

STUDY AIDS

Story 43 The Church Begins A Bible Story from the Book Acts

43 - THE CHURCH BEGINS

OPEN BIBLE STORIES



MORINGA MEDITATIONS

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A Guide to Using the Stories in the Open Bible Stories

The Reason For The Stories

The stories in the OBS tell about things that happened in the Bible. However, the stories are shorter than the Bible accounts, and the language is often easier to understand. The stories can help people learn about who God is and about what he has done. Also, each paragraph of a story has an image that can help people understand what happened in Bible times when clothing, houses, and culture were very different than they are today.

How to Use The Stories

- **Choose a story to read.** The stories will be easier to understand if you read the stories in order, beginning with the first story
- **Read the story.** In a group, one person may read the story aloud, or the people may take turns reading portions.
- **Look at the images.** Use the images to help you understand what happened in the time of the story. Try to identify the people in the images.
- **Refer to the Notes.** Read the study notes whenever there is a word or something else that you do not understand in the story.
- **Discuss the Questions.** Read each question and think about the answer. The first set of questions help you see what the story says. The next set of questions help you think about what the story means to you. If you are in a group, allow different people to offer answers to the questions. Look at the answer to each question and see how it is the same as your answer, or different from it.
- **Read the Summary.** Read the story summary at the end of the questions. Think about what you have learned about God in the story. If you are in a group, ask the group what they have learned from the story.

The Parts of The Stories

- The text of the stories
- The images in the stories
- The study notes in the stories
- The questions for the stories

Study Notes

Slide 1

After Jesus returned to heaven, the disciples **stayed in Jerusalem** as Jesus had commanded them to do. The believers there constantly gathered together to pray.

stayed in Jerusalem - Jesus had told them to stay in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them.



Slide 2

Every year, 50 days after the Passover, the Jews celebrated an important day called Pentecost. Pentecost was a time when the Jews **celebrated the wheat harvest**. Jews came from all over the world to Jerusalem to celebrate Pentecost together. **This year** the time for Pentecost came about a week after Jesus had gone back to heaven.

celebrated the wheat harvest - The Jews would thank God for the wheat harvest by bringing offerings and celebrate by having special meals. This happened in May; other crops were harvested at other times of the year.

This year - This refers to the year that Jesus died.

