

BANANA NEWS



GO DEEPER

SPECIAL WORDS

BEING A DISCIPLE MEANS RELYING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT

MEMORY VERSE

Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me." *Luke 9:23 (NLT)*

DAILY DEVOTIONS

DAY 1: NOT ALONE

READ - Acts 1:6-11

How do you feel when you are alone? The disciples of Jesus loved Him so much and they relied on Jesus to teach and lead them. But Jesus was returning to Heaven. This probably made them feel sad or worried about what to do. But Jesus gave them hope. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with them, so that they would not be alone. The Holy Spirit would continue to teach and guide them just like Jesus had! **Remember: Being a Disciple Means Relying on the Holy Spirit**

DAY 2: THE WAITING

READ - Acts 1:12-14: 2:1-4

Let's play a game. How long do you think you can sit still and quiet? I'm going to start a timer and see how long we can wait. Ready, set, go! Begin the timer and see how long your child can wait. Stop the timer when they speak or get really wiggly. Wow! That was really hard. It's even harder to wait when we are excited about something! The disciples had to wait almost a week before the Holy Spirit came. Do you know what they did while they waited? They prayed! Let's pray right now and ask God to help us wait on His plans in our lives. Remember: Being a Disciple Means Relying on the Holy Spirit

DAY 3: THE CHURCH GROWS

READ- Acts 2:4, 14, 36-41

The Holy Spirit came! How do you think the disciples were feeling? As soon as they had the Holy Spirit they began telling others about Jesus. Many people chose to believe in and follow Jesus. When they said yes to Jesus they became a part of the church. When the Holy Spirit came, the church, people who follow Jesus, grew and grew! **Remember: Being a Disciple Means Relying on the Holy Spirit**

DAY 4: RELYING

READ - Psalm 59:17, Psalm 86:11

What are some things you need help with? We will always have things we need help with or we will have choices we need to make. God wants us to trust Him to give us what we need and to ask Him to show us what to do in our lives. He wants us to look to Him and say, "God, I have no idea what I'm going to do, but I'm trusting You to take care of me." **Remember: Being a Disciple Means Relying on the Holy Spirit**

DAY 5: POWER TO SHARE

READ - Acts 1:8

If you had a superpower, what superpower would you like to have? God sent the Holy Spirit to give power to His children. But what did He give His children the power to do? The Holy Spirit gives the power to boldly share about Jesus with others! But who should we tell and where should we go? We are to share the truth of God's Word with everyone, anywhere God leads us! **Remember: Being a Disciple Means Relying on the Holy Spirit**



Materials: red, yellow, and orange beads, string, "power" beads

Create a reminder that when you are a child of God you can rely on the Holy Spirit. The red, yellow and orange beads represent the flames that appeared over the disciples when the Holy Spirit came down to them. And the other beads spell out the word "Power." You can put all these beads onto the string to make a bracelet that you can wear all day to remind you of the Holy Spirit. Ask for a trusted adult to put on the song, "Holy Spirit" by Francesca Battistelli, (www.tinyurl.com/ HSbyFB) while working on your bracelets.

When you're finished making your bracelet, put it on or hold it and thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to His followers.



Materials: funnel, balloon, pop rocks, soda, 13x9 inch pan

Place the soda in a 13x9 inch pan to help make clean-up easy. Use the funnel and pour the nerds candy and the pop rocks into the balloon. Then carefully open the soda and attach the balloon around the mouth of the bottle. Tip up the balloon and watch!

Just like the pop rocks had the power to fill the balloon, the gospel is powerful! In fact, God's Word says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes."



CUDDLE CLOSE

Materials: None

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "I can rely on God the Holy Spirit!" As you tuck them into bed sing, "Jesus, Savior" (www.tinyurl.com/yancystop). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase, to let your child repeat after you:

Dear God, Help me to stop and talk to You. Help me to learn to obey You. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name, Amen.