



WEEK  
**TWO**  
MAY 2023



25 MINUTES

## COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

*Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit. There is a white board with a dry erase marker at the front of the room.*

### INTRODUCTION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "Hey, friends! This month we're hoping to raise our game when it comes to confidence and living like we believe God is with us. As we jump in, let's make a list. I'm guessing most of you should be able to answer this:

"What is something that you can do all by yourself that you need zero help from some else to do?"

*Take some answers and make a list on the left-hand side of the white board. Comment on them and affirm their ideas.*

"Those are great! Now, for the flipside of that: What are things that you do need help with, like something you can't do on your own that you'd have to ask someone else to pitch in to finish?"

*Again, take some answers but make a list on the right-hand side of the white board this time. Comment on them and affirm their ideas.*

"Excellent! Thanks for helping out. You all gave some really thoughtful answers on there!"

### TENSION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "We will all face situations on each side of the white board. We'll have moments when we face challenges that are easy to overcome, subjects that will get us excited about school, new skills that will take little effort to master. We'll also face moments when the problems we're facing seem impossible to figure out on our own.

"Wouldn't it be great if there was some machine or some tricked-out device that we could ask or a button we could press and it would solve all of our problems? I mean, how great would it be if we didn't understand something in math and could push a button on our desk and just like that (*snap fingers*) know how to divide fractions like a champ? Or if we weren't sure how to get along with a friend, we could ask some tech gadget and suddenly have the insight we need to stay best friends forever? That'd be pretty fantastic.

"Unfortunately, that sort of device doesn't really exist, does it? I mean, Google can help with a lot but definitely not everything we'll ever face in life. So what do we do? How do we handle these situations? We might even wonder if these are the sorts of things we can pray about and ask God for help with. We might ask if the situations and difficult moments in life are just something we need to deal with on our own. What then?"

"All good questions. And when we have questions like these, one of the first places we should check out is the Bible. In the Bible, we can find a library of wisdom from people who experienced God in their lives and were inspired to write what they learned so we can apply what they learned to our own relationships with God and journey to follow Him. Let's check out a story that talks about where our help comes from—and Who sent it in the first place. Let's jump in!

*Host rushes on stage, pushing the "Answer Machine 3000"*



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## TRUTH

**HOST:** “Hold up! Did someone say they needed a device that can help them solve any problem they face in life? Well, look no further than the Answer Machine 3000!”

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Answer Machine 3000?”

**HOST:** “That’s right! The Answer Machine 3000 can help you when you can’t figure something out. All you need to do is ask. And to give it some extra power, I’ll just hop inside. You’ll know what to do when the time comes.”

*Host gets inside the “Answer Machine 3000” and gets ready to feed the answers out to the Communicator when the time comes. Communicator will try to stop the Host, but Host should ignore them and just get into the contraption.*

**COMMUNICATOR:** “Wait, but—well, looks like it’s too late. I guess we’ll see what [Name of Host] is talking about. In the meantime, let’s get to the story!”

“We’re continuing to look at God’s Big Story as we make our way through the Bible together. *(Hold up Bible.)*”

*If you’re using a timeline of story images on the wall, reference it here.*

“We started at the beginning and have made it all the way through the life of Jesus and how Jesus died on the cross, but we also saw that death wasn’t the end of the story! Jesus came back to life . . . and after that, He spent time with His friends and followers.

“Last week we saw how Jesus gave a big job to His disciples: to tell the world about Him. Jesus told the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit, and then He rose to heaven. That’s where we pick up the story today—as the disciples were waiting for the Helper Jesus had promised.

“After Jesus went up to heaven, two men appeared and told them to stop staring up into the sky and to get to work spreading the Good News about Jesus to everyone, everywhere. The disciples still didn’t really know how to do that, so they went back to Jerusalem to wait for the Helper Jesus promised to send. The Helper turned out to be . . .

## SLIDE: GIBBERISH TEXT SLIDE 1

“Oh. Well. I don’t know what that says. Looks like we need some help! Ooooh! We need someone to go to the Answer Machine 3000 and ask for some help understanding whatever that says.

*Choose a volunteer to approach the Answer Machine 3000 and ask. The box does not respond.*

“No, see, you have to ask in a loud voice. Try again, only bigger.

*Encourage the volunteer to ask again.*

**AUDIO: “TRIUMPHANT TAG” FROM HOLLYWOOD RED CARPET: MUSIC & FANFARES FOR AWARD SHOWS BY HOLLYWOOD TRAILER MUSIC ORCHESTRA**



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*The host slides a sign out of the slot in the top of the box. Have the volunteer read what's on the sign then have them sit back down.*

“The Holy Spirit!’ Yes! That was the Helper Jesus promised to send. Only . . . who is the Holy Spirit? Is it a ghost? How would the disciples know when He showed up? Thankfully, the disciples didn’t have to wait too long to find out. About 10 days.

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:1 (NirV) and read.*

“When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers gathered in one place.’

“Pentecost was a celebration with food and friends. All of the Jewish people were required to come to Jerusalem to celebrate the feast. Many people from lots of different places would have been in town to share a meal, stories, and Scripture. All the believers were together. Then the Bible tells us:

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:2-3a (NirV) and read.*

“Suddenly a sound came from heaven. It was like a strong wind blowing. It filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw something that looked like . . .’

**SLIDE: GIBBERISH TEXT SLIDE 2**

“Ooh, another mystery phrase! Wait, it’s like a different language. We’ve seen the word ‘gek’ before, right? That was ‘the.’ The others, though, they look new. Another volunteer, and remember . . . big voice when asking!

*Choose a volunteer to approach the Answer Machine 3000 and ask for the translation.*

**AUDIO: “TRIUMPHANT TAG” FROM HOLLYWOOD RED CARPET: MUSIC & FANFARES FOR AWARD SHOWS BY HOLLYWOOD TRAILER MUSIC ORCHESTRA**

*The host slides a sign out of the slot in the top of the box. Have the volunteer read out the translation and then have them sit back down.*

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:1-3a (NirV) and read.*

“Fire in the shape of tongues.’

“The disciples saw something that looked like fire in the shape of tongues. Interesting. Let’s see what it says next in the Bible.

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:3b-4 (NirV) and read.*

“The flames separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak in languages they had not known before. The Spirit gave them the ability to do this.’

“Wow! So the Holy Spirit gave them the ability to speak other languages! I don’t know about you, but that would be super helpful if trying to talk to people about Jesus from other countries.



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"Can you imagine that? It would be like in this very room, all of us started speaking French, and Farsi, and Mandarin, and Tagalog, and Creole, and Russian.

"And this wasn't just some random thing that the Holy Spirit did, either. It wasn't some trick or magic. Because of the celebration for Pentecost, there were Jewish people from every country in the world visiting and staying in Jerusalem. It's likely that there were hundreds of people who spoke dozens of languages right outside the door where the believers were meeting!

**AUDIO: "TRIUMPHANT TAG" FROM HOLLYWOOD RED CARPET: MUSIC & FANFARES FOR AWARD SHOWS BY HOLLYWOOD TRAILER MUSIC ORCHESTRA**

*The host slides a sign out of the slot in the top of the box.*

"(reading the sign) 'You're on a roll, keep going.' (Pat the top of the box) Aw, thanks, Answer Machine 3000.

**AUDIO: "TRIUMPHANT TAG" FROM HOLLYWOOD RED CARPET: MUSIC & FANFARES FOR AWARD SHOWS BY HOLLYWOOD TRAILER MUSIC ORCHESTRA**

*The host slides a sign out of the slot in the top of the box.*

"(reading the sign) 'Hands off.' Ah. Got it. Let's press on.

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:5-12 (NirV) and read.*

"Godly Jews from every country in the world were staying in Jerusalem. A crowd came together when they heard the sound. They were bewildered because each of them heard their own language being spoken. The crowd was really amazed. They asked, "Aren't all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then why do we each hear them speaking in our own native language? We are Parthians, Medes and Elamites. We live in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia. We are from Pontus, Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia. Others of us are from Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene. Still others are visitors from Rome. Some of the visitors are Jews. Others have accepted the Jewish faith. Also, Cretans and Arabs are here. We hear all these people speaking about God's wonders in our own languages!"

"Friends, these people were totally amazed at what was happening. No one could figure out how the believers were doing this, and they were asking themselves, 'What does this mean?'

"There were those, however, who didn't really believe what was going on. They started making fun of the believers, saying . . .

**SLIDE: GIBBERISH TEXT SLIDE 3**

"Another phrase! Who wants to volunteer?"

*Choose a volunteer to approach the Answer Machine 3000 and ask for the translation.*

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*The host slides a sign out of the slot in the top of the box. Have the volunteer read out the translation and then have them sit back down.*

“‘The believers have had too much wine.’ People thought they were drunk! People thought they were just talking nonsense! When people started making these types of comments, Peter stepped up. He was always a bit of a leader when it came to the disciples—first one to step out of the boat, first one to try new things—so he stood in front of the crowd and spoke.

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:14-15 (NirV) and read.*

“‘Then Peter stood up with the 11 apostles. In a loud voice he spoke to the crowd. “My fellow Jews,” he said, “let me explain this to you. All of you who live in Jerusalem, listen carefully to what I say. You think these people are drunk. But they aren’t. It’s only nine o’clock in the morning!”’

“Peter went on to tell them all about Jesus. Jesus’ whole story, basically. He told them about how God worked through Jesus, performing all sorts of signs and miracles.

*Open the Bible to Acts 2:22-24 (NirV) and read.*

“‘Peter said, “Fellow Israelites, listen to this! Jesus of Nazareth was a man who had God’s approval. God did miracles, wonders and signs among you through Jesus. You yourselves know this. Long ago God planned that Jesus would be handed over to you. With the help of evil people, you put Jesus to death. You nailed him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead! He set him free from the suffering of death! It wasn’t possible for death to keep its hold on Jesus.”’

“He went on, gathering momentum as he spoke. He told the crowd about how Jesus had favor with God and is seated at God’s right hand, a place of honor and respect. He told them how Jesus has received the Holy Spirit from the Father, according to God’s promise, and it is Jesus who now pours out that same Holy Spirit on them today, causing them to speak in other languages.

“The people were deeply affected by what Peter said. They weren’t sure how to respond or even what to do. So a man simply asked Peter, ‘What do we do?’ Peter replied just as simply. He said . . .

**SLIDE: GIBBERISH TEXT SLIDE 4**

“Another phrase!

*Choose a volunteer to approach the Answer Machine 3000 and ask for the translation, loudly and over the top.*

**AUDIO: “TRIUMPHANT TAG” FROM HOLLYWOOD RED CARPET: MUSIC & FANFARES FOR AWARD SHOWS BY HOLLYWOOD TRAILER MUSIC ORCHESTRA**

*The host slides a sign out of the slot in the top of the box. Have the volunteer read out the translation and then have them sit back down.*



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*“(reading the sign again) ‘Turn away from sin and be baptized.’ Peter told the people to be baptized in the name of Jesus and their sins would be forgiven. He explained that everyone who did that would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** “At the start of this story, the disciples weren’t quite sure how they would share the message of Jesus with the whole world. They didn’t know how God would send the Holy Spirit. They might have even been a bit anxious about how all of this would happen. But in a moment everything changed! And there was Peter, sharing the truth of Jesus to thousands of people. But remember, this wasn’t just him. Peter was doing this through the power of God’s Holy Spirit. If Peter tried to do this on his own, he might have been too scared to speak or fumbled his words. But he relied on the Holy Spirit to help him, and all sorts of people heard about Jesus!

**SLIDE: GOD’S BIG STORY TIMELINE**

**SLIDE: WEEK 2 TIMELINE IMAGE**

*If you’re making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today’s timeline image on the clothesline.*

“It’s the same way for us, too. When we choose to follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to be with us, just like the Spirit was with the disciples. The Spirit comes to live inside of us! The Spirit nudges us in the right direction, gives us that ‘hold up, think about this before you do it’ feeling. And since the Spirit is always with you, you can know deep down that you’ll have the right things to say at the right time to help someone, show love to someone, and even change their life.

“With the help of the Holy Spirit, you can love God and love others. You can live with confidence, knowing that God’s Spirit is with you.”

## LANDING

**COMMUNICATOR:** “As you head to your Small Groups, think about this question:

**SLIDE: KEY QUESTION**

**“When have you needed help?** And I’m not talking about math homework . . . I’m talking about knowing how to be there for a hurting brother or sister, finding the right things to say to your parents when things are tense, or finding the courage to be open and honest when standing up to your friends when they’re not making the best decisions.

“Those times are when you might feel the most inadequate and stumble, but those times are also the times when God and the Holy Spirit are at their best. Let’s take some time and pray that we’ll remember how God’s Holy Spirit is with us, not just in the times of our greatest need but all the time. Let’s pray.”

*Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.*

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**