Lesson 9: Baptism of The Holy Spirit

Overview:

Key Focus: The baptism of the Holy Spirit flows out of us to minister to others.

Bible Story: Peter and Cornelius

Scriptures: Acts 1:5, Luke 11:13, Acts 10:1–8, 17–20, 44–48

Memory Verse: Acts 1:5 (NKJV) For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

Prep:

Materials Needed:

- A cup that is not clear, bowl, and water pitcher.

Classroom Prep:

- Fill the pitcher with water.

Engage:

Display the cup. **This cup represents our lives.** Show the empty cup. **The cup is empty just like people feel empty inside before they accept Jesus Christ as their Savior who paid the price of sin by dying on a cross. The moment a person says "yes" to believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes into their spirit and fills them.** Pour water into the cup. **The Holy Spirit came into their lives to help, teach, and guide them. People can't see the Holy Spirit inside a person.** Hold up the cup. **You can't see the water inside the cup but you know that I poured it into the cup. People will know you are filled with the Holy Spirit if you show the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

Place the cup in the bowl. **When people are filled with the Holy Spirit at salvation, the Holy Spirit is always with them. The Holy Spirit helps the believer. The Holy Spirit is powerful, but we can ask God to give us the Holy Spirit "add-on, internal, power-pack booster." We call this extra filling of the Holy Spirit the baptism of the Holy Spirit. When we ask for more of the**

Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit overflows out of us to minister to others. Pour more water into the cup so it overflows into the bowl. **The gift of the Holy Spirit at salvation is for us. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is so we can minister powerfully to others. Today's Bible lesson will explain more about the baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

Memory Verse Activity:
Display and explain the verse. Have the boys stand, say the first word of the verse, and quickly sit down. Then, have the girls stand, say the next word, and quickly sit down. Continue until the verse is finished. Repeat this process, but have the girls say the first word of the verse.

Memory Verse: Acts 1:5 (NKJV) For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

Bible Story:

Today we are going to talk about two baptisms mentioned in the Bible. Say today's Memory Verse together. **John was Jesus' cousin who told people about the Messiah coming to save them. He baptized people in the water. When he baptized Jesus, God spoke about how pleased He was, and the Holy Spirit came down like a dove and rested on Jesus. In this verse, Jesus reminded His followers that John baptized them in water, but soon they would receive a different kind of baptism. How many of you have been baptized in water?** Allow the children to share their water baptism experience. **When the Holy Spirit came to believers at Pentecost, this is another baptism called the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Jesus told His followers that He was returning to heaven because His job of paying for sin was completed. He knew they didn't want Him to leave, but the Holy Spirit would come to live in them and to help them. Ten days after Jesus returned to heaven, the Holy Spirit came and sounded like a mighty wind, and tongues of fire appeared above the believers. The believers began to speak languages. That day, Peter became a bold preacher and leader to the new believers. The disciples were fully filled with the Holy Spirit—like they received an "add-on, internal, power-pack booster."**

Let's see what we do to get the Holy Spirit "add-on, internal, power-pack booster." Read Luke 11:13. **The verse says that our earthly fathers give good gifts, so we know our heavenly Father gives even better gifts like the "add-on, internal, power-pack booster." What do we do to get the gift of the baptism of the Holy Spirit?** (We just ask God for the baptism of the Holy Spirit.)

Now let's read about a man named Cornelius and his experience being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Read Acts 10:1–8. **A centurion was a soldier. It is very important to understand that Cornelius was not Jewish like Jesus and all of His disciples. Cornelius was a Gentile, which is what Jewish people called anyone who wasn't a Jew. Even though Cornelius wasn't a Jew,**

He loved and prayed to God. Who appeared to Cornelius? (An angel appeared to Cornelius.) **What did the angel tell him?** (The angel said that God had heard his prayers and to send for Peter.) **Alms means that he gave money to help do the work of God. Do you think Cornelius believed the angel?** (Yes, he believed and sent two men to go get Peter.) **This is the same Peter who denied Jesus, but when he was filled with the Holy Spirit he changed and became a bold preacher and leader of the new believers.**

The next day, Peter was praying and had a vision of animals that Jewish people couldn't eat but a voice told him to eat them. Read Acts 10:17–20. **Who spoke to Peter?** (The Holy Spirit spoke to him.) **What did the Holy Spirit say to Peter?** (The Holy Spirit told Peter that He sent men to him and Peter was to go with them.) **Peter believed the Holy Spirit and went with them to Cornelius. This was unusual because Jewish people and Gentiles didn't eat or stay at the same house. The disciples spent their time telling Jewish people about Jesus. Do you think Jesus only paid for the sins of the Jewish people?** (No, Jesus paid for all sin.) **Remember that just before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His followers to go everywhere and make disciples of ALL people.**

When Peter and the men arrived at Cornelius' house, Peter preached and explained about Jesus and salvation. Read Acts 10:44–48. **What happened to the Gentiles while Peter preached?** (The Gentiles were filled with the Holy Spirit and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.) **When Cornelius and all the Gentiles heard Peter preach, they showed that they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit because they spoke in tongues. Speaking in tongues means the Holy Spirit had given them a heavenly language.** Explain your story of being baptized in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. **Speaking in tongues sounds like gibberish or silly talk to our human ears but it is communicating with God. People's ears and minds aren't supposed to understand speaking in tongues because it is a heavenly language that God understands.**

After the Gentiles were baptized in the Holy Spirit, Peter took them out to find water to be baptized. This is the only time the Bible says people were baptized with water after being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Peter finally understood that he and the disciples needed to preach salvation to Jewish people and the Gentiles—everyone needed to hear about Jesus! Cornelius and the Gentiles asked Peter to stay so they could learn more about the Holy Spirit and their new gift of the Holy Spirit "add-on, internal, power-pack booster."

Our next few lessons will help us better understand the extra power we have working through us when we are baptized in the Holy Spirit. We can live the Christian life and go to heaven someday without being baptized in the Holy Spirit—but why miss out on all the extra power? God doesn't force believers in Jesus to be baptized in the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit won't make you be baptized in His Spirit and speak in tongues—it is a gift given when we ask. There is no age requirement because the salvation that adults receive is the same salvation that children receive. The Holy Spirit that adults receive is the same Holy Spirit that children receive when they say "yes" to believing in Jesus as their Savior. The baptism of the Holy Spirit that adults receive is the same baptism of the Holy Spirit that children receive. Lead a

cheer that God gives the same salvation, Holy Spirit, and baptism of the Holy Spirit to adults and children.

Bible Story Questions:

- **What are two baptisms mentioned in the Bible?** (The Bible mentions water baptism and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.)
- **Who had an angel appear and tell him about Peter?** (Cornelius)
- **What happened to Peter while the men traveled to him?** (The Holy Spirit told Peter the men were sent from him and to go with them.)
- **Why do you think it was important that the Holy Spirit told Peter about the men?** (The men were Gentiles, and up until then, Jesus had only been preached to the Jewish people.)
- **How did the Gentiles see the Holy Spirit change Peter?** (Peter preached to them and stayed with them to help them learn more about Jesus and the Holy Spirit.)
- **What is special about speaking in tongues, and how do you get that gift?** (Speaking in tongues is a heavenly language that communicates with God. You get the gift of speaking in tongues when you ask God for the baptism of the Holy Spirit.)

Bible Story Activities:

Games:

- Depending on your class, select children to be Peter and 2–5 Jewish leaders. The rest of the class can be Gentiles who move stand still waiting to be tagged by Peter. Peter and the Jewish leaders can move around the open area. **Our game will have Peter trying to reach the Gentiles and baptize them by tapping them. When tapped go stand by the board. There will be some Jewish leaders trying to block Peter from reaching the Gentiles. The Jewish leaders must put their hands behind their backs with no hands touching Peter or the Jewish leader has to sit out until the next round. At the end of the time, I will signal everyone to freeze and we will see how many Gentiles were baptized.** Play for 1–2 minutes and then select different children to be Peter and the Jewish leaders.

- Ideas for Working with Younger Kids:
  Lead the children in this finger play:
  God loves me. (hug yourself)
  Jesus loves me. (hug yourself)
  The Holy Spirit loves me. (hug yourself)
  I want the Holy Spirit to fill me (point to yourself)
  From the top of my head (pat your head)
  To the bottom of my feet. (touch your feet)
  Thank You, God, for the Holy Spirit! (jump up and down)

Craft Idea:

- Ideas for Working with Older Kids:
  Set out markers, colored pencils, and large sheets of paper or poster board. Have the children work in pairs or small groups to make a poster advertising the benefits of being filled with the Holy Spirit. Display the posters in the hallway.

Worksheet:
Have the children use the code to fill in the missing words and then look up 1 Corinthians 14:2 to check their answers. On the back of their papers, have them see how many words you can make using the letters in "baptism of the Holy Spirit."

Affirmation/Declaration:
The baptism of the Holy Spirit is for all believers.
I want everything that God has for me.
I want to be fully filled with the Holy Spirit's "add-on, internal, power-pack booster."

Make Connections:

Biblical Worldview Connection:
People who live without understanding God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, or salvation need to learn spiritual truth. Believers are sometimes too busy with church or doing good things to go talk to people who don't know Jesus as their Savior. Many Christians don't know what to say to someone who doesn't believe in Jesus. When children are baptized in the Holy Spirit, they have extra power, and the Holy Spirit can show them what to say. Encourage the children who have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit to boldly use their Holy Spirit "add-on, internal, power pack booster."

Missions Connection:
Jesus told His followers of all time periods, nationalities, and ages to tell everyone the Good News that He sacrificed His life to pay the price of sin. When children partner with the Holy Spirit's power, they will have insight to be in the right place, at the right time, and talk to the right person. God wants everyone to know about His love and be in a relationship with Him through Jesus and salvation. Remind the children that their mission field is everywhere their feet take them! Have the children pray for each other to tell others about Jesus and salvation.

Family Connection:
Take time to talk with your child about receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. If your child wishes to ask God for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, pray with your child. If your child has already prayed to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, spend time together worshiping God through speaking in tongues. Remind your child that they won't know what they are saying to God because it is a heavenly language. The Holy Spirit helps them pray and speak in tongues. If your child is scared or confused by tongues, don't push but have your child spend time praising God in their normal speech. One way to help loosen up is to simply start singing or saying "hallelujah" over and over. When your child gets more comfortable with regularly praising God and hearing you speak in tongues, the Holy Spirit will help them.

Prayer Points:
Depending on your church, you may want a pastor or someone from the prayer team to come and pray with children ready to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. If children wish to receive the Holy Spirit, simply have them repeat this prayer:

Dear God,
Thank You that Jesus' death
paid for my sins.
Thank You for loving me
and filling me with the Holy Spirit.
I ask to receive
the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
Thank You for the gift
of the Holy Spirit and His power.
In Jesus' name, amen.

Name _____

Lesson 9: Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Believers in Jesus Christ can ask God to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Speaking in tongues is one sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Use the code to find the missing words in this verse about speaking in tongues. Look up 1 Corinthians 14:2 to check the answers.

You write	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
CODE	L	Z	E	V	J	S	A	X	T	B	R	Y	C	W	I	D	U	G	N	F	K	P	H	M	O	Q

For he who _ _ _ _ _ _ in a
N D J L R N

_ _ _ _ _ _ does not speak to
F I W A K J

_ _ _ but to _ _ _, for no one
C J W A I V

understands _ _ _; however, in the
X T C

_ _ _ _ _ _ he speaks
N D T G T F

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _. 1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV)
C O N F J G T J N

BONUS: *On the back of this page, see how many words you can make using the letters in "baptism of the Holy Spirit."*

ANSWERS

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

For he who **s p e a k s** in a
N D J L R N

t o n g u e does not speak to
F I W A K J

m e n but to **G o d,** for no one
C J W A I V

understands **h i m** however, in the
X T C

s p i r i t he speaks
N D T G T F

m y s t e r i e s. 1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV)
C O N F J G T J N

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