

WITNESS

READ FOR YOURSELF: Acts 2:22-39

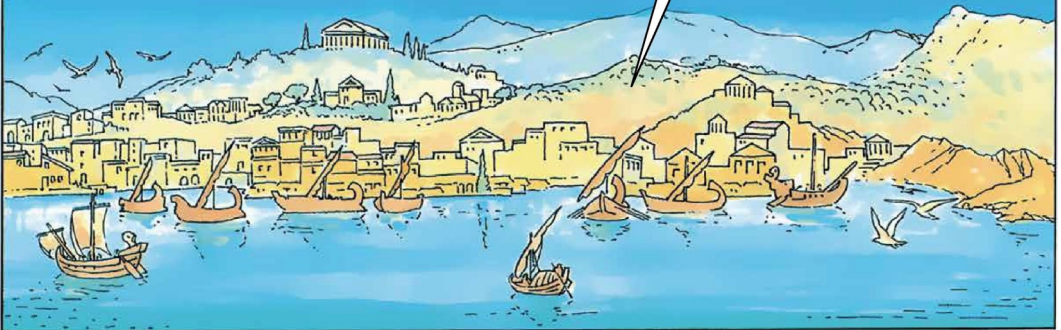
Jesus' followers stay behind to pray. After fifty days, on the day of the Pentecost, the holy Spirit comes upon them. The same Spirit who was in Jesus now also lives in them and those who will believe in him. His followers are his powerful witnesses. More and more people hear about Jesus...

Listen people! Death could not hold Jesus. God brought him back to life and made him Lord. Jesus is the very first one taken in God's glory. And that glory is available to us!



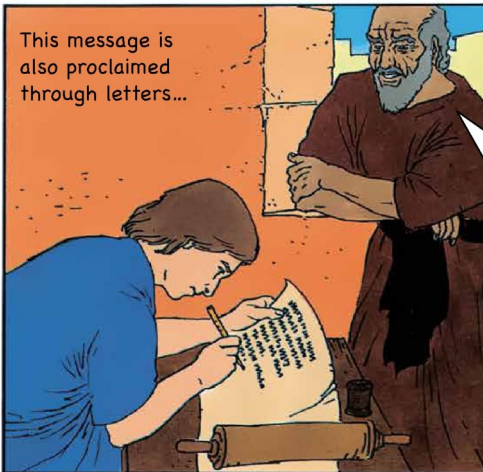
Jesus' followers go into the world, despite great opposition...

Jesus is the Son of God! We can become God's children as well!



This message is also proclaimed through letters...

I am not ashamed of this good news. It is God's power that saves people. It was already written in the Books: "If you believe it, you are good in God's eyes. Then you shall live!"



Now more and more people all over the world meet to pray together and read the Bible. They live in God's grace. They experience his favour. They love each other and help those in need. They even love their enemies. They break bread and pass the wine around to remind them that their sins are forgiven. And that they have received a new and powerful life, full of God's Spirit...

WITNESS

Jesus departs to heaven. Even so His followers do not feel alone. In His earthly body the Lord Jesus could only be in one place at a time. But with His Spirit He can be everywhere and with everyone. Thanks to Jesus' offer all His followers may receive the Holy Spirit and have Him always with them.

Now, the Spirit of God that was in Jesus, also lives in His followers. Their body has become a home for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit bears witness of Jesus. That's why Jesus' followers can preach about Him convincingly. They possess a new strength now. They have become different people. They are full of Jesus. And full of Jesus, they bring God's good news to the whole world. Full dedication they carry out Jesus' directions whatever it may cost.

Today it's not any different. Whoever receives Jesus' offer also receives the Holy Spirit. If He begins to work in your life, you become a different person. He makes you full of Jesus. You will see this in your words. You love to speak about Him full of conviction. These words of God will help other people also change and become followers of Jesus. You will see this in your deeds and it will change your character. Love for other people comes in your heart. More often you will think good for them and you will mean more for them. You will become more like Jesus!

MEMORY VERSE

*"Here we are, then, speaking for Christ, as though God Himself were making his appeal through us. We plead on Christ's behalf: let God change you from enemies into his friends!"
(2 Corinthians 5:20)*

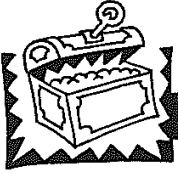
WHO IS JESUS?

Apostle of God

"My Christian brothers and sisters, who also have been called by God! Think of Jesus, whom God sent to be the High Priest of the faith we profess." (Hebrews 3:1)

Apostle means 'sent by someone'. Jesus was sent by God. He was sent with the command to show God's love to all people. He did that perfectly!

The 12 disciples are also called 'apostles'. They are sent by Jesus with the command to bring the message of God's love and salvation to the ends of the earth. But their mission is not completed yet. Now we are also sent by the Lord Jesus to tell of Him and to show how much God loves us. The Holy Spirit helps you to accomplish this mission joyfully!



OLD TREASURES

In the time of the Old Testament it was not quit normal that the Holy Spirit was in many people. Because of sin, that was impossible. Yet God announces that another time will come when His Spirit can be in all people. Then people will speak God's words through His Spirit. Men and women of different ages and from all social positions will be full of the Holy Spirit. Not just a few prophets will speak the Words of God, but all kinds of people, even children. Jesus made that possible!

“Afterward I will pour out My Spirit on everyone: your sons and daughters will proclaim My message; your old people will have dreams, and your young people will see visions. At that time I will pour out My Spirit even on servants, both men and women.” (Joel 2:28-29)



EXTRA INFORMATION

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of God or the Spirit of Jesus. He is God's breath, who, just like the wind, can be everywhere. He breathed life into creation. And He brings the life of God in people. He is the Spirit that gives eternal life. He gives us God's strength. He helps us to better understand God's way of thinking. He helps us to better know Jesus as the truth. When you don't trust in Him you can make the Holy Spirit sad or even that He leaves you. But even then the Holy Spirit is ready to help.

Thanks to God's Spirit we never have to feel rejected by God. He is always close by to help us out. That is why He is also called our Advocate and Comforter.

YOU ARE JESUS' WITNESS

When you follow Jesus, your life won't stay the same. Jesus makes your life from something ordinary to something special. Just like the disciples that were just ordinary fisherman, they become fisherman of men. They follow Jesus everywhere and are on fire for Him.

Jesus says: “Follow me!” to His followers, the people that love Him. When you love Him you love to do what He wants you to do. You can fully trust Him!



DO YOU KNOW...?

1. Give two other names for the Holy Spirit.

2. Why is the Holy Spirit also called the Comforter?

3. What does the Holy Spirit give you strength for?

4. Why can the Holy Spirit now live in all people who belong to Jesus:

- a) Because Jesus has cleansed us from all sins so that the Holy Spirit can feel at home in us.
- b) Because the Holy Spirit is actually just the breath that everyone has.
- c) Because the Holy Spirit has always been with all the people over the whole world.

5. What does 'apostle' mean?

6. In the picture story you can read a part of the letter written to the Romans.
Who wrote this letter (Romans 1:1)?

7. Fill in the missing words:

The Holy Spirit changes your words, because you will begin to speak of with conviction.

The Holy Spirit changes your actions, because

He helps you to become more like

BIBLE READING

Sun	Acts 2:22-39
Mon	Joel 2:25-32
Tue	John 14:15-27
Wed	John 15:17-27
Thu	Galatians 5:13-26
Fri	Romans 1:1-17
Sat	2 Corinthians 5:6-20



ACTION POINT!

Are you excited for Jesus?

Talk about Him with your parents, your brothers and sisters. Also show Him in your life.

Talk about Him with your friends at school or when writing letters or email.

The Holy Spirit will overflow you with Jesus. He will excite you so other people can also be excited for Jesus.