

Q11

BIBLE STORYLINE

The Church Is Born

PursueGOD.org

Lesson Overview

Last week, we learned why it's important to go to church. Well, today, we're going to learn about the very first church ever! It was a really long time ago and we learn about it in the book of Acts in the New Testament. The first church was born after Jesus came and died for our sins and rose again on Easter. Before Jesus left, he told his followers that they needed to go and tell everyone about him. So, one day, Peter stood up in front of a crowd and started telling people about Jesus. Now, many people in the crowd new that Peter was a fisherman yet he was acting more like a pastor giving a sermon! But, Peter's message was capturing their attention and they were curious about Jesus. That day, thousands of people decided to follow Jesus and the first church was born! They would all gather together to learn about Jesus, pray, and even eat meals together. They were like one big family. And, guess what? We can all be a part of God's Church when we put our trust in Jesus.

Big Idea

Everyone who believes in Jesus is a part of his Church.

Key Question

What do we have to do to trust in Jesus?

Memory Verse

Acts 4:32 "All the believers were united in heart and mind."

Classroom Agenda

- (5 min) PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
- (5 min) WARM UP: Share your birth story. (Where were you born, how big were you, hair, eye color)** (Tip: It's fun to hear stories of what we looked like when we were born. Today, we'll learn how the church was born.)
- (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
- (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
- (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Tell Jesus that we're sorry for our sins and invite him into our hearts.** (The Bible says that we all have a sin problem. That means that we all want to do things are own way instead of God's way. But, Jesus came to fix that problem by dying on the cross to pay for our sins. That means, with his help, we can say "No" to sin and "Yes" to obeying God. So, we need to ask Jesus for forgiveness and invite him into our hearts so he can help us to honor him.)
 - Bonus Questions:** What is sin? What do we have to do to believe in Jesus? **4-5th:** What are some things you can do to remember what Jesus has done for you? What can you do to honor God with your life?
- (5 min) EXPLORE: Read Romans 10:9-10. What do we need to believe about Jesus to be saved? How does he make us right with God?** (Answer: We have to understand that Jesus is God. He is perfect and all powerful and that's why he could pay for our sins. Our job is to put our trust in him, and when we do, our sins are forgiven. From that day on, the Bible says we will live a new life in him. And, we'll get to live in heaven with him some day.)
- (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
- (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: THE CHURCH IS BORN MATCHING GAME

Instructions:

- Divide the class up into groups of 4. Give each group a set of Matching cards (page 5-6).
- Have them place the cards face down on the floor. Have the groups play like a game of concentration where one kid starts by flipping over two cards. If they find a match, they get to keep those cards and try again. If not, they flip the cards back over and the next kid gets a chance to find a match.
- Continue playing until all the matches are found. Kid with most cards, wins.

Supplies needed: Matching cards template (pg. 5-6, pre cut, 1 set per group)

OPTION 2: HOW DOES THIS FIT INTO THE STORY GAME?

Instructions:

- Before class, put the Matching cards (page 5-6) into a bowl or basket.
- Have kids take turns coming up and pulling a card out of the basket. As a class, decide how that word or picture relates to the story.

Church: Anyone who believes in Jesus is part of this

Bible: Book of Acts is found in the Bible/story comes from the Bible

Cross: Where Jesus died for us and we have to trust in what Jesus did to be part of his Church.

Acts: NT book where our story is found. Talks about the first church.

Jesus: Told followers to tell people about him/died on the cross to save us.

Heart: Jesus heals our hearts from sin

Believe: We have to believe in Jesus to be saved and to be a part of his Church

Dove: Symbol of the Holy Spirit who helps us to live to honor God

Supplies needed: Matching cards (pg. 5-6, pre cut, 1 set), Basket/Bowl

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Memory Verse

Acts 4:32 All the believers were united in heart and mind.

In this lesson we are going to learn all about how the Christian church started!

Jesus _____ His Disciples to Tell the World About God

After Jesus died on the cross and rose again he came to the disciples to tell them something very important. He told them that they needed to go tell everyone about him. Jesus wanted everyone to be able to spend eternity in heaven with him someday. And the disciples listened! All of them left to tell people about Jesus.

Peter's First _____ Surprised Everyone

Almost everyone knew that Peter was just a regular old fisherman. So, they were really surprised to hear him preach a sermon. Jesus can use you just like he used Peter.

The Early _____ Grew _____ Than Anyone Expected

On the day that Peter gave his first sermon, 3,000 people became Christians! That was probably such an exciting place to be.

Acts 4:32 All the believers were united in heart and mind.

All of the believers back then became really close to God and really close to each other. They were like one big family. This is how the first church was born.

Everyone Who _____ in Jesus Is Part of His _____.

We said church with a capital "C" because we aren't just talking about the church you go to. We are talking about God's church, which is every Christian in the whole wide world!

Answers: sent, sermon, church, faster, believes, Church Parent Signature: _____

Questions:

What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?

Share your birth story. (Where were you born, how big were you, hair, eye color)

What did Jesus tell his disciples to do? What message did Jesus want them to share?

What does Church mean with a capital "C"?

Read Romans 10:9-10. What do we need to believe about Jesus to be saved? How does he make us right with God?

How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.

The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21



X T O B P P H W G H X U E X I
 T G T F Z J V J Y I O C G M B
 Y B H J P X I L P F F U Z Z X
 L L E L E J O Z J M D E S I W
 I W R Y N H L A N G U A G E L
 S Q Z I T E Z F I L L E D A L
 J C C E E L J W H K K A Q D J
 R E G G C S F V Q A T L Q W X
 T Q S G O R W I E S O W H J M
 M D P I S H G P B O N J I V J
 F A I M T E S K J U G A R N H
 I Y R J N A B Y N N U H X K D
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 E L T R H E X M K Y S A P N A
 Z H O C R N S T F I A R K X K

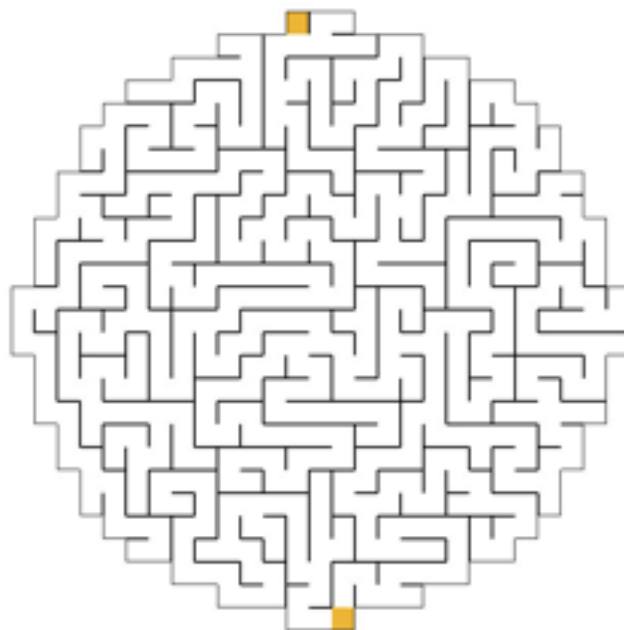
PENTECOST	FILLED	HEAR	HOUSE	WIND
HEAVEN	FIRE	TONGUES	LANGUAGE	OTHER
DAY	HOLY	SOUND	SPIRIT	SPEAK

Big Idea

Key Question

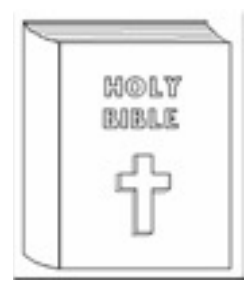
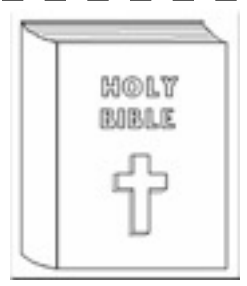
Memory Verse

Acts 4:___ "All the _____
 were united in _____ and
 _____."



CHURCH

CHURCH



PETER

PETER



ACTS

ACTS



JESUS

JESUS



BELIEVE

BELIEVE

