LESSON 3

PETER BEGINS TO PREACH



Aim: **To show the children how the power of the Holy Spirit worked in Peter.**

Scripture Reading: **Mark 14:66-72; Acts 2:14-41**

Memory Verse: **Acts 2:38 "Repent and be baptised ... in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."**

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Have you ever seen a car with a loudspeaker on the roof that goes around big towns like Juba to make important announcements? People come out of their houses to listen. Children follow the car and a crowd collects. **Give other examples of how crowds gather in your town.** People have always been like that; they want to hear the news, to find out what everybody is talking about.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. Can you remember whom Jesus sent to help the apostles carry on God's work? That is right: the Holy Spirit. His power would help the apostles tell everybody in Jerusalem about Jesus. **Say the memory verse of Lesson 2, John 14:26, together.**
2. The apostles did as Jesus asked. They went out into the streets to talk about him. There were many visitors in Jerusalem at that time of year, and they came from many different countries. **Show Picture 3,** pointing out the people from different countries. Even though they spoke different languages, they all could hear the apostles speaking in their own language. They could not explain it. Some even thought the apostles were drunk (Acts 2:12-13). Then Peter stood up and spoke to them (2:14). Show Peter in the picture.
3. **Put down the picture and remind the children of how frightened Peter was at Jesus' trial. He even said he did not know Jesus – three times! Tell the story of Mark 14:66-72 briefly.** What brought about this difference in Peter? How could he now stand up and talk about Jesus in front of a big crowd? The answer is: He had received the gift of the Holy Spirit! **Show Picture 3 again.**
4. Peter explained that they were not drunk. God had given them his Holy Spirit so they could tell everyone about Jesus, the Saviour of all mankind (2:15-17a, 21). Peter told the crowd who Jesus was. One way in which Jesus showed he was the Son of God was by his miracles (2:22). **Ask the class to give some examples.** Jesus allowed mere human beings

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to put him to death so that he could save them from sin and death. After three days God resurrected Jesus (Acts 2:23-24).

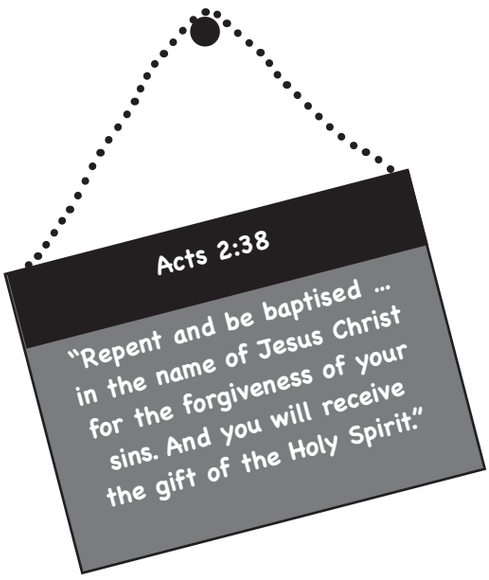
5. The memory verse tells us how we should react to this message. This is what Peter told the people that day, and 3 000 people accepted Jesus as their Saviour (Acts 2:38, 41).

Our Response to the Story

Peter received God's Holy Spirit and witnessed fearlessly about Jesus. All of us who believe in Jesus have received the Holy Spirit (2:17a). Therefore, we can all witness about Jesus. **Try to confirm this with an example from your own life.**

End with a prayer of thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Instil the Memory Verse



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