



Filled with the Holy Spirit Simulation



Start with a small amount of air in your balloon. Then show it to your family.

(Say) Before Jesus' death, he taught his followers (the disciples) about how they should love God and one another. He was the presence of God to them when he was with them. When Jesus died on the cross it was a dark time for the disciples.

Deflate the balloon completely.

(Asj) How do you think they felt? When is a time you felt like that?

(Say) But Jesus rose from the dead and was alive for the disciples to see after his resurrection!

Add some air into the balloon again.

(Say) The disciples wanted Jesus to stay with them forever, but Jesus knew he had to return to God in heaven. They were sad to see him go, but Jesus promised the disciples they would not be left alone. He promised he would send the Holy Spirit to be with them.

Empty the balloon again.

(Say) With Jesus gone to heaven, the disciples forgot what he taught them. They were scared of the people who put Jesus to death on the cross and didn't know what they should do to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

(Say) A few days later, the disciples were afraid and huddled in the upper room. They forgot what Jesus told them to do or were too scared to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection with others.

(Say) All of the sudden the Holy Spirit rested upon their heads like tongues of fire.

Add some air to the balloon.

(Say) The Holy Spirit filled them with such joy they started preaching about Jesus! They were so filled with the Holy Spirit that they started speaking in languages they didn't even know!

Add more air to the balloon.

(Say) There were people who were from other lands gathered outside and when they went outside the people heard the disciples speaking their languages. Everyone the disciples told about Jesus understood what they were saying!

Add more air to the balloon.

(Say) Over three thousand people were added to those who believed in Jesus that day alone!

Add more air to the balloon.

(Say) And for centuries afterwards, the Holy Spirit continued to speak to people and help people share the good news of Jesus with others.

Fill the balloon completely.

(Say) These balloons are to help us remember that just as the balloon needs to be filled with air to be able to reach its full potential, you and I need the Holy Spirit to fill us so we can be all that God wants us to be.

(Ask) What do you think Jesus is calling you to do? How can the Holy Spirit help you to be a better disciple of Jesus?

(Pray) We thank You, God, for sending Your Holy Spirit. We thank You for breathing life into the disciples and we thank You for giving Your Holy Spirit to all who believe in Jesus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Give a filled balloon to each person or have them blow up the balloons themselves.

