

**RESPOND**//15 minutes

*Children reflect on what the Holy Spirit is teaching them and respond through creative activities and games.*

## Reflect: God Is Powerful

Encourage the kids to open their Bibles and read the suggested passages.

### QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER KIDS

- **How did the disciples respond after Jesus went up to heaven?** Luke 24:52–53
- **What happened when the Holy Spirit came?** Acts 2:2–4
- **After the Holy Spirit came, what did Peter do?** Acts 2:14
- **How did the people who heard Peter’s message respond?** Acts 2:41
- **How did the first believers live their lives together after the Holy Spirit came?** Acts 2:42–47
- **How does God’s Spirit help us live as His children?** John 14:26; Romans 8:26

### QUESTIONS FOR OLDER KIDS

- **Why did Jesus tell the disciples it would be better for them once He sent the Holy Spirit?** John 16:5–11
- **How did the disciples respond after Jesus went up to heaven?** Luke 24:52–53
- **What happened when the Holy Spirit came?** Acts 2:2–4
- **How did the disciples speak in other languages?** Acts 2:4–11
- **How did the Holy Spirit give the disciples more strength?** Acts 2:18, 43
- **How did the first believers live their lives together after the Holy Spirit came?** Acts 2:42–47
- **How does God’s Spirit work through us and help us?** Acts 1:8; 4:31; 1 Corinthians 12:7–11; Ephesians 3:16
- **How does God’s Spirit help us live as His children?** John 14:26; Romans 8:26
- **How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in your life?**

## Strands of Strength

Children will use strips of fabric to respond to God’s power in The Big God Story and their own life.

### SUPPLIES

- Fabric strips (3 [3" x 12"] strips per child, 3 colors)
- Fabric markers
- Whiteboard
- Dry erase marker

### PREPARE AHEAD

Take one fabric strip of each color and tie the strips together at the end in a knot. Make a set of fabric strips in this way for each child.

### SET UP

Draw three columns on the whiteboard. Label the first column “Where is God powerful in The Big God Story?” Label the second column “How has God shown His power in the past week?” Label the last column “How do you or someone you know need God’s power this week?”

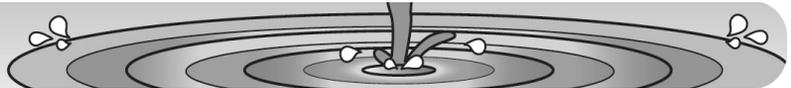
## RELATE

When the Holy Spirit came, the disciples received amazing gifts and strength that could only come from God. God is powerful, and in His power the disciples received the strength to live as God's messengers, teachers, and children.

Hold up a fabric strip. Like this thin piece of fabric, on our own we aren't very strong. But when we rely on God for strength, we can become stronger, like three strips braided together become much stronger than just one strip by itself. Braid three strips of fabric together and pull on the braid to show its strength.

Today we're going to take three strips of fabric and write things that are true about God on them. Then we're going to braid them together, symbolizing that God gives us strength. Let's share some ideas for each of the questions written here. Motion to whiteboard. **Where is God powerful in The Big God Story? How has God shown His power in the past week? How do you or someone you know need God's power this week?** Encourage and record answers in each column. Then give each child three fabric strips and a fabric marker. On the fabric, invite the kids to write the answers that speak to them. Younger kids can draw their answers on the fabric. When the kids have finished writing or drawing, help them braid their fabric strips together and tie a knot at the end.

**BLESS**//5 minutes



*Children receive a blessing from their leaders and sometimes one another. A blessing may be prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.*

## SUPPLIES

- Remember Verse cards (see Resources)
- At Home Weekly: Lesson 2 (see Resources)
- Bible

## RELATE

Open a Bible and read Acts 1:8:

**“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

Read the verse a second time. This time, have the kids replace “Jerusalem,” “Judea,” and “Samaria” with the names of their own town, province or state, and country. For example: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in (name of your town or city), and in all (name of your province or state) and (name of your country), and to the ends of the earth.”

Then speak this blessing over them:

**May your lives overflow with the power of the Holy Spirit. May God's amazing power fill you with joy, comfort, and guidance as you share Him with the world.**

Send home Remember Verse cards and the At Home Weekly with your kids.