
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 10, Bible Truth 1

The Case of the Eager Waiters Acts 1-2

(Numbers correspond to Bible story picture pages in Detective Dan's Big Question Box)

1. "I'm going home to heaven now, but I won't leave you alone," Jesus told His disciples, after He died on the cross and rose from the dead. "I will ask the Father and He will send you the gift of the Holy Spirit. It's good that I'm going away, so you can have this gift," Jesus told them.
2. "The Holy Spirit will live inside you," Jesus explained. "He'll give you power to be My witnesses to the whole world. He'll help you, comfort you, guide you, and give you courage," Jesus promised them. "Go to Jerusalem and wait for the gift," He told them.
3. Then, Jesus went through the clouds, and up to heaven to rule as king. The disciples headed to Jerusalem, spreading the news to the other believers. to wait for the gift, as Jesus told them to.
4. The believers gathered together in a house in Jerusalem. They prayed and waited; and, waited and prayed. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine days passed, but still no Holy Spirit. Had God forgotten? No! He was waiting for Day Ten, as part of His perfect plan.
5. Why Day Ten? Because Day Ten was a special celebration day, called the Day of Pentecost. Every Pentecost, thousands of Jews from all over the world came to Jerusalem to thank God for the Ten Commandments. Now, God was going to use this celebration to tell the world about Jesus!
6. On Day Ten, the gift came. "Whoosh!" A mighty wind came from heaven, filling the house. "Crackle, Sparkle!" Something like fire rested on each of Jesus' followers. Then quietly and powerfully, the Holy Spirit came to live in their hearts, filling them with God's joy, peace, and power.
7. Jesus' followers were so happy! They burst out of the house and ran into the streets full of joy!
8. But that's not all the Holy Spirit did that day. He also helped those disciples speak in languages they had never learned. Suddenly, the Romans, Greeks, Arabs, Africans, and Asians in the Pentecost crowd could hear the wonders of God in their own language. How amazing!
9. "What's going on? How can these people speak in these languages? What gift is this?" many wondered. Others laughed and made fun of the disciples. The Holy Spirit helped Peter stand up and tell the crowd the great things God was doing.
10. "These people are speaking your languages by God's Holy Spirit," Peter explained. "God has sent Him to live inside of all who follow Jesus. Turn away from your sins, trust in Jesus as your Savior, and be baptized. God will send the Holy Spirit to live inside you, too," Peter promised them.
11. Over three thousand people turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior that day. God's Holy Spirit came to live in them, filling them with God's joy, peace, and power. They were so happy! Now, they could know God in their hearts, too.
12. Already, God's Holy Spirit had begun to do amazing things in God's people. God's plan to tell the world the good news of Jesus was happening. And this was only the beginning. How many more wonderful things would God's Holy Spirit do!