

Session Theme: Language

Activity: Mad Gab

Scripture Story: *Excerpts from Acts 1 and 2
from the Message (verse numbers in this
excerpt are made-up for ease of reference):*

Video Clip: Grid Iron Gang

Acts 1

1 After the resurrection, while staying with them, Jesus ordered the disciples not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of God the Father. 2 "This," Jesus said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, 3 but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

[passage of time happens – Jesus ascends. Now, 10 days after Jesus ascends...]

Acts 2

4 When the day of Pentecost came, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot 5 along with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as Jesus' brothers 6 were all together in one place and were constantly devoting themselves to prayer. 7 Then suddenly from the sky there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, 8 and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 9 The Holy Spirit was with them and spread among them like wild fire. 10 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

11 Now there were spiritual Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. And at this sound of the wind the crowd gathered and was bewildered, 12 because each one heard the disciples speaking in the native language of each. 13 Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 14 And how is it that we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power in our own native language? 15 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 16 Others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." 17 But others by the end of the day, decided to join the disciples. 3000 joined that day.

NOTES

- Remember: Language is the naming of things
- When we don't pay attention to God, we see and name things differently and individually – this eventually separates us from God and from each other.
- Pentecost is a story that reminds us of what is possible when we pay attention to God and how paying attention to God overcomes the previous separation caused by our own naming of things.