

Filled with the Holy Spirit

Theme: Being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Scripture: All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

You can have a lot of fun with a balloon. I have seen some people who can take a long, skinny balloon and make it into the shape of different animals. Have you ever tried that? If you have a round balloon, you can toss it up into the air and see how long you can keep it up without it hitting the ground. I have even played a game in which you tie a balloon to your ankle and play "stomp the balloon" with other children. That is a lot of fun.

Imagine a pack of 100 balloons. They can be any color; red is one of my favorite colors. Consider the shape of them; I think they would be very nice round balloons. There seems to be something lacking in this bag of balloons. Can anyone tell me what these balloons need? I hope you guessed it. They need to be filled with air! Before a balloon can fulfill its purpose, someone must breathe some life into it.

I think balloons can help us to learn something about the church. Today is a very special day. It is a day we call Pentecost. This year we celebrate Pentecost on Sunday, May 31, 2020. Do you know what happened on the day of Pentecost? It was the day that God sent his Holy Spirit to breathe life into His church so that the church would be all that God intended for it to be. Before God sent his Holy Spirit, the church was lifeless -- like our bag of balloons. The church was not witnessing and telling people about Jesus. After the Holy Spirit breathed life into the church, people began telling everyone about Jesus. It didn't even matter if they spoke the same language. They told everyone about Jesus and they understood. Thousands of people were added to the church. The church became alive and was doing the things God had commanded.

Imagine receiving a balloon for yourself. I want you to take the balloon and -- pretend as you breathe life into it -- remember that just as the balloon needs to be filled to be what it was intended to be, you and I need the Holy Spirit to fill us so that we can be all that God wants us to be.

Let us pray.

We thank you, Lord God, for sending your Holy Spirit. We thank you for breathing life into the church and we thank you for giving your spirit to all who believe. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.