

Holy Wind

(based on Acts 2:1-21)



The disciples were waiting, waiting, waiting. Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit, but it seemed as if they had been waiting forever. How long would it be? When would the Spirit come?

On the day of Pentecost, Jerusalem was bustling with people who had come to celebrate this harvest festival. All of Jesus' disciples were gathered together in one room. Suddenly a sound like a mighty, rushing wind came from the skies. The sound filled the whole building. The disciples looked at one another with wide eyes. What was going on?

Then it happened. The Holy Spirit came, swirling and powerful, like a wildfire, moving from one person to another, filling them with power. As the Holy Spirit filled each one, that person began talking in a different language. The noise was incredible.

When people from faraway countries on the street heard the noise of the wind, a huge crowd gathered outside the room where the followers of Jesus were. The crowd became very excited because each one heard someone speaking in her or his language.

"What does this mean?" the people in the crowd asked one another.

Then Peter stood up and spoke. He explained that long ago God had promised to pour out the Holy Spirit on all people so they would know God's love. Now that day was here and the Holy Spirit had come like a wind.

Peter told them all about Jesus and the message that God's love was for all. The Holy Spirit blew through the crowd and many, many people became followers of Jesus that day.

Some of those people returned to their homes in far-off lands. They were filled with the Holy Spirit, who helped them live the way that Jesus lived. The message of Jesus spread across the lands, like wildfire fanned by the wind of the Spirit, until it came here to (*name your community*). Let's shout hurray for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us know God's love!

Pentecost Spinners

Instructions:

- Cut out the square, decorate both sides, and cut along diagonal lines.
- Gently bend (don't fold) the corners with the dots to the center, one at a time. Put a dot of glue on each corner and hold in place until glue dries.
- With a hole punch, punch a hole through the center of the pinwheel.
- Wrap a pipe cleaner around the pencil and twist to secure. Slip a pony bead over the ends of the pipe cleaner and push it tight against the pencil.
- Thread the pinwheel and then a second pony bead onto the ends of the pipe cleaner. Push the pony bead close to the pinwheel. Secure it by spreading the ends of the pipe cleaner apart. Trim ends, if necessary.

