



Pentecost

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Additional Resources

PowerPoint presentation

A chair

A song about Power
Suggestion

'I've got the power' by Snap!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=_BRv9wGf5pk

The power of Pentecost

Aim

- To learn about Pentecost
- To reflect on the tools we already have to achieve

Introduction

Introduce yourself and welcome pupils to assembly.

Play 'I've got the power' or an alternative song as pupils enter the hall.

Slide 1 What was the song that was playing as you entered the hall? What did you notice about it? Do you know what it is called? How did it make you feel? *Take a variety of responses.* Music can be a powerful tool. Have you seen people listening to music to help them complete a task? What kinds of activities seem easier when there is music playing? *Take a variety of responses.* People use music to help them while: dancing, exercising, perhaps studying and even tidying up. Music helps some people complete a task that might be tricky for them to do.

Main Talk

Slide 2 I've got a challenge that I need a few volunteers for. *Select around 8 - 10 pupils of similar height.* My challenge for you all is... to sit down. *Demonstrate by sitting on a chair.* Seems really easy? BUT - you can't sit on the floor, or sit on a chair or a piece of furniture. *Stand up before someone sits on you.* Give pupils a minute to try the challenge.

Does it seem an impossible task? Am I asking too much of you? But you have all the tools you need to achieve this. *Organise the pupils into a circle with their right arms stretched into the middle, like the spokes of a wheel. Ensure the pupils are close together, and guide them to slowly sit on the lap of the person behind them.*

You have all managed to sit down - without sitting on the floor or on a piece of furniture. Well done! It seemed like an impossible task; you may have wanted to give up and say it is too hard. BUT - you had all the tools you needed to succeed. You had the power within you; you just needed to unlock it.

Slide 3 I've mentioned 'power' to you several times. 'Power' is important to what I'm going to talk to you about next. **Click to make the word 'power' disappear.** I'm going to talk to you about Pentecost. **Click to reveal the word 'Pentecost'.** Have you heard of this word before? Ask pupils to show thumbs up or thumbs down to indicate their response. Pentecost is an event in the Christian calendar that happens after Easter. **Pente** means a number. Do you know how many sides a pentagon has? *Take a variety of responses.* A pentagon has 5 sides. **Pentecost** means 50. 50 days after Easter. Do you know what Christians believe happened 50 days after Easter? *Take a variety of responses.*





Pentecost

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Slide 4 The Bible says that after Jesus dies, he comes back to life. Jesus spends time with his disciples - his followers and pupils. He spends time teaching and speaking to lots of people. Jesus spends time with the disciples and promises that they will have help for the future. But on the 40th day, Jesus returns to Heaven, and the disciples are left alone.

The disciples are left to carry on Jesus' work. They are to start the Christian Church. They are to teach about Jesus and to teach about God's love. They are to spread Jesus' teaching across the world.

But the disciples have just lost Jesus - their teacher, their guide and their friend. The disciples are not safe - the authorities want to persecute Christians. The world is a very large and dangerous place filled with lots of different types of people. There are only twelve disciples, twelve people, to do a very large and impossible sounding job. Can you imagine how they might have felt? *Take a variety of responses.*

Slide 5 Fifty days after Easter the disciples gather together. They are feeling really low about the future. The Bible records that something amazing happens next. The help that Jesus promised arrives in the form of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helped the disciples realise they had all the skills they needed to start the Christian Church by themselves. The passion to start their work burned within them like a fire. **(Opportunity to discuss Acts 2:1-13 if appropriate with the school)** The power was already there - they just needed to discover them. The disciples had the power to succeed.

Pentecost is a time when Christians remember the start of the Christian Church. Nearly two thousand years ago it must have seemed an impossible thing to do. But the disciples spread the news about Jesus across Africa, and Europe, and even reached Russia and India. The Christian Church is here today thanks to their work.

Challenge and Reflection

Slide 6 We've talked about how music can help people with a task. We've seen how a challenge can seem impossible at first, but you have the ability to overcome it. We've thought about the problems faced by the disciples starting the Christian Church.

Take a moment to look at the challenges you face within your own life. What do you need to accomplish? Does it seem hard or impossible to do? What tools or skills do you need to unlock? Take a moment to look inside yourself. Do you have these skills already? What can you do to help yourself to have the power to achieve?

Pause for short reflection time.

Thank the pupils and staff for letting you be a part of their assembly.

You may wish to play music as the pupils leave the assembly.