



Pentecost Activities

Activities for Pentecost

To the Teacher:

Here are three activities for the season of Pascha to Pentecost. One of them, *Word Scramble*, is for younger students. *Match That Number* is for intermediate students, and *Thinking about Pentecost* is for preteens or younger teens. An answer sheet with notes is included. The notes will give you directions for using the activities, and should answer any questions you have.

We have suggested several crafts to go along with the activities. Some of these might be done by several age groups working together—the older students helping the younger ones.

The Revised Standard Version of the Bible is the only one we have used in preparing the activities. Make sure to have Bibles on hand.

We hope you and your students will enjoy these activities. If you have printable activities you would like to share with other teachers, please send them to us at christianeducation@oca.org.

Thank you.

PENTECOST WORD SCRAMBLE

All words can be found in Acts 2: 1-24.

REIF _____

TREPE _____

STIIPR _____

HEORGTET _____

DWNI _____

PAKES _____

LIKDEL _____

DERSIA _____

SUJSE _____

HEDAT _____

MATCH THAT NUMBER

By reading the Bible passage and then doing the arithmetic called for in each numbered step, you should arrive at the correct final number, which is shown at the end of the list of steps. Can you match that number?

Your starting number is 100.

100

1. How many days went by between the evening of the “first day of the week” and the next time Jesus appeared to His disciples? (John 20:26) **Add** this number to your starting number.
2. How many fish did the disciples catch when Jesus told them where to cast their nets? (John 21:11). **Add** this number to your total so far.
3. How many times did Jesus ask Peter, “Do you love me?” (John 21:15-17.) **Divide** your total so far by this number.
4. For how many days after the Resurrection did Jesus appear to His apostles? (Acts 1:13) **Subtract** this number from your total so far.
5. How many men in white robes stood by the apostles as Jesus ascended to heaven? (Acts 1:10) **Multiply** your total so far by this number.
6. How many apostles were gathered in Jerusalem after Jesus ascended to His Father? (Acts 1:3) **Subtract** this number from your total so far.
7. How many men were suggested to replace Judas as one of the apostles? (Acts 1:23). **Multiply** your total so far by this number.
8. How many people, or “souls”, were baptized on Pentecost? (Acts 2: 41.) **Add** this number to your total so far. You’re done!

Your final number should be **3166**. Did you match that number?

Thinking about Pentecost

Read these passages, and then write your own answers to the questions. Use another piece of paper if you wish to.

1. According to Acts 1: 3-5, what did Jesus tell the apostles to do as He was about to ascend to His Father?

2. In Acts 1: 15-22, what choice did the apostles need to make? What is a necessary qualification for the person they will choose?

3. Read 2: 1-21. Why do you think some people assumed the apostles were drunk? What does the phrase “all flesh” mean in verse 17? What does it tell us about what the Church is supposed to do?

4. In Acts 2: 43-46, how are the believers described?

5. Read Acts 4: 1-21. Describe some ways in which Peter has changed from the time he denied Christ and feared arrest. (See Luke 22: 54-62.)

Pentecost Activities: Answers, Notes, Crafts

Word Scramble (answers and the verses, in Acts 2:1-24, where they are found)

REIF / FIRE (2:3)

PAKES / SPEAK (2:4)

TREPE / PETER (2:14)

LIKDEL / KILLED (2:23)

STIIPR / SPIRIT (2:4)

DERSIA / RAISED (2:24)

HEORGTET / TOGETHER (2:1)

SUJSE / JESUS (2:22)

DWNI / WIND (2:2)

HEDAT / DEATH (2:24)

Older students could work with younger ones to find answers and review the story.

Match That Number (Make sure students start with 100, and do the arithmetical steps in order. They can use another sheet of paper, numbered, if they wish.)

1. Add 8 to 100=108.
2. Add 153 to 108=261.
3. Divide 261 by 3=87.
4. Subtract 40 from 87=47.
5. Multiply 47 by 2=94.
6. Subtract 11 from 94=83.
7. Multiply 83 by 2=166.
8. Add 3000 to 166=3166.

Thinking about Pentecost (give students extra writing paper as needed)

1. Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem to be baptized by the Holy Spirit.
2. They needed to choose a man to replace Judas. This man must be one who had been part of their group from the beginning, when John the Baptist was preaching.

3. A suggested answer: the apostles' ability to be understood in languages they themselves did not speak was so astonishing that it might seem to some that they were babbling drunkards. But others had seen Jesus' miracles, and were ready to accept this miracle of many languages. Verse 17 tells us that the Church is to reach out to all people.

4. They had all things in common and sold what they had; they shared with those in need; they worshipped and broke bread together.

5. Let students give their own answers. Here are some suggested ideas: Peter has put his confidence not in himself but in Christ. (See an example of his misplaced self-

confidence in Luke 22: 33.) He is no longer afraid and would be ready now not only to say he knew Christ, but to die for Christ.

Craft Suggestions

1. Go to eHow.com and search for “Pentecost crafts.” You will find several craft ideas, for various age groups.

2. PENTECOST HEADBANDS (younger students)

Materials: Construction paper (including red or orange for “tongues of fire), tape, scissors, black marker.

a. Using construction paper and tape, have each child make a headband about one inch wide.

b. With help if needed, have each child cut out a flame-shaped “tongue of fire” from red or orange construction paper, about 2 inches wide and 3 inches high.

c. On each flame, write one of the words of the following sentence: **THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT (Acts 2:4.)**

d. Have children tape their flames to their headbands so the words show as you look at them.

e. Write the sentence on the chalkboard.

f. Have children arrange themselves in order to make the sentence read correctly, by looking at each others’ words and figuring out where they should be standing. They can have fun doing this, but it will also take some concentration.

g. Review the story of Pentecost together. You can go to dce.oca.org. In the “Resources” section under “Stories” you will find a version of the Pentecost story written for young children by Mrs. Sophie Koulomzin and entitled *Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit*.

3. WIND CHIMES FROM OLD TABLE SILVER (older students)

Go to eHow.com and search for “wind chimes from flatware.” You will see several ideas for this project, which is a nice one. It requires several pieces of old table silverware and may also require some use of tools. On the same site you will find other ideas for wind chimes.

4. READERS THEATER (intermediate to older students)

Go to Antiochian.org/christianeducation. On the right of the page is a box “Let Us Attend! Sunday’s Gospel for Children.” Go to this page and you will find Sunday dates. For June 12, 2011 (as for other dates) is a Readers Theater component.