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Week 8: Jesus' Power Lives In Us

Scripture: Pentecost (Acts 2:1-12)

Supplies: Thankful journal, crayons or markers, aluminum foil

Minutes	Element	Description
1	Intro	<p>Hi friends! (Introduce yourself.) By now we're old friends...you know who I am! We've spent the last couple months learning different ways Jesus' power pulls us through a time of fear, worry, and uncertainty about COVID-19. But today, I'm going to tell you a super awesome thing you might not realize about Jesus' power. <u>Jesus' power lives in us!</u></p> <p>Let me say that again because it's pretty special: <u>Jesus' power lives in us!</u> Jesus' power wasn't just something that happened in the Bible...Jesus continues to show power in our world today, and one way he does that is by working through us!</p>
3	Family Discussion	<p>That's pretty cool to think about...but you might not always <i>feel</i> very powerful. In fact, sometimes when we're going through tough seasons like this one, you might feel a little <i>powerless</i>.</p> <p>So, pause me and talk about this question with your family:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's something that makes you feel powerless right now? (Leader, share your own quick example.)
10	Bible Story	<p>Hmmm...if we feel powerless sometimes, how do we know <u>Jesus' power lives in us?</u> Well, it all started not long after Jesus died, came back to life, and went to heaven. Let's find out what happened! If you want to follow along, turn to Acts 2:1-12.</p> <p>(Summarize the Bible story in your own words, hitting these key points and actions.)</p>

- All the people who loved Jesus were meeting together...they didn't have to do social distancing!
- There was a sudden sound of a mighty windstorm (blow things around, and wave aluminum foil to make loud sounds)
- What looked like tongues of fire settled on their heads (hold your fingers above your head and wave them like flames)

Okay, so far this is pretty cool, but it doesn't show how the people had Jesus' power living in them. But what happened next sure does!

- People from all different countries heard the loud noises and came running to see what was going on.
- Christians started speaking languages they *didn't even know* so that all the people gathering around could hear that Jesus loves them!

Wow! I don't know about you, but I sure couldn't start speaking a language I don't know by my own power! That *had* to be Jesus' power! When that wind and fire came, it was the Holy Spirit coming to live in Jesus' followers. The Holy Spirit brought Jesus' power to us! Let's practice saying "Jesus loves you" in different languages. We'll say each one several times.

(Provide this link in a comment or description under your video.)

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/4920085/video/255745554>

So cool! Did you learn a language you've never spoken in before? I did!

Now, before we go on, I've got a question for you. When the first Christians had Jesus' power living in them, they had the power to speak languages they didn't know. So here's my question:

- What's something you wish Jesus would give *you* the power to do? Pause and talk about that with your family.

It's fun to think about all the cool things we could do with Jesus' power. But you know what's the coolest thing about Jesus' power? It helps us share about Jesus with everyone in the world! God didn't give the first Christians the power

		<p>to fly or become invisible...he gave the power to tell everyone about Jesus, no matter where they were from.</p> <p>I think that's pretty cool because the message of Jesus' love is for everyone. And right now, the whole world is going through Coronavirus together. A lot of people might be looking for answers...looking for Jesus.</p> <p>Now, maybe you've been stuck in your house for a while now. With everything closed, it might not feel like you're out in the world right now. Maybe you're a little bored and wishing you had more interesting things to do. Here's good news: <u>Jesus' power lives in us</u>, so there's plenty to do! We can be the love of Jesus in other people's lives. Jesus' power in us gives us the ability to do important missions for Jesus!</p> <p>Earlier we talked about ways we feel powerless...but God has given us plenty of powerful things to do! And we can start in our own families.</p> <p>So, think about this...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can you show Jesus' love to your family? Pause and talk about that. <p>You and your family have probably spent a lot of time together lately. Loving each other well might not be something you can do in your own power. But <u>Jesus' power lives in us</u>! Just as he helped the first Christians share his love with people who spoke other languages, he can help you share his love with your family even when you feel bored, frustrated, or annoyed with them.</p>
4	Science Fun	<p>So...what does it look like to have <i>Jesus'</i> power working in us, instead of our own? I'm glad you asked! Let me show you a neat science trick that will help us explore that.</p> <p>(Stand with your arms in a doorway, with the backs of your hands out and pressing against the doorway. Hold it for at least 30 seconds, and invite families to join along with you. When you step out of the doorway, your arms will lift up on their own...without you trying.)</p> <p>Wow! That was so cool! Did everyone get a turn? If not, pause me and make sure everyone can try it.</p>

		<p>Talk about this with your families. (Direct to pause after each questions.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did it feel like to have your arms move without you trying to move them? • What's something you need Jesus' power to do to show his love...because you don't think you can do it by yourself? <p>We didn't use our own power to lift our arms, they just lifted on their own. When <u>Jesus' power lives in us</u>, we'll find ourselves being more loving, more focused on others...and it just happens naturally!</p>
3	Music Videos	<p>So far we've talked about how <u>Jesus' power lives in us</u> and helps us show his love to our families. But remember, the first Christians could speak lots of languages because Jesus' message is for everyone! The whole world needs Jesus' love...and they <i>especially</i> need to know that God is taking care of them even with COVID-19 happening!</p> <p>So let's sing about how God cares for the whole world. Stand up and sing with me!</p> <p>He's Got the Whole World In His Hands (Provide this link in a comment or description under your video.)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-T1CLIMjiTw</p>
3	Closing/prayer	<p>What a great reminder that even as we've been cooped up in our homes, God is taking care of us...and people all around the world going through the same thing!</p> <p>So, I've got a special prayer challenge for you this week that will take you out of your house...even out of your country! Well, not literally...but you're going to pray for another country! Think of a place you know besides the one where you live. It's okay if you don't know whether it's a city, state, or country! Just name a place. Got one in mind? Let's all shout our places on the count of three. 1, 2, 3! (Put your hand to your ear like you're listening for answers.)</p> <p>Wow! That was so loud I think I almost heard all of you! The people in all the places we just shouted out need to know God is taking care of them right now...and that Jesus always loves them. So, I'm going to start a prayer. When I pause, say the name of the place you named again.</p>

		<p>God, please help people in (pause) to know that you love them. Please take care of the people there! In Jesus' name, amen.</p> <p>Thanks for praying with me! <u>Jesus' power lives in us</u> when we pray for people all around the world. Which reminds me of what I want you to draw in your thankfulness journal this week. You know that place you named? Look it up and see if you can find what the flag looks like, or what shape the place is. Then draw it in your thankful journal. Or maybe you'll just draw a globe! Whatever you draw, draw a heart next to it so you can remember to be thankful for Jesus' love in that place, and that God is at work all over the world!</p>
		<p><i>If your church is returning to meeting in person next week, let kids know and get them excited about that. Also say:</i></p> <p>Friends, I've had so much fun showing you how Jesus' power pulls us through in these video lessons. And I want you to hold on to your thankfulness journal even as life starts to get back to normal. Take a look at what God did during this time! You can keep adding to it and looking back at it for years to come to remember Jesus' power during this historic time. Remember, you can always look for his power and be thankful!</p>
Total: 24		