



Trinity 2

The Power of the Holy Spirit

Lesson Theme: God's Church grows as the disciples speak God's Message by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture: Acts 2: 14-41

Background Notes:

When Jesus sat with his disciples on the night before his crucifixion he promised them the Holy Spirit. With the dramatic arrival of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, we see the complete nature of the Trinity.

Jesus said, 'When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.... I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.' (John 15:26, John 16:7-8)

In this week's text, we see first-hand the incredible transformation of the disciples as the Spirit fills them and they go out to bear witness to the Good News of Jesus. The reading covers the first recorded "sermon" after the coming of the Holy Spirit. This really is the beginning of the church! When you compare Peter's words here with the accounts of the fumbling and hiding disciples before the coming of the Holy Spirit, it shows how powerfully Jesus equips us through the Spirit. It is a gift to all of us that Jesus has ascended and that the Spirit has come to enable us to continue Jesus' mission on earth.

Preparation for Teaching:

- ✘ Read Acts 2:14- 41
- ✘ Notice in Peter's sermon that we have the basic outline of the gospel:
 - ◆ Jesus was accredited by God through his miracles, signs, and wonders
 - ◆ God's plan was to save us by Jesus' death
 - ◆ We all participated in the rejection of Jesus - which resulted in his death
 - ◆ But God raised Jesus from the dead - He conquered death
 - ◆ God raised Jesus and we are witnesses to it

- ◆ Jesus, exalted and honoured, now sits at the right hand of God. He has poured out the Holy Spirit that the Father promised
- ◆ Jesus is Lord and Christ
- ✘ Consider how the Holy Spirit equips you in your life.
- ✘ Pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to help you as you bear witness to Jesus with your family and your community.



OPENING: FAMILY WORSHIP

Greeting: We open our worship by greeting one another and remembering God's presence in our midst.

The Lord be with you; **And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts; **We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God; **It is right to give God thanks and praise**

Invitation:

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;

And you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth. (Acts 1: 6)

Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship and bring us at the last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Readings: Acts 2:14-41

Prayer: Pray for your family, the church, and the world.

Dear God, let our hearts burn within us as, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the scriptures are opened to us and we encounter our risen and reigning Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Closing Blessing:

O God, Most High and Holy, Three in One, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; We offer to you this day, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice to you; to whom be all praise, honour, and glory forever and ever. Amen.



LEARN

Our Church Year: *(use Church seasons calendar)*

We are now in a new Church Season: Trinity season.

Can you find it in the Church Year?

During this season we look at the work of God who is 3 persons and still 1 God;

1. God the Father, who is the Creator of everything
2. Jesus the Son, who died to save us, and
3. the Holy Spirit, who is with us always to help us.

Catechism question: Who is Jesus?

Answer: Jesus is my Saviour, totally God and totally Man. He bore my sins, dying in my place on the cross, then rose from the dead to rule as king over me and all creation.

Memory Verse: 1 John 3:16

This is how we know what love is *(Cross your heart)*

Jesus Christ laid down his life for us *(Point up, then make a cross with your two index fingers)*

And we ought to lay our lives down *(Bow to the person next to you)*

For our brothers and sisters *(Point to others)*

Review:

Jesus showed His disciples how God's Big Story, the Bible, is ALL about Him. The Bible shows us WHO Jesus is and WHAT he has done for us. This is Good News!

Then, Jesus told His disciples that this Good News isn't just for them, it's for EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE!

Jesus left His disciples to return to His Father in heaven - but He promised that He wouldn't leave them alone. They would receive a helper, the Holy Spirit, who would help them share the Good News of Jesus.

Story: *(use attached figures)*

After Jesus was raised up to be with his Father in Heaven, he sent the gift of the Holy Spirit into the World so that he would be with us forever and to help us to share the good news about Jesus.

Jesus' friends and followers were in Jerusalem when the Spirit first came down on the

day of Pentecost.

After they had received the gift of the Holy Spirit, they were all filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and went out into the city to tell everyone about Jesus.

Peter stood up in front of the large crowd. In a loud voice, he told everyone the Good News of Jesus, the Gospel.

What is the Gospel? *The gospel is the good news of God loving and saving his people through his Son Jesus Christ.*

On the day of Pentecost, many people heard the gospel and 3,000 of them believed it. The Holy Spirit came on each of them and they became Jesus' followers. This was the beginning of the church in Jerusalem.

From that day on, the church met together every day to praise God. They gathered to listen to the disciples teach. They gathered to eat together and to pray together. In every way they shared their lives together.

God the Holy Spirit was in them as their Comforter and Guide. The Spirit helped them to open their hearts to Jesus and made them want to know and love God.

The Spirit also gave them power to tell people the gospel. And as more and more people heard the good news about Jesus they became a part of the church.



RESPOND

Colour: Colouring pages (*see attached*)

Younger children can colour in the attached pages. Older children can draw their own pictures using the storyboard template (*attached*) to illustrate the story.

Creative Play: Act out the story of Pentecost

Cut out the story figures, or use playdough or Lego to make the figures for the story: the disciples, the room in Jerusalem, the tongues of fire, Peter, the people in Jerusalem.

Let the children tell the story in their own words and act it out.



ENGAGE

God wants everyone to know how much he loves them. He wants every single person ever born to love him back, and to follow him as their King... But how is that going to happen?

Just as Jesus promised, God sent the Holy Spirit to be a helper to God's people.

Many people came to believe in Jesus on that first Pentecost day. It was the beginning of the Church. The number of Jesus' followers went from just a few in the upper room to thousands.

The Holy Spirit is OUR helper too. He helps us to know God, to love God, and to share the good news about Jesus with the people in our lives.

What is Good News about Jesus? It is the Gospel!
And what is the Gospel? (*The Gospel is the good news that God loves and saves all people through Jesus, God's Son.*)

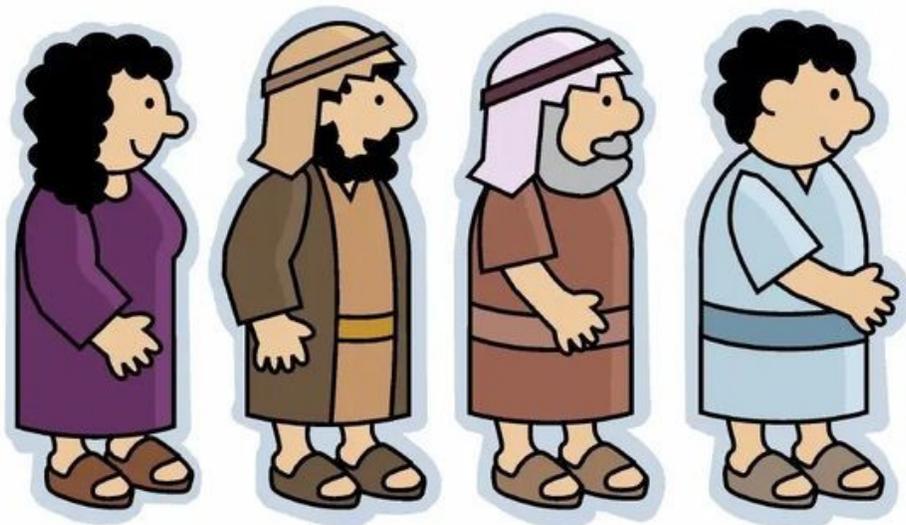
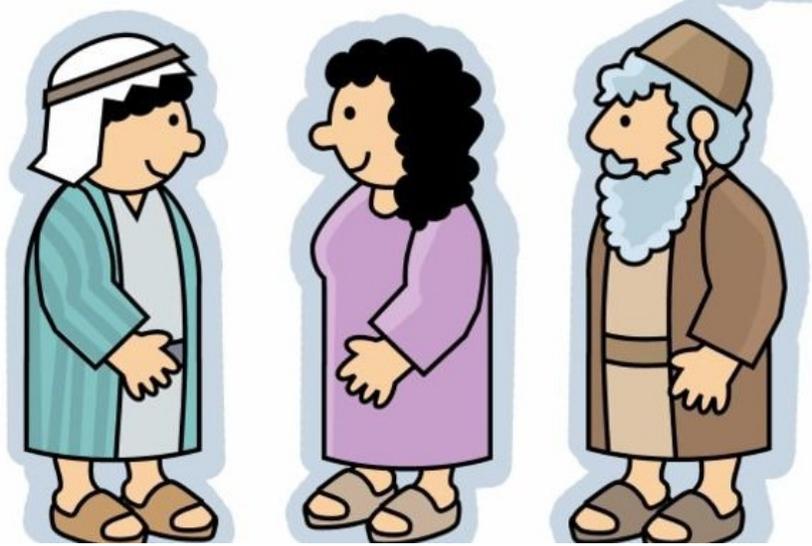
What does God want us to do with the Good News of Jesus? (*To share it with all people everywhere*)

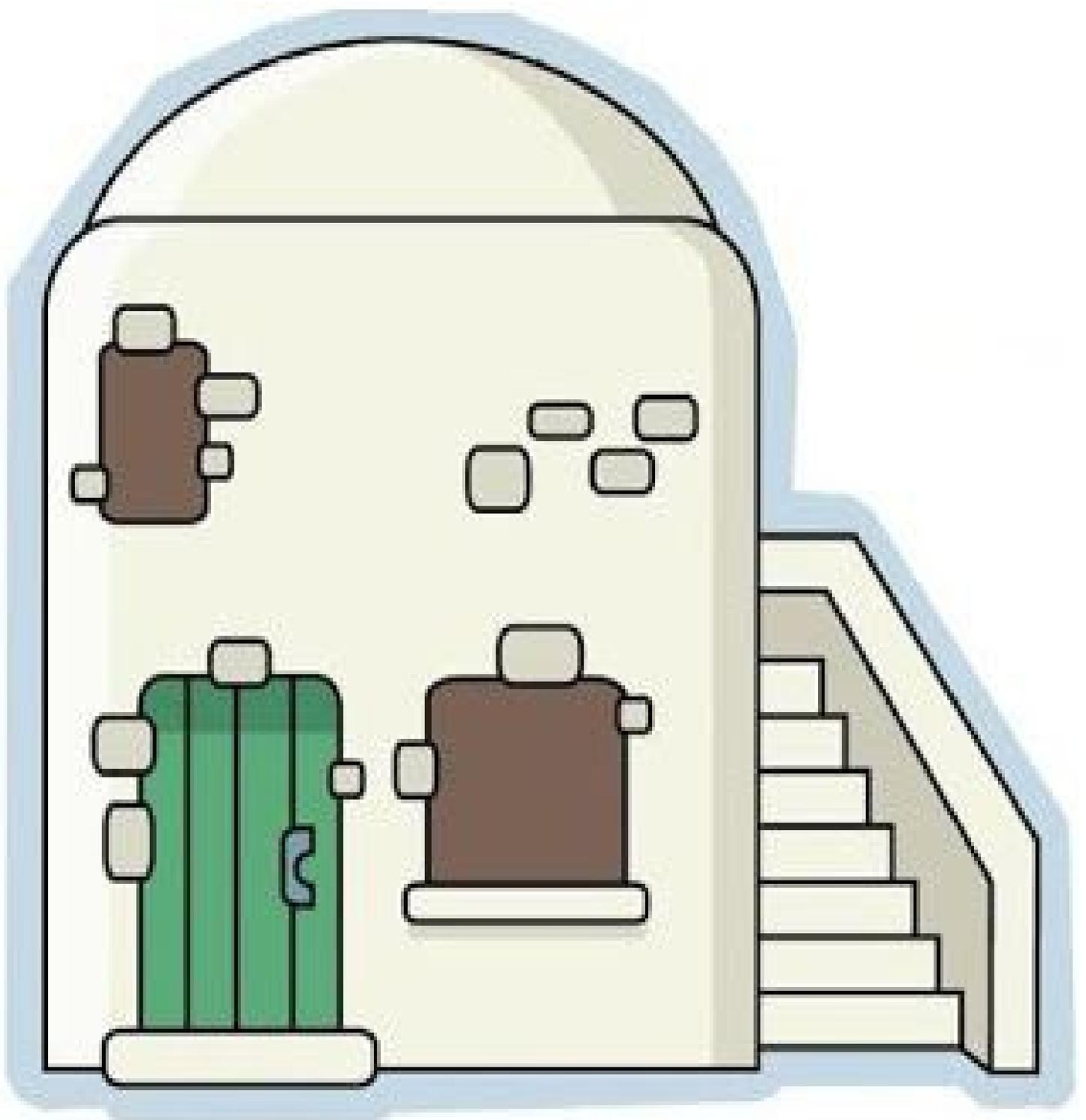
'You shall be my witnesses... to the end of the earth' (Acts 1:6)

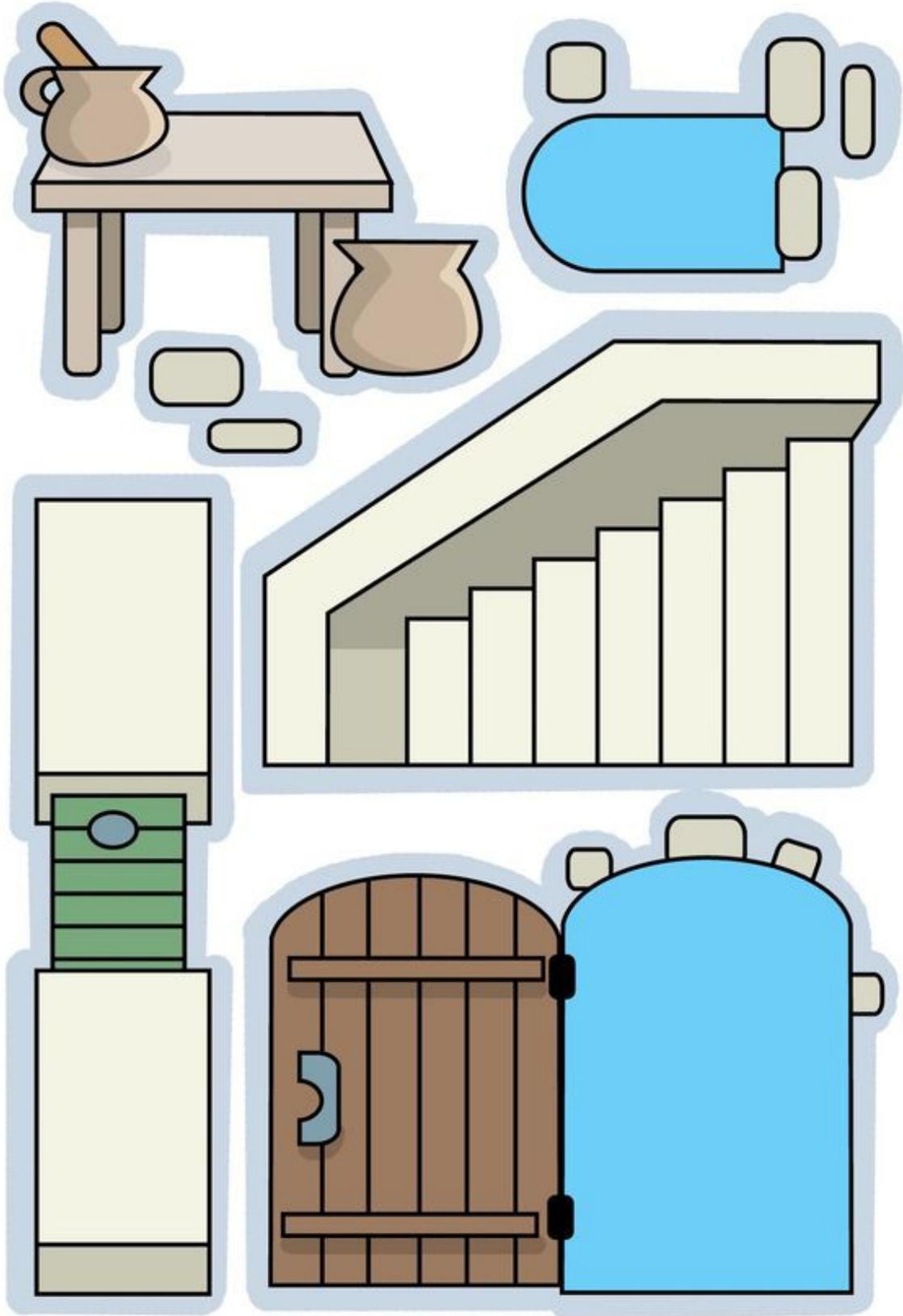
(Adapted from 'God's Big Story')

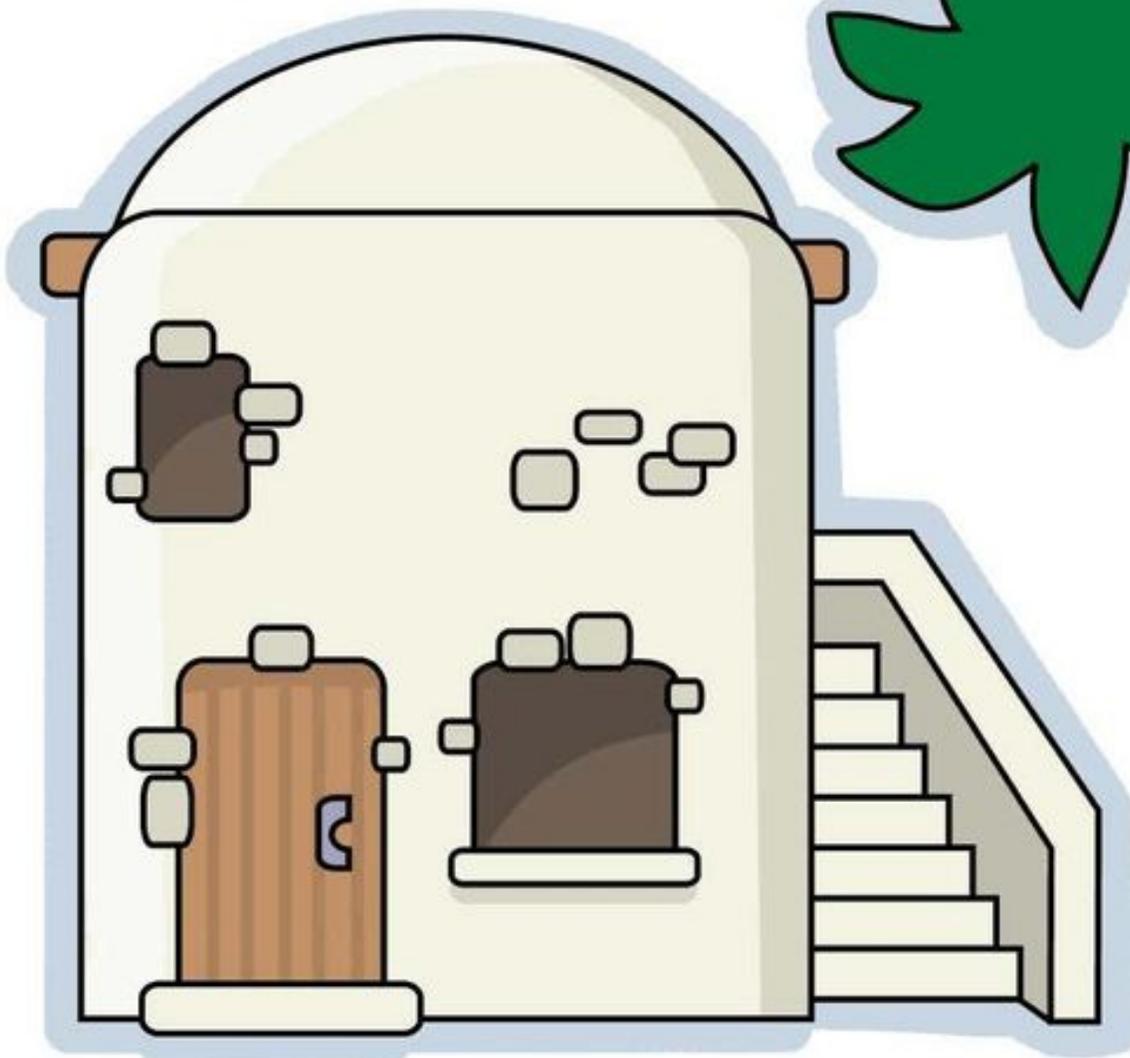
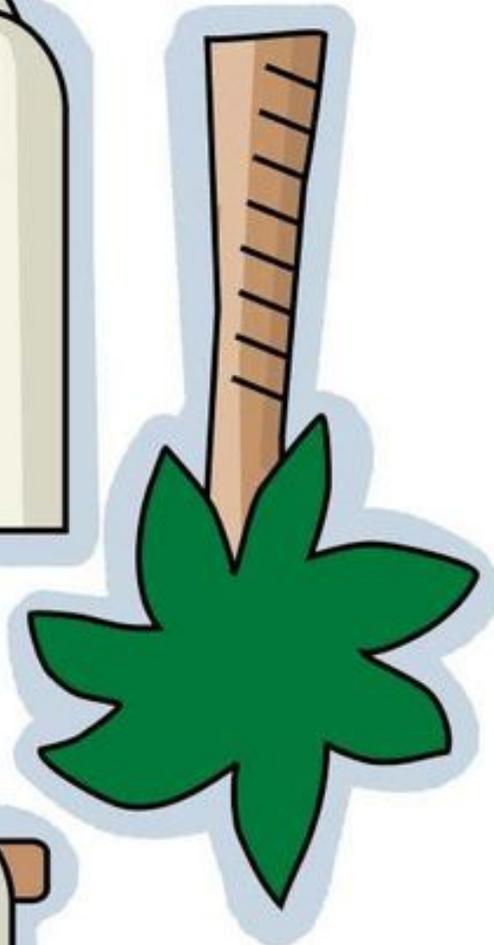
God sends the Holy Spirit
Story Materials

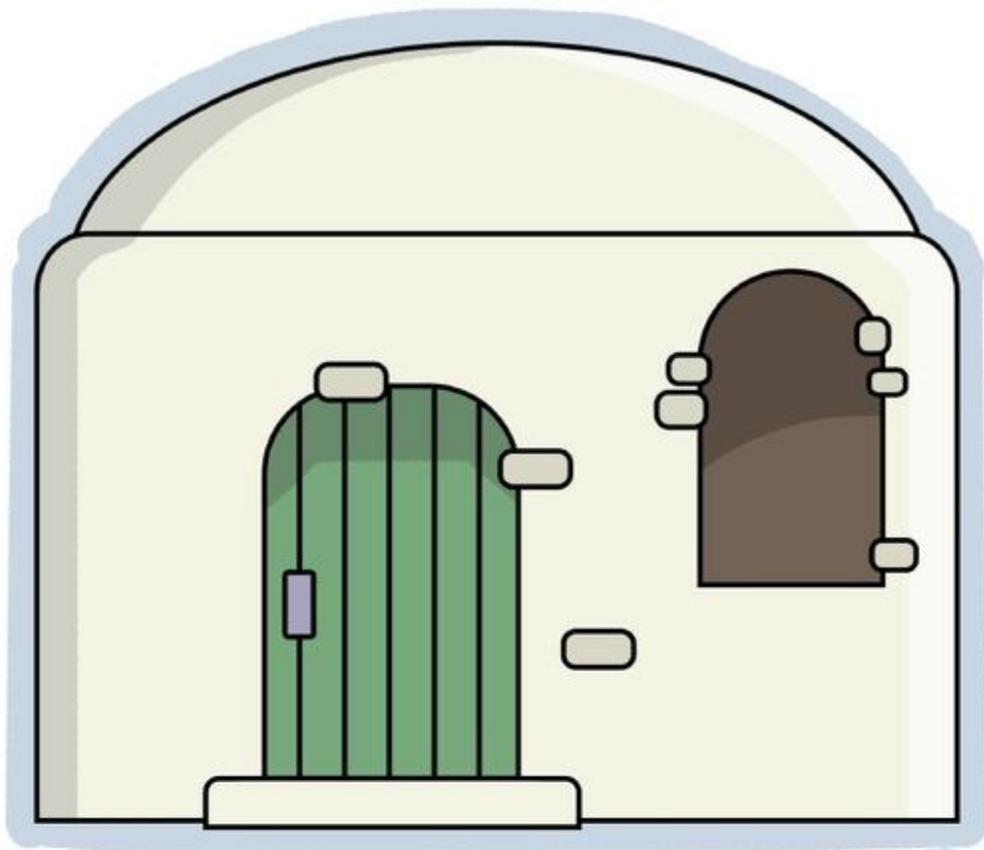


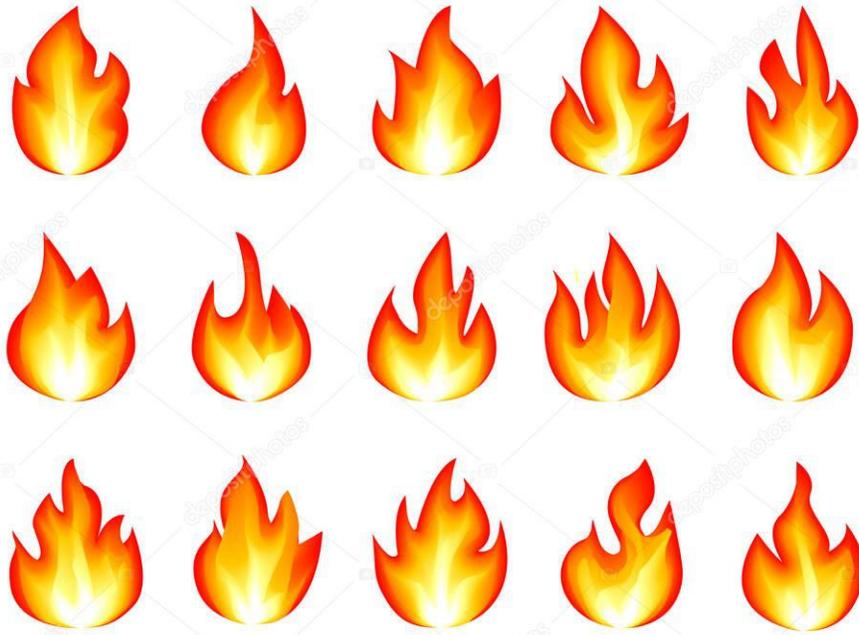






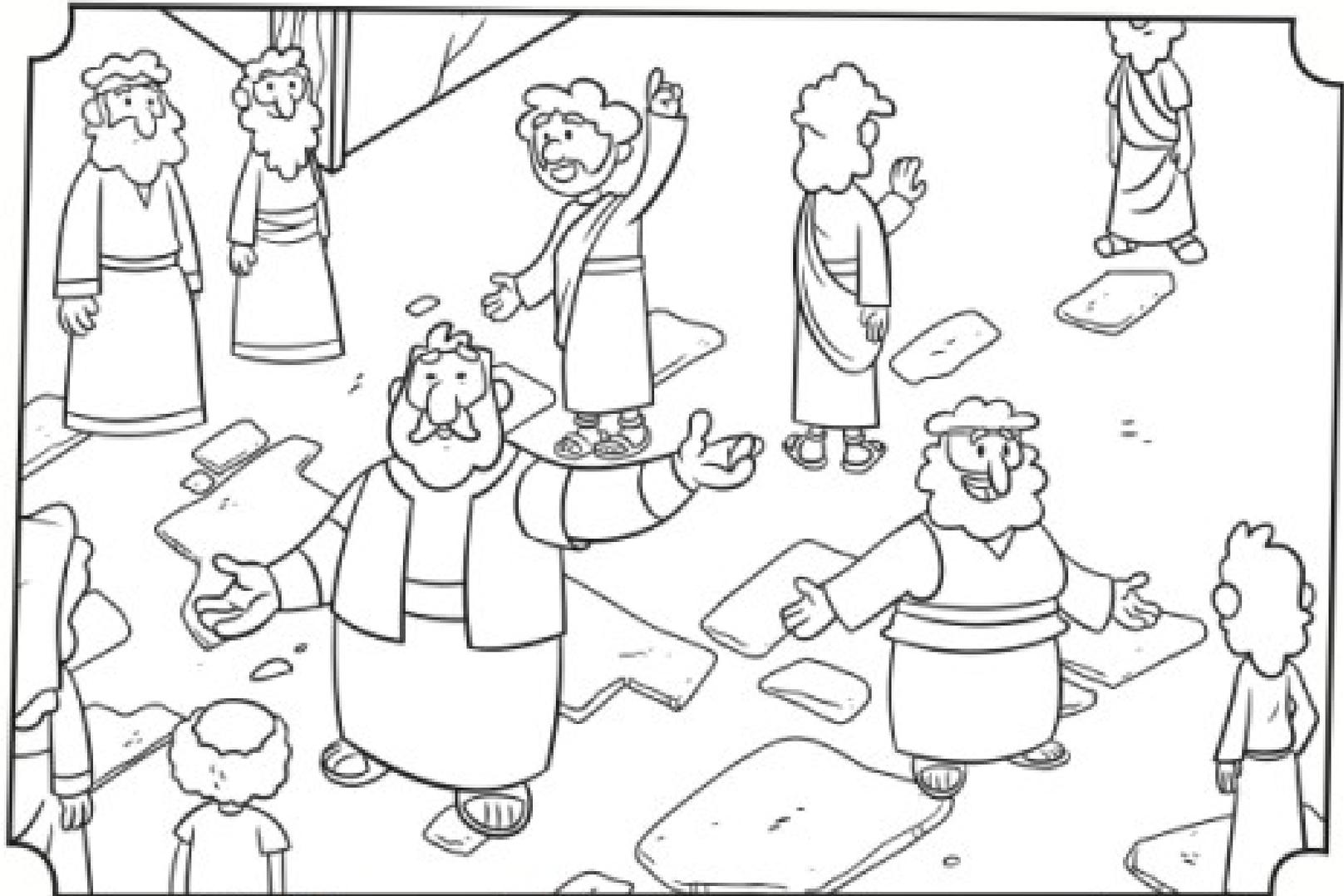




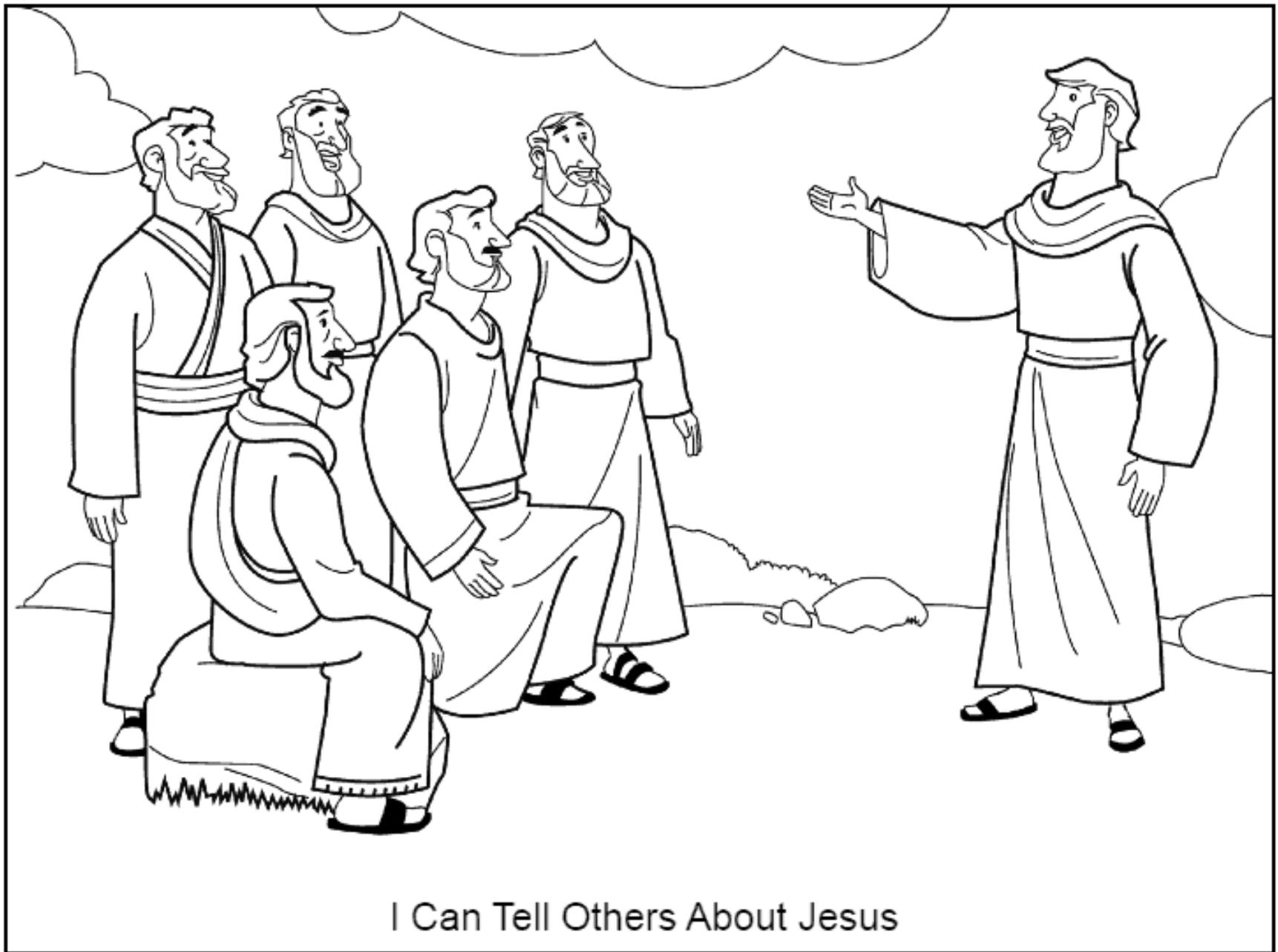




Jews from all over the world were in Jerusalem for Pentecost, and when the Holy Spirit filled the disciples they were able to speak in all the different languages! Many people came to know Jesus when they heard preaching in their own language. Acts 2:14-47



Jesus' disciples preached in the temple almost every day, and more and more people became followers of Christ!



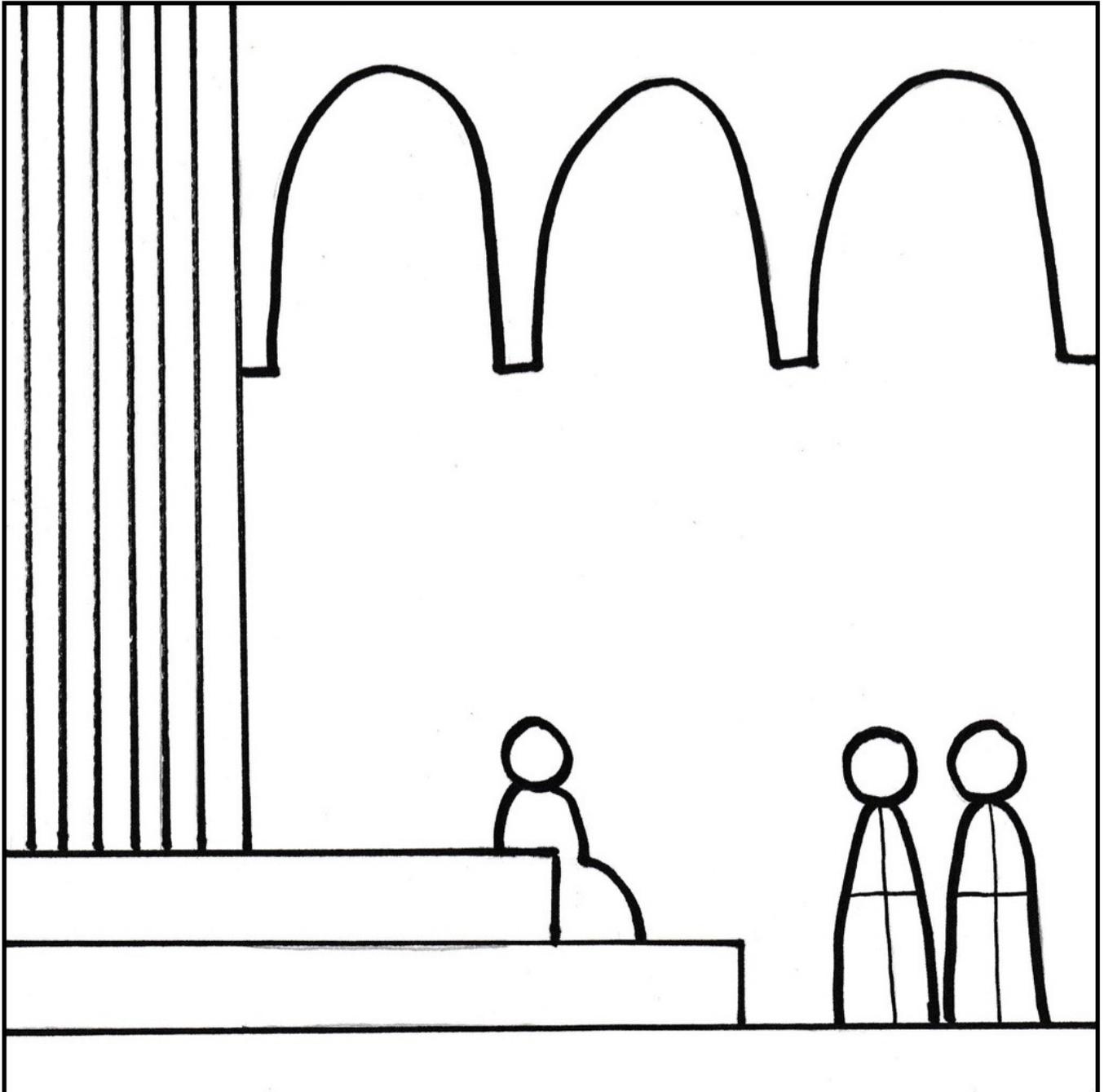
I Can Tell Others About Jesus



Peter Preaches the Good News

Acts 2

The Early Church in Jerusalem
Preaching, Healing, Gathering Together
Acts 2:42-47, 3



I have made you a light to the nations, that you might bring salvation to the ends of the earth. *Acts 13:47*

The Power of the Holy Spirit
Storyboard

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