

LEARNING FOCUS 2: The gift of the Holy Spirit for everyone.

CONTENT

Revisit the story of Pentecost *God's Story 3* pages 132-133 *Pentecost* based on Acts 2: 1-43. Discuss the events and focus on how the power of the Holy Spirit is seen and changes lives. The power of the Holy Spirit is for everyone. All Christians are called to share the mission to spread the Gospel message.

Share Peter's message explaining to the people in Jerusalem that the gift of the Holy Spirit is for everyone.

"God has raised this very Jesus from death and we are all witnesses to this fact. He has been raised to the right hand side of God, his Father, and has received from him the Holy Spirit, as he had promised. What you now see and hear is his gift that he has poured out on us. All the people of Israel, then, are to know for sure that this Jesus, whom you crucified, is the one that God has made Lord and Messiah!"

When the people heard this, they were deeply troubled and said to Peter and the other apostles, "What shall we do, brothers?" Peter said to them, "Each one of you must turn away from your sins and be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins will be forgiven; and you will receive God's gift, the Holy Spirit. For God's promise was made to you and your children, and to all who are far away—all whom the Lord our God calls to himself".

Many of them believed his message and were baptised, and about three thousand people were added to the group that day. They spent their time in learning from the apostles, taking part in the fellowship, and sharing in the fellowship meals and the prayers.

Based on Acts 2: 32-39, 41-42

Discuss the reading, highlighting the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q What changes can you find in people's feelings, actions and words?
- Q How did the crowd react?
- Q How did the onlookers respond?
- Q What did Peter tell the people of Israel to do?
- Q How did the people respond to Peter's message?
- Q How did it shape their lives?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY

- Imagine you were in Jerusalem at the time, heard Peter's message and have just been baptised. Write a letter to a friend who has not heard about Jesus, giving reasons to show how belief in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit has empowered you and changed your life.