

Scripture: PENTECOST Acts 2:1-13 adapted

Read with your child the story of Pentecost found on the backside of this sheet and discuss the following.

This scripture will be discussed further in the session next week.

- What did the disciples hear and see when they were gathered together?
- Whose presence were the disciples experiencing?
- Why did the crowd gather outside and what astonished them?
- What did Peter say to the crowd?
- How did the crowd respond to Peter's words?

PRAYERS & MEMORIZATIONS: CENTERING PRAYER

Centering prayer is one way to contemplation, for it helps us to quiet ourselves down to just listen and be with God. To contemplate is the ability to be with God and know that God is with you at the same time—our mind is at rest simply taking in the moment.

- Choose a word as a symbol of your desire for God's presence. It could be something like: Abba, Jesus, Spirit, wisdom, Shalom - whatever you choose
- Sit comfortably with your eyes closed, your hands in a palms-up position as a sign of being receptive.'
- Take some deep breaths—slowly breathe in deep—slowing breathe out. Pay attention to your breathing as you let go of any tension in your body.
- Silently repeat the word you've chosen to center yourself on. Let go of all that is going on around you.
- When you become aware of your thoughts, return ever so gently to the sacred word you chose.

VOCABULARY & CONCEPTS

ANATHEMA: The way a council of bishops designates something that is forbidden or not to be practiced or believed.

DOCTRINE: A belief of the Catholic Church which is necessary for the full faith but our understanding of it can develop over time.

DOGMA: a belief which the Catholic Church has defined as essential for faith and is not changeable. For example: Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

ENCYCLICAL: a letter from the pope to the whole Church, which contains pastoral or doctrinal understanding on specific issues to help guide the formation of our conscience.

INFALLIBILITY: The gift Jesus gave to the Church in matters of faith and morals of being incapable of making a mistake. The pope can exercise this gift on behalf of the whole Church, but on very specific matters.

MAGISTERIUM: the authority of the church through the pope and bishops to teach religious doctrine

IMPRIMATUR: The stamp of approval by a bishop showing approval of and allowing a book or other work to be published. It comes from the Latin for "let it be printed."

CENTERING PRAYER:A form of meditation that begins with a phrase from Scripture or a short prayer, which is then repeated slowly again and again to help the mind focus away from the details of the day and onto one's relationship with the Lord.

MEDITATION: Reflecting on and thinking over the things that God has done for his people. It can be thinking over the events and experiences contained in the Bible. Silence and relaxation of mind and body are necessary for meditation.

PENTECOST *Acts 2:1-13 adapted*

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all gathered together in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven like a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared to them tongues of flame which sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit led them to speak.



Now there were living in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this news spread, the multitude came together and were confounded because every man heard them speak in his own language.

They were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Behold, are not all these who speak Galileans? How is it that each of us hears his own language from where he was born? We hear them speak in our own tongues of the wonderful works of God."

They were all amazed and wondered, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

Others, mocking, said, "These men are full of new wine."

But Peter, standing up with the eleven (for they had chosen Matthias to take the place of the traitor Judas), lifted up his voice and said to them. "You men of Judea, and all you who live in Jerusalem, listen to my words and know this: These men are not drunken, as you suppose, for it is only the ninth hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by God to the prophet Joel: "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all men. And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall dream dreams." "And he told them of Jesus the Christ, the Son of God.

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized, and that same day were added to them about three thousands souls. They followed faithfully the apostles' teaching and fellowship, breaking bread together and praying.

And fear came upon every soul and many wonders were done by the apostles. All that believed were together and owned all things in common. They sold their possessions and goods and divided the money among all the people, as each had need of it.

Daily they went together to the temple, and from house to house they ate with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who would be saved.

VOCABULARY & CONCEPTS.....continued

CONTEMPLATION: The goal of all meditative prayer, to rest silently in the knowledge and love of God, where one no longer needs to say any words but simply experience God's relationship quietly and peacefully.

DISCERNMENT: The process of discovering what decision or course of action best reflects God's desire for us. Discernment always includes prayer, seeking the wisdom of others, a desire to turn from sin, and a willingness to do what God asks of us.

MYSTICISM: Religious experiences where people experience an immediate knowledge of and union with God.

ASCETICISM: A practice of denying oneself immediate pleasure or gratification for the sake of pursuing deeper spiritual goals.

THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES: The events surrounding and leading up to Jesus' suffering and death. These include his agony in the garden, his trial, his crowning with thorns and stripping of clothes, his walking with the cross and his crucifixion