YOUTH GROUP CURRICULUM · AGES 11–18

PENTECOST · THE HOLY SPIRIT



WEEK 1 OF 4

Wind and Fire

Theme: Pentecost: the Spirit comes · Main text: Acts 2:1–13

ON FIRE.

The Spirit is still moving.

Inside: 45 / 60 / 75-minute plans · word-for-word scripts · 4 game options · response activity · Joys & Concerns · 3 student pages

DAHAM
NEXT GENERATION MINISTRY TOGETHER

WEEK 1 · LEADER GUIDE

Wind and Fire

Theme: Pentecost: the Spirit comes · Main text: Acts 2:1–13 · Memory verse: Acts 2:17

THE BIG IDEA

On Pentecost God poured out his Spirit on ordinary people, young and old. That promise includes you.

The question to carry all night

"What is the Holy Spirit doing in me?"

By the end, students will…

- Know what happened on Pentecost and why it matters
- See that the Spirit came on *all* of them, young and old, not just the "spiritual" ones
- Notice one quiet way the Spirit may be at work and write their first Spark Card

NIGHT AT A GLANCE · PICK YOUR LENGTH

SEGMENT	WHAT HAPPENS	45 MIN	60 MIN	75 MIN
Welcome	Greet new students by name and grade; your announcements	—	—	5
Game 1	Pick from the Activity Menu (next page)	8	10	10
Game 2	A second game from the menu (optional)	—	—	10
Hook + Message	"You Can't See It" · Acts 2:1–13 · Acts 2:17	10	12	12
Response Activity	The First Spark + My One Step	10	12	12
Small Group Talk	Pick 3–4 questions	—	8	10
Joys & Concerns	"I lift up ___ to God." / "Lord, hear our prayer."	10	10	10
Pastoral Prayer	Leader prays over what was shared + send-off	5	5	5

Supplies

- Spark Cards: copy the flame on student page 2 onto red, orange, or yellow cardstock
- Scissors, pens, markers
- Game extras: balloons, paper plates, index cards (see menu)
- Optional: a small fan for the hook
- Student pages (last 3 pages) · Bibles · phone timer

Before students arrive

- Choose your games using the Activity Menu
- Read Acts 1:1–11 and Acts 2:1–41
- Practice the "You Can't See It" hook out loud once
- Think of one quiet moment when you sensed God nudging you as a teenager
- Pray for each student by name, especially anyone who feels far from God

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

CHOOSE WHAT FITS YOUR GROUP

Activity Menu

Every group is different. Some nights you have fifteen students bouncing off the walls; some nights you have four quiet ones and a visitor. Pentecost is a loud, joyful story, so it's a great week to have some fun. Pick one or two games, then finish with the response activity. Every game ends with a debrief that points back to tonight's question.

ACTIVITY	ENERGY	PREP	BEST WHEN…	MIN
A. Rushing Wind Balloon Race Teams fan a balloon across the room with paper plates, then answer a question card	High	Balloons, paper plates, cards	Students need to move; you want laughs and teamwork	10
B. Bewildered! Guess the real meaning of a word from someone's world	Medium	Index cards, pens	You want the strongest link to the message	10–12
C. Young Visions, Old Dreams Two circles rotate partners: weird dreams, big dreams, wise words	Medium	None	Lots of new students; zero prep time	8–10
D. Small Spark Stories Trios trade stories of tiny things that turned into big things	Low	None	Small or quiet group; a mix of older and younger students	8–10
E. The First Spark Response activity (after message)	Reflective	Spark Cards, pens	Every night: this is the heart of the week and starts the Spark Cards	12

SUGGESTED COMBINATIONS

Big, high-energy group (10–15)

A. Rushing Wind Balloon Race → B. Bewildered! → Message → E. The First Spark

Small group (4–6)

D. Small Spark Stories (whole group) → Message → E. The First Spark in a circle

Lots of first-time visitors

C. Young Visions, Old Dreams → A. Rushing Wind Balloon Race → Message → E. The First Spark (low-pressure option)

Short on time (45 min)

B. Bewildered! → Message → E. The First Spark → Joys & Concerns

GROUND RULES FOR EVERY GAME *Nobody is forced to share. Nobody is the punchline. New students get paired with a regular. If a game ever starts to single someone out, change the round and keep moving.*

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

A. Rushing Wind Balloon Race

10 min · High energy

Purpose: On Pentecost, the disciples heard "a sound like the rushing of a mighty wind." Tonight teams make their own wind. Using only paper plates as fans, teams move a balloon across the room without touching it. Every time a team lands a balloon, they draw a question card and everyone on the team answers before the next run. It's loud, silly, and full of real answers.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Split into teams of 3–5. Give each person a paper plate and each team one blown-up balloon. Set a start line and a "house" at the other end (a chair, a box, or a taped square).
2. On "Go," teams fan their balloon toward the house. **No touching the balloon** with hands, plates, or heads. If someone touches it, the team takes three steps back.
3. When the balloon lands in the house, the team grabs a **Wind Card** from the pile, sits down, and every person answers it.
4. After everyone answers, the team carries the balloon back to the start and goes again.
5. Play 5–6 minutes. The team with the most answered Wind Cards wins. Finish with the Bridge card read to everyone.

LEADER SCRIPT

> **SAY**
> "Everybody grab a paper plate. This is your wind machine. Your team has to fan this balloon all the way to the house without touching it. No hands, no plates, no heads. Touch it and you go back three steps. When you get it in the house, grab a Wind Card, sit down, and everybody on your team answers it. Then run it back and go again. Most cards answered wins. Ready? Make some wind!"

WIND CARDS (ONE PER LANDING)

- Hot summer day: fan, AC, or pool?
- What's the windiest or stormiest place you've ever been?
- Kite, sailboat, or hot-air balloon?
- What's something that always "blows you away"?
- What's a sound that instantly makes you happy?
- Loudest place you've ever been?
- Birthday candles: one breath or several tries?
- What's something you can't see but know is real?
- Best thing to do on a rainy, windy day?
- What's one thing you're fired up about right now?

Bridge card (read to all): "You can't see wind. How do you know it's there?"

VARIATIONS

- **Small group (4–6):** One team races the clock. Each person fans for one stretch, then passes the job on. Answer a Wind Card together every time you land it, and try to beat your best time.
- **Obstacle course:** Set chairs in the path so teams have to steer around them.
- **Limited space:** Play on a tabletop with a ping-pong ball and straws or folded paper.

LEADER NOTE *Blow up a few extra balloons, because some will pop. Write the Wind Cards on index cards before group, or just call out the question when a team lands.*

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

DEBRIEF

> **SAY**
>
> "You couldn't see the wind you made tonight, but you could sure see what it did. Tonight we start a series called On Fire, all about the Holy Spirit. Jesus actually compared the Spirit to wind. You can't see him, but you can see what he does. So here's the question for all four weeks: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?**"

B. Bewildered!

10–12 min · Medium energy

Purpose: At Pentecost, a crowd from all over the world was "bewildered, because everyone heard them speaking in his own language." In this game, each student brings a word from *their* world: a sport, a hobby, a game, a job, a family saying, or a second language. Everyone else guesses what it means. Students learn real things about each other, and it sets up the message perfectly.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Everyone gets an index card. Each student writes down **one real word or phrase** from their world that most people here won't know, plus what it means. (A gaming term, a dance step, a band word, a family nickname for something.)
2. Split into teams of 3–4. The leader collects the cards.
3. The leader reads one word out loud. Teams have 30 seconds to agree on a guess for what it means. Goofy guesses are welcome.
4. Teams share their guesses. Then the owner reveals the real meaning and tells the story: **"Where did you learn it?"**
5. Any team that's close gets a point. Play 8–10 words, then finish with the Bridge round.

LEADER SCRIPT

> **SAY**
>
> "Everybody has their own language. Not just English or Spanish. I mean the words that come from your world. If you play volleyball, or you're in band, or your family has a weird name for the TV remote, you know words other people don't. Write one of those words on your card, and what it means. I'll read them, and your team has to guess what it means. Then the owner tells us the real answer and where it came from."
>
> "I'll go first. My word is ___." (*Use a word from your own world: a hobby, a job, your family.*)

WORD IDEAS (IF STUDENTS ARE STUCK)

WHERE WORDS COME FROM	FOLLOW-UP QUESTION FOR THE OWNER
A sport (a "pancake" in volleyball, a "nutmeg" in soccer)	"How long have you played?"
A video game term	"What's the best game you've ever played?"

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

Band, choir, or theater words	"What's your favorite piece or show you've done?"
A family nickname for a normal thing	"Who started it?"
A word from a second language at home	"Can you teach us how to say it?"
A word from a job (food service, babysitting)	"What's the funniest thing that happened at work?"
Dance, gymnastics, or martial arts moves	"Can you show us, if you want?"
Farm, hunting, fishing, or camping words	"What's your best story from out there?"
Art, crafts, or baking words	"What's something you've made that you're proud of?"
Bridge round: "Pentecost"	"Anybody know? (Hint: it's a Bible word.) Lead into the debrief."

VARIATIONS

- **Small group (4–6):** Skip teams. Everyone guesses on their own, one at a time, then the owner reveals. Do two words per person.
- **Fake-out:** Teams write a made-up definition. The leader reads them with the real one mixed in, and everyone votes.
- **Act it out:** If the word is a move or a skill, the owner can demonstrate after the reveal.

LEADER NOTE *Glance at each card before you read it so nothing embarrassing gets read out loud. If a student uses a word from a language spoken at home, celebrate it. Never let guesses turn into jokes about anyone's family or background.*

DEBRIEF

> **SAY**
> "There's something special about hearing your own language. When somebody actually gets your world, you feel known. Tonight we're reading about a day when thousands of people heard about God in their own language, and nobody could figure out how. They were bewildered. Keep this question in your head: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?**"

C. Young Visions, Old Dreams

8–10 min · Medium energy

Purpose: Zero prep, lots of talking. Our memory verse says that when God pours out his Spirit, "your young men will see visions" and "your old men will dream dreams." Students form two circles and rotate partners, answering questions that start with silly dreams and move toward big dreams and the people who inspire them. New students meet several people fast, and everyone has something to say.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Make two circles: an inside circle facing out and an outside circle facing in, so everyone has a partner. (Odd number? A leader jumps in.)

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

2. The leader calls out a question. Partners each answer in about 30–45 seconds.
3. The leader shouts **"Wind!"** The outside circle moves one person to the left. New partner, new question.
4. Start with the "Weird Dreams" questions, then move to "Big Dreams," then "Wise Words."
5. Play 8–10 rounds. End with the Bridge question.

LEADER SCRIPT

> **SAY**
> "Inside circle, face out. Outside circle, face in. Say hi to your partner. I'll call out a question, you both answer, and when I shout 'Wind!' the outside circle moves one person to the left. We're going to start with dreams. Like, actual weird dreams. First question: what's the strangest dream you can remember? Go!"

QUESTIONS (IN THIS ORDER)

- **Weird Dreams:** What's the strangest dream you can remember?
- **Weird Dreams:** Have you ever had a dream that felt totally real?
- **Weird Dreams:** If you could choose tonight's dream, what would it be about?
- **Big Dreams:** When you were little, what did you want to be?
- **Big Dreams:** What's one place in the world you dream of seeing?
- **Big Dreams:** What's something you'd love to learn or build someday?
- **Big Dreams:** If you could fix one problem in the world, what would it be?
- **Wise Words:** Who's an older person you look up to? Why?
- **Wise Words:** What's the best advice an adult ever gave you?
- **Bridge:** Do you think God would ever use someone your age? Why or why not?

VARIATIONS

- **Small group (4–6):** Sit in a circle. The leader asks a question and everyone answers, then everyone moves one seat to the left before the next question.
- **Mixed ages:** If any adults or older students are around, put them in the inside circle so every student hears from someone older.
- **Lightning round:** 15 seconds per answer, and the leader says "Wind!" fast.

DEBRIEF

> **SAY**
> "That last question matters. A lot of people think God mostly uses grown-ups, or pastors, or the super spiritual kids. Tonight we're going to read a promise that says God pours out his Spirit on sons and daughters, young and old. That includes you. So keep asking: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?**"

D. Small Spark Stories

8–10 min · Low energy

Purpose: A calm, story-based game for small or quiet groups. Big fires start with small sparks. Trios trade true stories about little moments that turned into something big: a random hello that became a best friend,

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

a five-dollar thrift find that became a whole hobby. Older and younger students learn real things about each other, and it prepares them for the Spark Cards at the end of the night.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Split into trios. If you can, mix older and younger students in each trio.
2. The leader calls out a **Spark Prompt** (see the list below).
3. Each person tells a short, true story: "It started when..." and "Now..." One minute each.
4. After each round, the trio picks the story with the biggest jump from tiny spark to big fire. That person gets a "flame" (a tally mark or a sticker).
5. Play 4–5 rounds. Ask a few trios to share their best story with the whole group.

LEADER SCRIPT

> **SAY**
> "Big fires start with tiny sparks. Get in groups of three. I'm going to give you a prompt, and each of you tells a true story about something small that turned into something big. Start with 'It started when...' and end with 'Now...' I'll go first: 'It started when a friend handed me a guitar for five minutes. Now I own three.'" *(Use your own true story.)*

SPARK PROMPTS

- A friendship that started with something small
- A hobby you tried once and got hooked on
- A song or show you almost skipped
- A food you hated, then loved
- A tiny mistake that turned into a big story
- Something a teacher or coach said once that stuck
- A random trip or event that changed your year
- A small "yes" that led to something great
- A pet that came into your life by surprise
- How you ended up at this youth group

VARIATIONS

- **Small group (4–6):** Stay as one group. Go around the circle for each prompt, and anyone can pass.
- **Draw it:** Each person draws their story in two panels: a tiny spark on the left, a big fire on the right.

LEADER NOTE *If someone shares a "spark" that led to something painful, thank them and gently move on. Follow up privately afterward if needed (see the Care Note).*

DEBRIEF

> **SAY**
> "Almost every big thing in your life started with something small. God works like that too. Tonight we'll hear about a day God showed up with wind and fire. But most days, the Spirit starts with a small spark. So here's our question for the night: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?**"

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

Hook: "You Can't See It"

2 min

SAY

(Turn on a small fan and point it at the group, or ask everyone to blow on the back of their hand.) "Okay. Feel that? Quick question. What color is wind?" *(Let students answer.)* "Right. It doesn't have a color. You can't see it. You can't hold it in a jar."

"But you can see what it does. It moves trees. It knocks over trash cans. It takes your hat across the parking lot. You know it's real because of what it does."

"For the next four weeks we're doing a series called **On Fire**, all about the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is God, and like the wind, you can't see him. But you can see what he does. So the question for this whole series is: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?**"

Message: Poured Out on Ordinary People

10 min

1. They were waiting, and they were ordinary

SAY

"After Jesus rose from the dead, he told his friends, 'Don't leave Jerusalem. Wait for the promise.' So they waited. About 120 people, praying together for days. Fishermen. A former tax collector. Moms. Brothers. Nobody famous. Nobody with a stage. Just ordinary people in a room, waiting for God to do what he said. Here's what happened."

[1] *Now when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all with one accord in one place.* [2] *Suddenly there came from the sky a sound like the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.* [3] *Tongues like fire appeared and were distributed to them, and one sat on each of them.* [4] *They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other languages, as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak.*

ACTS 2:1–4 · WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE

"Wind. Fire. A whole room full of people talking in languages they never learned. That's wild. But don't miss the tiny word that shows up twice: *all*. 'They were *all* filled.' And the fire 'sat on *each* of them.' Not just Peter. Not just the leaders. Every single person in the room."

LEADER NOTE *If you have a short, honest story about a time you felt ordinary, or "not spiritual enough," and God still met you, tell it here. Thirty seconds is plenty. Keep it simple and real; no need for a dramatic story. Students trust leaders who go first.*

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

2. Everyone heard it in their own language

SAY

"It was a holiday, so Jerusalem was packed with people from all over the world. They heard the noise and came running."

> [5] *Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under the sky.* [6] *When this sound was heard, the multitude came together and were bewildered, because everyone heard them speaking in his own language.* [7] *They were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Behold, aren't all these who speak Galileans?* [8] *How do we hear, everyone in our own native language?" ...* [12] *They were all amazed and were perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"* [13] *Others, mocking, said, "They are filled with new wine."*
>
> ACTS 2:5–8, 12–13 · WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE

"'Aren't these guys just Galileans?' That's like saying, 'Aren't these just kids from a small town?' Nobody expected them to be the ones God used. And the crowd split two ways. Some asked, 'What does this mean?' Others laughed and said, 'They're drunk.' People still do that. Some people get curious about God. Some people make fun. And the first thing God did with his Spirit was help people hear about him in a language they understood. God wants to be understood. By you."

3. The promise includes you

SAY

"Then Peter stands up. This is the same Peter who, a few weeks earlier, was so scared he said he didn't even know Jesus. He says, 'They aren't drunk. It's nine in the morning!' And then he quotes a promise God made hundreds of years before, through a prophet named Joel. It's our memory verse."

> [17] *It will be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions. Your old men will dream dreams.* [18] *Yes, and on my servants and on my handmaidens in those days, I will pour out my Spirit, and they will prophesy.*
>
> ACTS 2:17–18 · WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE

"Look who's on the list. Sons and daughters. Young men and old men. Servants, people nobody paid attention to. God doesn't pour out his Spirit on a few special people. He pours it out on 'all flesh.' And a few minutes later, Peter makes it even more personal:"

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are far off, even as many as the Lord our God will call to himself.

ACTS 2:39 · WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE

"'To you and to your children.' That's us. If you follow Jesus, or you're just starting to wonder about him, this promise is not for somebody else. It's for you. You don't have to be older, or louder, or better at praying."

4. Not every day is wind and fire

SAY

"Now, honest moment. Pentecost was loud. But most of the time in the Bible, and in real life, the Spirit works quietly. Jesus said it like this:"

The wind blows where it wants to, and you hear its sound, but don't know where it comes from and where it is going. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.

JOHN 3:8 · WORLD ENGLISH BIBLE

"Sometimes the Spirit is a nudge to go sit with somebody. Sometimes it's a Bible verse that pops into your head right when you need it. Sometimes it's peace in the middle of a hard week, or a sudden wish to pray. If you've never felt wind and fire, you're not behind. You're not doing it wrong. Quiet is normal."

"Like the wind, you can't always see the Spirit. But you can start to notice what he's doing. So here's the question, and I want you to actually think about it tonight: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?**"

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

E. Response Activity: The First Spark

12 min

Purpose: Help students notice quiet ways the Spirit may already be at work in them, without pressure to feel anything dramatic, and take one small step. Tonight they also get their first **Spark Card**: every week of the series, each student writes one small, specific "spark" step on a flame-shaped card. In Week 4 we'll gather them into a Fire Wall and pray a prayer of sending.

HOW TO RUN IT

1. Hold up a Spark Card. Explain: one card each week, one small spark step, and bring your cards back in Week 4.
2. **Spirit Spotter:** On student page 1, students privately read the list of quiet ways the Spirit often works and circle Not yet, Maybe, or Yes for each one. Nobody shares their answers.
3. **Quiet minute:** Lower the lights if you can. Students pray one silent sentence: "Holy Spirit, what are you doing in me?" Then they sit and listen for one minute. No pressure to hear anything.
4. **Fill-me prayers:** In pairs, each partner shares one thing they'd like help with (only what they want to share). The other prays one sentence: "Holy Spirit, fill ___ with ___." Then switch.
5. **Spark Card #1:** Students cut out the flame on page 2 (or use a cardstock copy) and write one small spark on the back: one specific thing they'll do this week.
6. **My One Step:** Students fill in "My One Step This Week" and the "My Spark · Week 1" box on their student page.

LEADER SCRIPT

> **SAY (SPARK CARDS)**
>
> "This is a Spark Card. It's shaped like a flame, because at Pentecost the fire sat on each person. Every week of this series you'll get one, and you'll write one small spark on it: one small thing the Spirit might be nudging you to do. Keep your cards, and bring them back for our last week. We're going to put them all together on a Fire Wall."
>
> **SAY (SPIRIT SPOTTER)**
>
> "On your first page, find Spirit Spotter. It's a list of quiet ways the Holy Spirit often works in people. For each one, circle Not yet, Maybe, or Yes. Be honest. 'Not yet' is a totally fine answer. This is just between you and God."
>
> **SAY (QUIET MINUTE + FILL-ME PRAYERS)**
>
> "Now, one quiet minute. In your head, pray one sentence: 'Holy Spirit, what are you doing in me?' Then just listen. If nothing comes to mind, that's okay. You're practicing paying attention." *(Wait one minute.)* "Find a partner. Share one thing you want God's help with, only if you want to. Then pray one sentence for each other: 'Holy Spirit, fill Jordan with courage for the test on Friday.' One sentence. It might feel awkward. Do it anyway."
>
> **SAY (SPARK CARD + ONE STEP)**
>
> "Grab your Spark Card. On the back, write one small spark for this week. Make it specific. Not 'be nicer.' More like: 'Text my grandma and tell her I'm praying for her.' Then on your page, write one small step. Keep it tiny. Like: 'Every night before bed, I'll ask, Holy Spirit, what did you do in me today?'"

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

Quiet ways the Spirit works (read aloud)

- A nudge to help
- A verse that sticks
- Peace in a hard week
- Wanting to pray
- Courage to speak up
- Caring for someone new
- Feeling sorry and starting over
- Joy in worship
- A thought: "Go sit with them"
- Being patient when it's hard

Spark ideas (one small, specific step)

- Pray for one friend by name every day
- Sit with someone who's alone at lunch once
- Thank someone older who helped me grow
- Read Acts 2 all the way through this week
- Ask God for help before one hard moment

VARIATIONS

- **Small group (4–6):** Sit in a circle. Each person prays one sentence for the person on their left, all the way around.
- **Low-pressure option:** Skip the pairs. Students write their spark on the back of their card, and the leader prays one prayer over everyone: "Holy Spirit, fill each of us, and help us do the small thing we just wrote down."
- **No cardstock?** Students draw a flame on an index card and write on that. Hand out real Spark Cards next week.

LEADER NOTE *Never collect or look at student pages, and never ask who circled "Not yet." Some students will feel nothing in the quiet minute, and that is normal; say so out loud. Don't push anyone toward a particular experience. Bring extra Spark Cards for students who show up next week. If a student seems upset or worried that God isn't working in them, check in quietly afterward (see the Care Note).*

DEBRIEF

SAY

"Look at that flame. It's small, and that's the point. On Pentecost, the fire sat on each person. Big fires start with small sparks. So this week, watch for the small stuff. **What is the Holy Spirit doing in me?** You might be surprised. And tonight, somebody in this room prayed for you."

Small Group Talk

8–10 min · Optional

Groups of 3–5, with one adult or student leader per group if possible. Pick 3–4 questions that fit your group.

WARM UP

1. What's the most amazing thing you've ever seen in nature: a storm, a sunset, a huge wave?
   Follow-up: How did it make you feel?
2. When you hear "Holy Spirit," what's the first thing that comes to mind?

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

Any answer is fine, even "I have no idea." It's a warm-up.

GO DEEPER

3. Why do you think God chose ordinary people, like fishermen from Galilee, to be the first ones filled with the Spirit?
   What does that say about who God uses today?
4. Some people in the crowd asked, "What does this mean?" and some made fun. Which one is more like you when it comes to God?
   Why?
5. Acts 2:17 says God pours out his Spirit on sons and daughters, young and old. Do you ever feel too young for God to use you?
6. Jesus said the Spirit is like the wind. What's one quiet way you think the Spirit might be at work in people you know?

TAKE IT HOME

7. What's one small spark the Spirit might be nudging you toward this week?
8. How could you pay attention to what the Spirit is doing in you each day?
   A time, a place, a reminder?

LEADER NOTE *Silence is okay. Count to seven in your head before rephrasing. If no one answers, answer it yourself briefly and honestly, then ask again. If a student has questions about tongues or big spiritual experiences, thank them for asking and offer to talk more afterward with you or the pastor.*

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

Joys & Concerns

10 min

Purpose: Students practice praying *for each other*, not just hearing about prayer. It's often the moment new students realize this group actually cares about them. Tonight it fits the theme: on Pentecost the Spirit came while they were all praying together in one place, and we get to do the same thing.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Sit in a circle if you can. Explain the response: when someone shares, they end with **"I lift up ___ to God."** Everyone responds together: **"Lord, hear our prayer."**
2. Start with **joys** (things to thank God for), then move to **concerns** (things we're worried about or carrying).
3. The leader goes first to model it, with one joy and one concern.
4. Anyone can share, or pass. "Unspoken" requests are welcome, too.
5. Jot down what's shared (first names only) so you can pray for each one in the Pastoral Prayer.

LEADER SCRIPT

> **SAY**
>
> "On Pentecost, the Spirit showed up while people were in one room, praying together. That's what we're about to do. What's something good you're thankful for? Or something heavy you're carrying, for you, your family, or a friend?"
>
> "When you share, end with 'I lift up ___ to God.' And all of us will say together, 'Lord, hear our prayer.' Let's practice. I lift up this group to God…" *(All: "Lord, hear our prayer.")*
>
> "I'll go first. My joy is ___. I lift up ___ to God. My concern is ___. I lift up ___ to God."

Joy starters (if students are stuck)

- A good week at school or a fun weekend
- A moment I felt God was close
- My team or group did great
- Someone I love got good news

Concern starters

- A test, a tryout, or a hard week ahead
- A grandparent or relative who is sick
- A friend who's going through something
- "I have an unspoken request."

VARIATIONS

- **Small group (4–6):** Go around the circle so everyone gets a turn, and everyone is allowed to pass.
- **Big group (12+):** "Popcorn" style: anyone shares when ready. Cap it at about 8 minutes.
- **Written version:** Students write joys and concerns on slips of paper. The leader reads them (no names) and the group responds.

LEADER NOTE *Say once at the start: "What's shared here stays here, unless someone's safety is at risk." If a student shares something serious, thank them, pray, and follow up privately afterward (see the Care Note).*

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

Pastoral Prayer

3–5 min

Pray this over the group. The **[bracketed]** lines are where you name the joys and concerns students just shared.

Holy Spirit, wind of God, thank you for every person in this room, especially anyone who is here for the very first time tonight.

Thank you for the good things you've given us this week. *[Name the joys shared: "Thank you for Ava's great game, for Marcus's grandma coming home..."]* Every good gift comes from you.

And we bring you the things we're carrying. *[Name the concerns: "Be with Noah's family this week. Give Lily peace before her test on Friday..."]* And for the things that stayed in our hearts tonight and weren't spoken out loud, you already know them. Hold them too.

On Pentecost you came like wind and fire, and you didn't skip anyone. You came on young and old, on fishermen and servants, on sons and daughters. Thank you that your promise is for us too. Some of us feel close to you tonight, and some of us aren't sure what we feel. Thank you that you are patient with all of us. Fill us. Give us courage, peace, and love for each other, and help us notice the quiet ways you are working.

For anyone who is new here, thank you for bringing them. Help them feel at home. And this week, help each of us follow one small spark from you.

In Jesus' name, amen.

SEND-OFF

"Take your student pages home. Keep your Spark Card somewhere you'll see it, and bring it back for Week 4. Next time we're talking about how the Spirit turns ordinary, nervous people into brave ones. It's called **'Bold.'** And every week we'll keep asking: **what is the Holy Spirit doing in me?** See you then."

Next Week Follow-Up: Open Week 2 by asking students to look at their One Step tracker and their first Spark Card. "Did you get to do your spark? What happened? What got in the way?" Celebrate any try, and make it clear that "I forgot" is a fine answer. Then: "Who noticed something the Spirit might have been doing?" Have extra Spark Cards ready for new students.

Care Note for Leaders

Talk about the Holy Spirit can stir up real questions. Some students feel spiritually "behind," doubt, feel anxious about speaking up, or feel pressured by stories of dramatic experiences.

- **Normalize the quiet.** Feeling nothing is not failing, and doubts are welcome. Never force anyone to share or pray out loud.
- **Questions about spiritual experiences** (tongues, visions, "hearing God"): listen, don't push, and follow up with your pastor.
- **Don't promise to keep secrets** if someone's safety is at risk. Follow your church's safety policy and tell your lead pastor the same day.
- **Connect them to trained help:** parents or guardians, a school counselor, or a licensed counselor. In the U.S., anyone can call or text **988** (Suicide & Crisis Lifeline) any time.

You're not expected to be a counselor. Your job is to listen well, take it seriously, and make sure they're connected to the right people.

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

THE FULL SERIES

ON FIRE · 4 Weeks

Each week stands alone, so new students can jump in any week. Taught in order, the four weeks walk through the book of Acts around Pentecost: the Spirit comes, the Spirit makes ordinary people bold, the Spirit gives gifts, and the Spirit sends us out. The question every week: *What is the Holy Spirit doing in me?*

#	WEEK	TEXT
1	**Wind and Fire** Pentecost: the Spirit comes	Acts 2:1–13
2	**Bold** The Spirit gives courage	Acts 4:1–20
3	**Gifted** Gifts of the Spirit	1 Corinthians 12:4–11
4	**Unstoppable** The Spirit sends us out	Acts 8:26–40

Every week includes

- 45 / 60 / 75-minute schedules
- Activity Menu with 4+ game options
- Word-for-word leader scripts
- Scripture (World English Bible) and one big idea
- Response activity + "One Step" challenge
- A Spark Card step every week
- Tiered discussion questions
- Joys & Concerns prayer time
- Pastoral prayer with space for your group
- Student pages and 5-day devotional
- Next-week follow-up

Built for real youth groups

These weeks are written for a real Wednesday night group: 5 to 15 students, often with a new face or two, led by a pastor or volunteer with limited prep time. Games never single anyone out. Every activity has a small-group version. And every leader script can be read word for word when you're short on time.

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together. All rights reserved.
Purchasers may photocopy and share the student pages and leader guide for use within their own church or ministry.
Scripture quotations are from the World English Bible (public domain).

Name: _____ Date: _____

TONIGHT'S BIG IDEA

On Pentecost God poured out his Spirit on ordinary people, young and old. That promise includes me.

THE STORY · ACTS 2:2–4

"Suddenly there came from the sky a sound like the rushing of a mighty _____ ...
Tongues like _____ appeared and were distributed to them, and one sat on _____ of them.
They were _____ filled with the Holy Spirit..."

The crowd asked:

My answer:

SPIRIT SPOTTER

Private, just you and God. The Spirit often works quietly. Read each one and circle your honest answer. "Not yet" is a fine answer.

A QUIET WAY THE SPIRIT OFTEN WORKS	HAVE I NOTICED THIS?
A nudge to help someone or sit with someone	Not yet · Maybe · Yes
Remembering something Jesus said right when I need it	Not yet · Maybe · Yes
Peace in a week when I expected to panic	Not yet · Maybe · Yes
Wanting to pray, even just a little	Not yet · Maybe · Yes
Courage to say something true or kind	Not yet · Maybe · Yes
Caring about someone I used to ignore	Not yet · Maybe · Yes
Feeling sorry for something and wanting to start over	Not yet · Maybe · Yes

YOUNG AND OLD · ACTS 2:17

"I will pour out my Spirit on all _____. Your sons and your _____ will prophesy."

If God's promise really includes me, one thing that changes:

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

My One Step

MY ONE STEP THIS WEEK

Every _____ (morning / bus ride / lunch / bedtime)

I will pay attention to the Spirit by _____

Example: "Every night before bed, I will ask, 'Holy Spirit, what did you do in me today?'"

My Spark · Week 1

One small thing the Spirit might be nudging me to do: _____

When and where I'll do it: _____

MY WEEK TRACKER · check each day you did your step

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

MY PRAYER LIST

Joys and concerns shared tonight (first names only). Keep praying this week.

JOYS: THANK YOU, GOD, FOR…	CONCERNS: PLEASE BE WITH…

MY SPARK CARD · WEEK 1

✂ Cut out both flames along the dashed lines and glue them back to back (or copy onto cardstock). Bring your card back for the Fire Wall in Week 4!

SPARK CARD #1 OF 4

"It will be in the last days, says God, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions. Your old men will dream dreams."

ACTS 2:17

BACK · MY SPARK

My spark this week:

_____

_____

_____

M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ T ☐ F ☐ S ☐ S ☐

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together

5 Days of Wind and Fire

TAKE-HOME DEVOTIONAL · 5 MINUTES A DAY

Each day: read the verse, think about the question, write one honest sentence. That's it.

DAY 1 Acts 2:1–2 · All in one place

The Spirit came while they were together, waiting and praying. Who do you pray with, or who could you start praying with?

DAY 2 Acts 2:3–4 · On each of them

The fire sat on *each* person, not just the leaders. Do you ever feel left out of what God is doing? Tell him honestly.

DAY 3 Acts 2:12 · What does this mean?

Some people were curious and some made fun. What's one question you'd like to ask God about the Holy Spirit?

DAY 4 Acts 2:17 · Young and old

God's promise names sons and daughters, young and old. What's one way God could use someone your age this week?

DAY 5 John 14:26 · The Helper who reminds

Jesus said the Spirit would teach us and remind us of what he said. What's one thing Jesus said that you want to remember this week?

A prayer you can pray this week

Holy Spirit, thank you that your promise is for me too, even when I don't feel anything special. Help me notice what you're doing in me, even the quiet things. Give me the courage to follow one small spark this week. Amen.

Next week · Week 2: **Bold**

© 2026 Daham Next Generation Ministry Together