

GOD'S SUPER HELPER



For Jesus' friends, there was good news and bad news.

The good news: Jesus was alive!

The bad news: Jesus was leaving.

Now it was up to **THEM** to spread the word about God's kingdom. As soon as Jesus told them this, He disappeared into the sky.

But there was still more news—good news **AND** bad news.

More good news: He promised to send them a Helper!

More bad news: They had no idea who that Helper was, or how He would help them.

And worse, Jesus' friends were **SCARED**. The Jewish leaders—the Sadducees and Pharisees—had arrested Jesus. *What if they decided to arrest Jesus' friends too?*

All of Jesus' friends were meeting together to pray. They were trying not to attract too much attention, so they wouldn't get in trouble.

One day passed. Then two days. Then three.

There was no sign of the "Helper" that Jesus had promised them.

Four days passed. Five days. Six days. Nothing. And then . . .

Boom!

It was the tenth day since Jesus had left, and all His friends were praying together in one big room. Suddenly, a sound like a huge wind filled the house! It was pretty weird. But then things got even **WEIRDER**.

Little flames of fire—not actual fire, but something that looked like fire—appeared in the air and came down over each one of their heads while they prayed!

It was the **HOLY SPIRIT**! The Spirit of God! *Remember when Jesus was baptized?* Something that looked like a dove came down from the sky and rested on Jesus. It was the Spirit of God, coming to show that God's power was with Jesus.

And now the same thing was happening to Jesus' friends. These little flames of fire were a sign that God's power was now with each one of them!

What kind of power?

Well, the first thing that happened was that everyone in the room began speaking in different languages—languages they didn't even know! This was really helpful, because Jews who spoke many different languages were visiting Jerusalem that week from all over the Roman world. Suddenly all these visitors heard Jesus' friends speaking to them in their own language!

Then the Holy Spirit gave Jesus' disciple Peter the **POWER** to stand up and speak an amazing message about who Jesus was. After Peter proclaimed the good news that day, nearly 3,000 people who heard him speak became followers of Jesus!

Suddenly Jesus' disciples, the same ones who had been hiding together to stay out of trouble, were **BRAVELY** talking about Jesus all over Jerusalem.





Stop talking about Jesus or we'll arrest you too!" the Sadducees and Pharisees threatened. But the disciples didn't care. Filled with God's power, they were now the **BRAVEST** people on earth!

This wasn't the first time God's Spirit had filled someone with power. Kings like Saul and David had been filled with the Spirit of God. And some of Israel's judges and prophets were filled with God's power when there was a big job to do.

But before now, only certain people at certain times were filled with the Spirit of God. And if they disobeyed God, like King Saul did, God's Spirit was taken away.

This was very different. Jesus didn't just send the Holy Spirit to help a few special people do a few special things. This was much better than that! Now, for the first time ever, God's Spirit and God's power were available to **ALL** of Jesus' friends. And not just for a little while. **FOREVER**.

Yep, Jesus changed **EVERYTHING**. He didn't leave His friends alone. Instead, He gave them a "superpower"—the power of the Holy Spirit—so they could go out and change the world.

GOD'S SUPER HELPER

FAMILY CONNECTION

ACTS 2



TRICKY BITS

Who is our Helper?

Remember the Trinity? God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our Helper. When we give our lives to Jesus, He gives us His Spirit to help us. As we grow, we learn to listen to the Spirit. He guides us and changes us from the inside out.

TALK

Why do you think God used fire to show His super power?

How can you use God's super power in your life?

Dear God...

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for sending us a super Helper and filling us with Your super power so we can live like Jesus lived and be a part of Your rescue plan. Amen.



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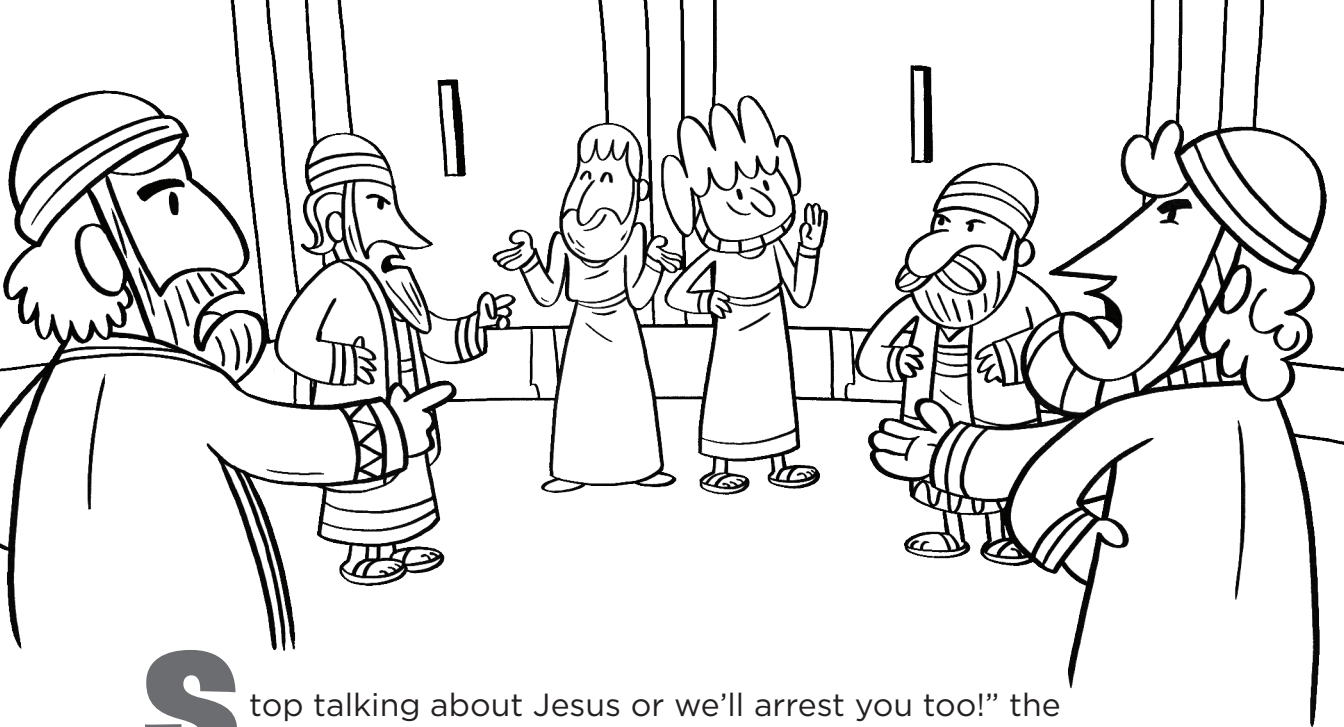
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