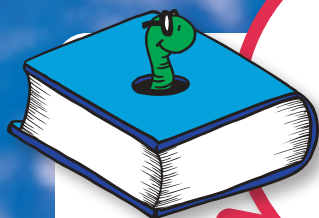


GET GOING WITH GOD!

LESSON 1 OF 6



Hi! My name is Bookworm.
I am here in your lessons to help you learn new words. Our first words are **Holy Spirit**. The Holy Spirit is God the Spirit and is equal with God the Father and God the Son (Jesus). Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with His disciples to comfort and teach them.

YOU ARE PART OF GOD'S CHURCH

Do you like to wait? Jesus' friends were waiting. Jesus called His closest friends His disciples. Jesus lived on Earth for 33 years, died on the cross and came alive again. Now He had gone back to Heaven. Would the disciples be alone now? No.

Jesus told them

God the Holy Spirit would come to be their forever Helper. The disciples were in a house waiting for the Holy Spirit.



Read about it in Acts 2:1-11 in God's true book, the Bible.

The disciples did not know when or how the **Holy Spirit** would come. So they waited and prayed. Then they heard the sound of a big wind. They saw something that looked like little flames of fire on each of them. The best thing happened next. God the Holy Spirit came and gave each of the disciples power to serve God. The disciples couldn't see the Holy Spirit. But they knew He was there!



The disciples talked in many different languages. The Holy Spirit gave the disciples power to talk in languages they had never learned! People from many different countries were in Jerusalem for a special holiday called Pentecost (*PEN-te-cost*). People outside the house wanted to know what was going on. These people spoke different languages but they could all understand what the disciples said. They were surprised! It was a miracle—something only God could do!

One of the disciples was named Peter. God's power helped Peter tell the people about Jesus. Jesus is God the Son. He is the only Savior from sin. Peter told the people Jesus came to Earth to take the punishment for their sins. He told them with words they could understand.



To be **baptized** is a way for people to show others that they believe in Jesus and are now very serious about following Him.

The people understood God's Good News about Jesus the Savior.

Peter told them to repent. That means to turn away from your sins—the things you think, say or do that do not please God. Peter told them to be **baptized**.

Peter told them the Holy Spirit would come to live in them. The people who believed in Jesus as Savior became part of God's Church. God the Holy Spirit would help them do what is right.

About 3,000 people believed in Jesus as their Savior that day. Every day more and more people believed in Jesus as their Savior. All of these people became part of God's Church.

Are you part of God's Church? Jesus died on the cross for your sin. He came alive again on the third day. Now Jesus is alive in Heaven as King over all. Because He did that, you can be saved. Our memory verse says, "...Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be **saved**..." (Acts 16:31).



People who believe (fully trust) in Jesus are **saved**. That means all their sins are forgiven. They have God the Holy Spirit with them to help them live God's way. They have life with God that starts now and goes on forever.

Maybe you want to know more. There is a bookmark in this lesson where you can read about God's plan for you.



God's Church is made up of all the people who are **saved**. The building where those people meet together is often called a church too. The people come together to sing about God. They pray to God and learn from God's Word, the Bible. Both grown-ups and children come to these meetings. There are many church buildings all around the world but all the people who are saved are part of God's one big Church.

If Jesus is your Savior, you are part of God's Church! You can sing and pray and learn about God. You can tell others the Good News about Jesus the Savior. Everyone in the world needs to hear. God the Holy Spirit shows His power in you when He helps you understand what God says in the Bible. God's power teaches you how to pray and obey Him.

Adapted by Ashley Alden from *Little Kids Can Know God through His Church* by Shirley Person. Art by Cedric Hohnstadt. Copyright © 2008 Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. All rights reserved.

FAITH IN THE STORMS

Abner (*AB-ner*) Pineda (*PEA-nay-da*) was born in the town of Santa Rosa de Copán (*SAN-ta RO-sa DAY CO-pon*), Honduras (*HON-dur-as*). Most babies are born in a hospital but Abner was born in a church! His father was the pastor.

When Abner was a child he loved to play with his friends René (*re-NAY*), Osvaldo (*oz-VOL-doe*) and Carlos (*CAR-los*).

The boys enjoyed making slingshots and practiced shooting things just for fun.

When Abner was eight years old he liked going to church with his friends. They really liked Sunday school. Their teacher's name was Mrs. Vigil (*vee-HEEL*).

One Sunday the children colored a picture of Heaven. Mrs. Vigil said only Christians (people who had believed in Jesus) could color the picture.



Abner thought, *am I a Christian?* After all, he had been born in the church! Did that make Abner a Christian? No. Abner's father and mother had been Christians all his life. Did that make Abner a Christian? No.

Mrs. Vigil told the children, "God does not have any grandchildren."

That means even if your mother and father are Christians, you must decide on your own to trust in Jesus as your Savior from sin.

Abner knew he was a sinner. He knew Jesus had come to Earth to die on the cross to pay for Abner's sins. He prayed with Mrs. Vigil right then, trusting Jesus as his Savior.

Abner felt so wonderful! But soon hard times would come. Find out more in your next lesson!

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OUR MEMORY VERSE

Acts 16:31

**"...Believe in the Lord Jesus,
and you will be saved...."**

—clip & keep bookmark—

How to be a child in God's family



The one true God has great power. God made the world. He made you. He loves you very much! God is perfect. He wants you to live with Him in Heaven.



But there is a big problem. You were born wanting to do wrong things called sin. Things like telling lies or being mean make God unhappy. The Bible says, "For all have sinned..." (Romans 3:23). God has to punish sin. The punishment is to be away from God forever.



God made a way to forgive your sin. He sent His only Son, Jesus, to Earth as a baby. Jesus grew to be a man. He never sinned. But God punished Jesus for your sin! Jesus was nailed to a cross. He bled and died. This was God's plan.



Jesus died on the cross and was buried. On the third day God brought Jesus back to life. The Bible says, "...Christ died for our sins...he was raised on the third day..." (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

Abner Pineda was born in Honduras. Color the state where you live and then draw a line from your state to Honduras! Take a minute to pray for the people in God's church who live in Honduras.



OUR MEMORY VERSE

Acts _____ : _____

**"... _____ in the _____
_____, and _____
will be _____..."**

**Because of what Jesus
did, you can be forgiven!**

Agree with God that you have sinned. God says, "Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out..." (Acts 3:19). Be sorry for the wrong you have said, thought and done. Be willing to go God's way rather than your own.

Believe (trust completely) that Jesus died for you and that He removed the barrier of sin between you and God. The Bible says, "... Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..." (Acts 16:31). God will save (rescue) you from the punishment you deserve.

Do you believe in Jesus to save you? If so, you can talk to God and tell Him something like this: "Dear God, I have sinned and I'm sorry. Thank You for sending Your Son to die for me. Thank You that He rose again. Please give me strength to live the way You want me to live. In Jesus' name. Amen."

If you just believed in Jesus to save you from sin, write today's date here so you will always remember.

LET'S REVIEW!

Get Going with God
Lesson 1

Circle the correct answer.

1. Who did Jesus say would be their forever helper?

Jesus the Holy Spirit friends

2. Who helped the disciples talk in different languages?

friends soldiers the Holy Spirit

3. Who is part of God's Church?

everyone in the world

everyone who has believed in Jesus as Savior

4. How many people believed in Jesus after Peter preached?

100 1,000 3,000

5. Who needs to hear the Good News about Jesus the Savior?

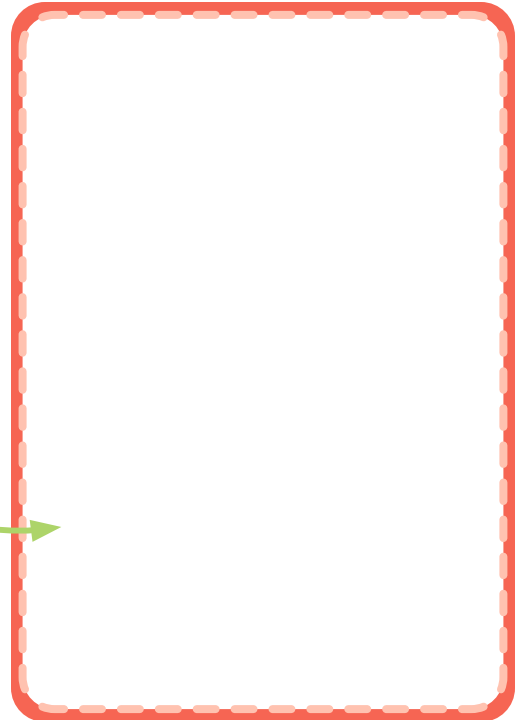
everyone in the world just the bad people

Draw a picture of something you can do at church.

Did you learn your memory verse?

Have you ever believed in Jesus as your Savior? (Circle one.)

yes (when? _____) no



For more information about knowing Jesus, read the bookmark in this lesson.



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