter’s words, and many more believers were added to the church.

FROM THE STORY

Write the letters of the correct answers.

- Beggars hoped those passing by would give them b .
a. healing b. money c. clothes
- At Peter’s word, the lame man regained use of his a and c .
a. feet b. hands c. ankles d. wrists
- The man had been lame b , c .
a. because of a childhood accident
b. since he was born
c. about forty years

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Lesson 6

Write numbers to show the order they happened.

- 4 “In the name of Jesus, rise up and walk.”
- 1 Peter and John came near to the temple gate.
- 3 “I have no silver or gold, but I’ll give you what I have.”
- 2 Peter said, “Look at us.”
- 5 The man walked into the temple courtyard.

THAT’S OUR GOD

Complete the sentences.

Author	faith	holiness	Holy	leaping
walking	power	praising	name	Righteous

- Other Jews at the temple were surprised to see the man walking , leaping , and praising God.
- Peter and John’s power or holiness did not heal the man, but rather the name of Jesus and the man’s faith in Jesus.
- Jesus is called the Holy and Righteous One and the Author of life.

FOR ME TODAY

Underline a lesson you learned from today’s story.

- a. Be sure people notice every time you do a kindness.
- Even without money you can show Jesus’ love and power.
- Tell crippled people that they have sinned.

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Where to Find Answers

Activity	Location
From the Story	
1	page 17, last paragraph (continues to next page)
2	page 18, paragraphs 1 and 2
3	page 17, first paragraph
4	page 17, third paragraph to page 18, second paragraph
That's Our God	
5	page 18, second column, first paragraph
6	page 18, last paragraph
7	page 19, first paragraph
For Me Today	
8	page 18, first paragraph
How They Lived	
9	page 17, first paragraph
We Remember	
10	page 13, paragraphs 1 and 2
11	page 13, last 2 paragraphs to page 14, paragraphs 1 and 2

HOW THEY LIVED

Underline the correct answer.

9. The gate on the _____ side of the temple was called "Beautiful."
a. north b. south c. east d. west

WE REMEMBER

Complete the sentences.

baptized do forgive Holy Jesus repent Spirit

10. After Peter's sermon, the people asked, "What shall we _____?" Peter said, "Repent of your sins, be baptized in the name of Jesus, and God will forgive your sins and give you the Holy Spirit."

Check all that were true about the new church.

11. a. grew by 3,000 people on the Day of Pentecost
b. new believers were added each day
c. believers no longer went to the temple
d. was like a family
e. members shared because they had to

Lesson 7: Arrested!

Pages 22-27

Acts 4:1-31

Objectives

1. Identify the change the Holy Spirit made in the apostles' lives.
2. State who the Sadducees were and what they believed or didn't believe
3. Define the work of the Sanhedrin.

Review Questions

What power did Peter use to heal the lame man?

– the power of Jesus' name

What did Peter do when he saw the crowd of Jews gathered around?

– He preached the Gospel to them.

Study Words

Sadducees: (sad' jü sēz) a group of Jews who did not believe in the resurrection, angels, or spirits

Sanhedrin: (san hē' drən) the highest Jewish ruling court in ancient Israel

Lesson Story

During Peter's sermon, the Jewish high priests, the captain of the temple guards, and the **Sadducees** arrived in the courtyard where the crowd had gathered. Perhaps they heard Peter's voice and had come to see what was happening. How displeased they were to find the apostles preaching about Jesus! The Sadducees especially did not like that Peter preached about the resurrection of Jesus. Would all this fuss about Jesus never die down? Angrily, the Jewish leaders ordered both Peter and John arrested and jailed. Since it was late in the afternoon—too late for the **Sanhedrin** to meet—the two apostles would stay in jail overnight.

The next morning, the Sanhedrin gathered at Jerusalem. It is very possible these were the same men who had Jesus arrested and delivered to Pilate. Likely they were the ones who paid the Roman soldiers to keep quiet about Jesus' empty tomb. The Sanhedrin ordered Peter and John brought to their meeting room for questioning. The lame man who was healed came too.

"By what power or in whose name have you done this?" the council demanded of the two apostles.

You remember that during Jesus' trial before the Sanhedrin, Peter had feared these men and had denied he knew Jesus. But now he had the Holy Spirit to give him courage. "You rulers and elders of Israel," Peter respectfully but boldly said, "if you are asking us about the good deed done to this lame man, how he is made whole; let it be known to you all and to all the people of Israel that it was through the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. It is by this same Jesus—whom you crucified and whom God raised from the dead—that this man stands before you completely healed. There is no salvation except through Jesus Christ, for no other person in the whole world can save us from our sins."

The Jewish rulers were amazed at the boldness of Peter and John. They did not expect these poor, simple fishermen to have such confidence and to speak so fearlessly. Most men who were not educated were afraid of these important religious leaders.

Then the rulers remembered—they had seen these men with Jesus. It must be true that He had given them power to perform miracles. With the healed man standing before them, they could plainly see that a miracle had taken place. And they could say nothing against it. Not a single one of them dared to challenge Peter's words.

The Sanhedrin ordered Peter, John, and the healed man to leave the room so the council could discuss the problem they faced. "What shall we do with these men?" they asked each other. "We cannot deny that a wonderful thing has happened, for everyone in Jerusalem knows it. But we must not let this happen again, and we cannot allow their teaching to spread among the people."

These Jewish leaders had paid the Roman soldiers a lot of money to say that Jesus' disciples stole His body from the tomb. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection of Jesus. Now two of Jesus' followers claimed to have seen Jesus and were doing miracles in His name. The Sadducees could not allow the disciples to continue teaching that Jesus had risen and that they were witnesses of it.

"Let's command them not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus," the Sanhedrin decided. "If they do, we will punish them severely."

Peter and John were brought back into the room. "You must not speak or teach in Jesus' name," the council warned the apostles.

The apostles did not give in to the Sanhedrin's threats. Jesus had called them to spread the Gospel. They knew they must obey Him. "If it is right to obey you or to obey God, you judge that yourselves," Peter and John answered boldly. "We cannot help but tell others what we have seen and heard."

The council was afraid of what the people in Jerusalem would say and do if they punished Peter and John. They knew everyone praised God that the man who had been lame for more than forty years could now walk.

LightUnit 1-7

The Jewish leaders did not want the people to rebel against them. So they threatened Peter and John once more and let them go.

The two apostles hurried back to the group of believers. They told them everything the council had said. Instead of complaining or being frightened, the people prayed to God. They told Him that the Jewish leaders had threatened to punish them if they continued to tell others about Him. The believers did not ask for God to keep them safe from harm and danger, but that He would give them courage and boldness in the work He had given them to do. They asked for help to do more miracles in His name.

When they finished praying, the room where they were gathered shook as if there were an earthquake. The Holy Spirit came and filled them all again. And they went out, fearlessly teaching and preaching the Gospel.

Questions for Discussion

Compare and contrast Peter's behavior before he received the Holy Spirit with his behavior after he received the Holy Spirit.

– *Before, he feared the Sanhedrin and denied Jesus. Now he boldly spoke to them about Jesus.*

Why didn't Peter and John obey the Sanhedrin's command to stop preaching?

– *Jesus had told them to preach the Gospel; it was more important to obey Him than men.*

What did the apostles *not* ask for in their prayer? What can we infer from that?

– *for protection from harm and danger; They knew their work would be dangerous and were willing to face whatever might come.*

Who were the Sadducees?

– *wealthy upper-class Jews, the high priest, and other important Jews*

Why were the Sadducees so upset that Peter preached about Jesus' resurrection?

– *The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection, angels, or spirits.*

What was the work of the Sanhedrin?

– *They made religious, civil, and criminal judgments. They had police to carry out their decisions.*

Lesson 7

FROM THE STORY

Write numbers to tell the order.

1. Peter and John's actions.

- 4 did not give in to the Sanhedrin's threats
- 6 were filled again with the Spirit, and boldly spread the Gospel
- 1 healed the lame man by the name of Jesus
- 5 prayed with the believers for courage in the work
- 3 spoke with respect and boldness to the Sanhedrin
- 2 were arrested and spent the night in jail

2. The Sanhedrin's actions.

- 2 arrested and jailed the apostles
- 1 paid soldiers to say Jesus' body was stolen
- 6 threatened punishment and released the apostles
- 4 tried to figure out what to do with the apostles
- 3 asked the apostles how they had healed the man
- 5 commanded the apostles not to teach in Jesus' name

THAT'S OUR GOD

Write the letters of the correct answers.

3. Peter told the Sanhedrin that salvation from sin C.
- a. comes from being a Sadducee
 - b. is for those who have never sinned
 - c. comes only from Jesus Christ

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Lesson 7

4. The apostles' boldness proved that they had b.
- a. never performed miracles before
 - b. been with Jesus and received His power
 - c. recently baptized three thousand new believers
5. The believers prayed that God would a and c.
- a. make them brave and bold to do His work
 - b. protect them from any more punishment or arrests
 - c. help them perform more miracles

HOW THEY LIVED

These answers are from the Study Words and the sidebar on page 22.

Check all that were true about the . . .

6. **Sadducees.**
- a. rich and high-class Jewish priests
 - b. believed people would be resurrected
 - c. said there were no angels or spirits
 - d. said the Scripture only contained the books of Moses
 - e. not allowed to be on the Sanhedrin
7. **Sanhedrin.**
- a. judged on religious, civil, and criminal matters
 - b. had police to deal with prisoners
 - c. were allowed to condemn a man to death
 - d. were under a higher Jewish court
 - e. included high priests and Levites
 - f. included publicans and Romans
 - g. included scribes and Pharisees

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Where to Find Answers

Activity	Location
From the Story	
1	page 22, first paragraph page 24, paragraph 4 and last 2 paragraphs
2	page 22, first paragraph page 23, first and last paragraphs page 24, third paragraph
That's Our God	
3	page 23, second paragraph
4	page 23, second column, first paragraph
5	page 24, next-to-last paragraph
How They Lived	
6-7	given
We Remember	
8	page 17, paragraphs 1 and 2 page 18, first paragraph
9	page 18, second paragraph

Lessons 7, 8

WE REMEMBER

Complete the sentences. Use one word twice.

an accident	birth	city	get up	gold	leap
healing	money	name	walk	silver	temple

- The beggar at the temple gate had been lame since birth and was hoping for money, but Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I will give. In the name of Jesus, get up and walk."
- The healed man walked and leaped and praised God.



Study Word



deceive: (di sév') to make a person believe that something is true when it is false

More and more people believed in Jesus Christ. The church in Jerusalem now numbered five thousand. Yet the believers were like a big family. They loved one another and took care of each other. No one said,

"This is mine!" of anything he owned. Those with plenty gave to those who were poor. They shared what they could, so that no one was in need. Some of the believers sold land or

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Lesson 8: Ananias and Sapphira

Pages 27-32

Acts 4:32–5:11

Objectives

- Give examples of the love and sharing of the early church.
- State the seriousness of trying to deceive others.
- Explain the impossibility of deceiving God.

Review Questions

How did the Holy Spirit help Peter and John?

– He gave them courage to speak to the Sanhedrin and not give in to their threats.

What was the Sanhedrin?

– It was the highest Jewish ruling court in ancient Israel.

Study Word

deceive: (di sév') to make a person believe that something is true when it is false