The Holy Spirit
Inspires Jesus’ Followers

Guess the Language

● “Car là où deux ou trois sont assemblés en mon nom, je suis au milieu d’eux.”

● “Porque donde dos o tres se reúnen en mi nombre, allí estoy yo en medio de ellos.”

● “Ubi enim sunt duo vel tres congregati in nomine meo, ibi sum in medio eorum.”

● “Poiché dovunque due o tre son raunati nel nome mio, quivi son io in mezzo a loro.” Guess the language:

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________

Was this activity difficult for you? Why or why not?

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

ACTS 2:1-21 (NRSV)

1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.
3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.
4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.
5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.
6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.
7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?
8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?
9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.”
12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”
13 But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”
14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.
15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning.
16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:
17 ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.
18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.
19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.
21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’"

**KEY VERSE:** *And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.* — Acts 2:21 (CEB)

**A NEW THING**

● What are three things you are excited to see your church doing?

1. _____________________________________________________
2. _____________________________________________________
What are three things you would like to do as part of your church community?

1. _____________________________________________________
2. _____________________________________________________
3. _____________________________________________________

Spend a few minutes answering the following questions: What does it mean to you to know that God is still active and alive within our lives? How does knowing encourage you?

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_______________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________

BLACKOUT POETRY

Blackout poetry is a creative exercise where words are removed from an already written text in order to create a poem from the words that remain visible. Today, we are going to create a blackout poem using our Bible verses in order to make a “new thing.” Take five minutes and create a blackout poem. Examples can be found online using the words ‘blackout poetry’ to search.

When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak. There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring
the mighty works of God in our own languages!” They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?” Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!” Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke. The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

NEW IDEAS
Write a brief prayer thanking God for new ideas and asking for creativity in carrying out your dreams for the church.

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________