



WEEK 4

ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE



LEGACY

THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

THE BIBLE

The Holy Spirit Appears at Pentecost: Acts 2:1-21
(Psalm 139:7-10)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- MUSIC** | Worship
- ACTIVITY** | Holy Spirit Wind
- ACTIVITY** | Around the World in A to Z
- OBJECT LESSON** | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Four
- SCRIPTURE** | Acts 2:1-21
- THE BIG IDEA** | The Holy Spirit is for everyone.
- VIDEO** | Legacy, Episode 4
- POLL** | World Traveler
- ACTIVITY** | Legacy Language
- SCRIPTURE** | Psalm 139:7-10
- REFLECTION** | Super Spirit
- RESPONSE** | Holy Spirit Hunt
- MEMORY VERSE** | Time Travel Verse
- PRAYER**

SMALL GROUP TIME

- DISCUSSION**
 - Where were the disciples when the Holy Spirit appeared?
 - What happened when the people were filled with the Holy Spirit?
 - What did people think about the disciples when they heard them speaking their own languages?
 - Re-read Psalm 139:7-10. Where is the Holy Spirit?
 - If you could learn to speak another language, what would it be?
 - How does knowing that the Holy Spirit is for everyone affect how you treat others?
 - What is one way the Holy Spirit can change you?
- ACTIVITY** | Decoder Gadget
- MEMORY VERSE** | Romans 8:14 (NIV)



WEEK 4

HACKS FOR PRETEENS



BY ASHLEY SIDER

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Holy Spirit Wind

Allow students to use mini marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti noodles to build their structures.

POLL | World Traveler

- Ask questions like the following and have kids write down each of their choices (e.g., hot, mountains, spicy, lots of people). Then provide travel books, brochures, or devices connected to the internet and have them search for a place to visit that would fit most of those criteria.
 - Would you rather travel somewhere cold or hot?
 - Would you rather visit the mountains or water?
 - Would you rather travel for spicy food or sweets?
 - Would you rather travel in a small group or with a lot of people?

ACTIVITY | Decoder Gadget

Afterward, have kids write a one-sentence message they can share about God in code. They can swap papers and try to crack each other's code using the decoder gadget.



WEEK 4

HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

LEGACY

BY EUGENIA LEE

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

GENERAL TIPS

Be mindful of your students' interests and behavior patterns when choosing materials. It is difficult to predict how kids with special needs would react when new materials are presented. It is okay if they use it in different ways than intended. Allow them to play around, as long as it is safe.

ACTIVITY | Holy Spirit Wind

Break down the activity to smaller chunks. Show kids where exactly you want them to lay the craft sticks and build the church one stick at a time. If they knock them down, do not give them any reaction but just calmly start over.

ACTIVITY | Legacy Language

Some kids with special needs communicate in different ways, such as using sign language or a speech device (Alternative and Augmentative Communication device (AAC)), Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), lip reading, and so on. Help them build vocabulary in their device or other tools so they can talk about God. Talk to families ahead of time and so other kids can learn to "speak" their language, too.

ACTIVITY | Decoder Gadget

Assign a peer or adult volunteer to work together with. You can let kids play with the decoder ring and ask them to call out what new letter is under the original letters each time they turn the ring.



WEEK 4

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

THE BIBLE

The Holy Spirit Appears at Pentecost: Acts 2:1-21
(Psalm 139:7-10)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

MUSIC | Worship

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this [video](#), "Run To Love." Allow the kids periods of time to run around the room.
- Today we are going to talk about how everyone can come to know God. God's waiting for us with open arms so let's run!

ACTIVITY | Holy Spirit Wind

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids their own pile of craft sticks and modeling clay and ask them to attempt to build a church building. Challenge them to try and build their church without it falling down.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Allow students to use mini marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti noodles to build their structures.
- Today, we are going to talk about how the Holy Spirit came like a blowing wind on Pentecost and gave people the power to start the church!

ACTIVITY | Around the World in A to Z

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split the kids into two or more teams depending on the size of your group. Give each team paper and pencils and have them come up with a list of as many countries around the world as they can think of by going down the alphabet. After five minutes, have teams take

turns calling out their answers as you write them on a board. They can't call out an answer that's already on the board. Keep going until all teams but one run out of answers.

- Did you know there are 195 countries in the world? That's a lot of different cultures, languages, and traditions! And God cares about every single person in every single one of these countries!
- In today's Bible story, we're going to find out what Jesus wanted the disciples – and us – to do in the world.

OBJECT LESSON | Who is the Holy Spirit? - Part Four

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Wrap a model kit (like this [wood model kit](#) to stay on theme) and attach a gift tag with your name on it. Make sure you open it beforehand so you can unbox it easily.
- The Holy Spirit is a special gift from God. God gives us this gift to show us love and kindness . . . and because we really need it! Why do we need the Holy Spirit?
- First of all, how do you feel when you get a gift? What if you got a gift on a day that you were feeling down? It would have helped you feel better to know that someone cares about you, right?
 - The Holy Spirit is always with us and comforts us when we need it.
- It's important to know where a gift comes from and who it's for. We usually find this information on a card or a gift tag (*Show everyone the gift tag that has your name on it*).
 - Much like a gift tag tells us who the gift belongs to, the Holy Spirit lets us know that we belong to God.
- And when we get a nicely-wrapped gift, what do some of us like to do before opening it? We like to shake it and try to guess what's inside. We might make our best guess, but we won't know until we actually unwrap the box (*Remove the wrapping paper*).
 - Whenever we don't know what God wants us to do, the Holy Spirit tells us!
- What do we have here? It's a model kit. I don't know how to make this model! What do I do? Ah, yes, I need to find the instruction manual (*Pull out the instruction manual for the kit*).
 - The Holy Spirit helps us understand God's instructions to us and guides us through each step.
- In order to put this kit together, I need all the pieces. And here they are, inside this box (*Dump out contents onto table*)!
 - The Holy Spirit provides us with all the tools we need to draw closer to God – our own "gifts" and abilities to do God's work.
- Let's see what kinds of things people were able to do because of the Holy Spirit!

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SCRIPTURE | Acts 2:1-21

- **Can you imagine being suddenly able to speak other languages?**
- Imagine meeting a friend from another country who doesn't speak the language you speak. **How could you communicate with them if you don't speak their language?**
- Let's travel back in time to see what happened on a special day called Pentecost.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Point your arrow to the plate with the corresponding Scripture on your time travel device and play this [sound effect](#). Tell the Bible story from Acts 2:1-21.

- When the Holy Spirit appeared to the disciples, it was a time when their city was filled with people visiting from other countries who spoke other languages.
- While a bunch of Jesus’ followers were gathered together, the Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak the people’s language! It gave the disciples the opportunity to share the good news about Jesus with everyone without language differences stopping them.
- Even though all of Jesus’ followers at first came from a single culture, God wanted them to know that it shouldn’t stop there. God was giving the disciples power through the Holy Spirit to start doing amazing things for God beyond their own borders.
- When anyone believes in Jesus, they can receive the Holy Spirit. When we have the Holy Spirit in us, it’s like having God’s help wherever we go.

THE BIG IDEA | The Holy Spirit is for everyone.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Open the legacy pod with this week’s Big Idea words inside and call up one kid at a time to pull out one sheet of paper at a time. Help the kids arrange the words in the correct order. Read the Big Idea out loud together.*
- **The Holy Spirit is for everyone.**

VIDEO | Legacy, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week’s [teaching video](#).*

POLL | World Traveler

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show [this video](#) of the most iconic landmarks around the world. Write down all the places from the video on a board. Ask the kids which of these places they would most want to go and tally the responses.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Ask questions like the following: Would you rather travel somewhere cold or hot? / Would you rather visit the mountains or water? / Would you rather travel for spicy food or sweets? / Would you rather travel in a small group or with a lot of people? Have kids write down each of their choices. Then provide travel books, brochures, or devices connected to the internet and have them search for a place to visit that would fit most of those criteria.*
- Aren’t each of these places around the world so cool? What makes the world even more special than all of these landmarks is the people!
- Each one of us is different. We look different, we speak different languages, and we have a variety of cultures. But even though we are so different, there is one thing we have in common: God loves us. And God has provided a way for all of us to love God back. **The Holy Spirit is for everyone!**

ACTIVITY | Legacy Language

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use a translator app to find translations for today’s Big Idea in various languages. Honor each language you choose by learning them as accurately as possible. You could also bring in the device and search languages that kids suggest apart from the ones you have practiced.*

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Some kids with special needs have their own ways of communicating. Encourage kids and their families to share with the group if they feel comfortable.*

- In today's Bible story, we heard about how the people were all speaking different languages, but they were able to understand each other.
- So, we are going to practice saying today's Big Idea, **the Holy Spirit is for everyone**, in a few other languages!

SCRIPTURE | Psalm 139:7-10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Psalm 139:7-10 together.*
- **Who is the spirit that is being talked about here?**
- This psalm reminds us that the Holy Spirit is everywhere – we can't hide from the Holy Spirit.
How does that make you feel?
- Maybe it makes you feel a little afraid because you think God is just waiting around for you to make a mistake. But that's not the case. The Holy Spirit is everywhere because God loves you and wants to be with you. And there's no place that is out of reach for the Holy Spirit.
- This is how we know that **the Holy Spirit is for everyone!**

NOW WHAT? *What does God want us to do about it?*

REFLECTION | Super Spirit

- **Can you name your favorite superhero? What power do they have?**
- Imagine all the superpowers in the world coming together in one person – the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit is for everyone, can help everyone all over the world at the same time, and is available 24/7!
- The Holy Spirit is better than any superhero we could ever think of. The Holy Spirit reminds us when we are alone, upset, or scared, that God is with us. The Holy Spirit guides us and helps us know how to love God and love others.

RESPONSE | Holy Spirit Hunt

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Divide the kids into four groups. Give each group one of the Bible verses listed below and have them read it together. You could either have kids use their own Bibles, or print out the full text of these verses on a sheet of paper for them. Then ask each group the question pertaining to their assigned verse and have them come up with an answer as a group.*
- **How do we get the Holy Spirit? (Luke 11:13)**
 - We need to ask God.
- **What must we do before inviting in the Holy Spirit? (Acts 2:38)**
 - We need to repent. We need to turn away from sin and follow God.
- **What is another name for the Holy Spirit (John 14:16)**
 - Helper, Advocate, Counselor (*depending on your translation*).
- **Where does the Holy Spirit live? (John 14:17)**
 - The Holy Spirit lives within us.

MEMORY VERSE | Time Travel Verse

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice saying the verse together a few times as a group. Then ask for five volunteers who are confident about the verse. Line them up and have them say the entire verse backwards, with each person saying one word at a time. Feel free to try this a few more times with different sets of volunteers.

PRAYER

- Dear God, we are so grateful your love includes all of us. Thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit, so we're never truly alone. Help us to be the ones who remind the world that the Holy Spirit is for everyone. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **Where were the disciples when the Holy Spirit appeared?**
- **What happened when the people were filled with the Holy Spirit?**
- **What did people think about the disciples when they heard them speaking their own languages?**
- **Re-read Psalm 139:7-10. Where is the Holy Spirit?**
- **If you could learn to speak another language, what would it be?**
- **How does knowing that the Holy Spirit is for everyone affect how you treat others?**
- **What is one way the Holy Spirit can change you?**

ACTIVITY | Decoder Gadget

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a Decoder printable, scissors, and a brad. Have them cut out the two circles, overlap them at the middle, and bind them together by poking the brad through the middle. Have kids rotate the circles and line up the letters in any position they want. The bigger circle is for the letters in the original text, and the smaller circle will be the code letters.
- Write today's Big Idea: **The Holy Spirit is for everyone.** Then under it, write the message in code, using your new decoder. Once you line up the letters, keep it in that position for the whole code!
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Afterward, have kids write a one-sentence message they can share about God in code. They can swap papers and try to crack each other's code using the decoder gadget.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Assign a peer or adult volunteer to work together with. You can let kids play with the decoder ring and ask them to call out what new letter is under the original letters each time they turn the ring.

MEMORY VERSE | Romans 8:14 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.