



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Power Passed On

[10 min]

Supplies

- wooden or plastic dominoes (about 5 per child, plus 5 for you)
- upbeat music (optional)
- music player (optional)

Build Domino Runs

Say: **We're learning that Jesus is powerful, and because of his amazing love, Jesus gives us power through the Holy Spirit. There are so many things we couldn't do on our own that we *can* do with the power Jesus gives us, possibly setting big and important things in motion. Let's play a fun game that'll help us see how Jesus' power can work through just one person to impact many others.**

- First, demonstrate what to do with the dominoes by standing yours up in a line and tapping the first one so it falls into the next and topples all the dominoes.
- Form groups of three, and have groups sit together and spread out.
- Give each group about 15 dominoes.
- Allow groups to build their own domino runs in various designs, such as straight lines, circles, diamonds, or S-shaped lines.
- If you'd like, play upbeat music while kids play.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How do these dominoes give us a picture of how Jesus' power can move through one person to affect many others?**

• **What are ways you hope Jesus' power works through you to affect others?**

Say: **Jesus is powerful, and he gives us power to help others know about him and his love.**

**TALK-ABOUT VIDEO****Carl's Story****[10 min]**

Supplies

- “Carl’s Story” teaching video

Discuss and Watch “Carl’s Story”

Say: **We’re learning that Jesus is powerful, and he gives us power.**

Ask: • **If you could have any superpower, what superpower would you want? Why?**

Say: **Superpowers would be fun! But that’s not quite the kind of power Jesus gives us. Let’s see what kind of power our friend Carl has.**

Watch “Carl’s Story.”

Ask: • **How much power do you think Carl really had?**

• **How would you describe Jesus’ power?**

Say: **Carl wasn’t as powerful as he thought. But he *did* learn something very true: Jesus is powerful! Jesus has the most awesome power, and we can ask for his power in our lives! In our Bible story, Jesus promised power to his disciples, and that promise is for us, too.**



DEEPER BIBLE

What if I Don't Feel the Holy Spirit in Me?

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bibles
- classroom items
- mailing labels
- pens

Set It Up

Say: In our Bible story, Jesus promised his disciples that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came on them. And when the Holy Spirit came, it was a really big, memorable event. There was mighty wind and tongues of fire, and all the people were speaking languages they didn't even know.

Maybe you've never had an experience quite like that. Maybe you've never had an emotional *feeling* that the Holy Spirit is in you. What if we don't feel the Holy Spirit in us? Let's dig in to that.

Dig Deeper

Say: The Holy Spirit is kind of a mystery. He's not talked about in the Bible as much as Jesus and God the Father. But the Holy Spirit is important! So let's act like detectives and figure out some *who, what, when, why, and how* questions about the Holy Spirit.

First, who is the Holy Spirit? Let's see what the Bible says.

Read Romans 8:11.

Ask: • Based on this, who is the Holy Spirit?

Say: The Holy Spirit is God. It can be confusing to think that we worship *one* God but there are *three* ways we talk about him: God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. That's just part of the mystery! Even though it's hard to understand, we know that the Holy Spirit is God.

Find Branding

Say: We also know that the Holy Spirit came to Jesus' friends in our Bible story. After Jesus left, the Holy Spirit came to them. So when do we get the Holy Spirit? Let's see. In this passage I'll read, *Gentiles* means people who weren't Jews.

Read Ephesians 1:13-14, emphasizing the second sentence of verse 13.

Ask: • When do we get the Holy Spirit?

This is a great opportunity to explain your church traditions on receiving the Holy Spirit.

Say: Jesus gives you the Holy Spirit. That's awesome because following Jesus can be hard to do. But we don't do it with our own power. Jesus is powerful, and he gives us power through the Holy Spirit to follow him.

The verses we just read say that giving us the Holy Spirit is a way Jesus identifies us as his own. Let's consider how we identify things.

Have kids look around the room, picking up various items and looking for branding. For example, their shoes probably have a brand name. Office supplies such as staplers or tape and even toys should have branding.

Ask: • If I told you I had a pair of shoes and a candy bar and one of them had the brand "Snickers" on it, how would you know which one had that brand?

Say: **A brand tells you something about where an item comes from and what it is. You know that Snickers is a brand of candy, and you know that it has chocolate and peanuts. A brand also tells you something about the quality. Some brands are associated with being low cost but not well made. Other brands are more expensive, but they're a higher quality.**

When you believe in Jesus, you get the highest-quality brand ever. You're marked by the Holy Spirit living in you! That brand tells you that you have Jesus' power at work in your life. Let's see what else the Holy Spirit does.

Breathe

Have kids form four groups, and have each group look up one of the following passages to find the answer to this question: What does the Holy Spirit do?

- John 14:16-17 (He is an Advocate who leads us to truth.)
- John 14:26 (He reminds us of what Jesus taught.)
- John 16:8 (He convicts us of sin.)
- Romans 8:26 (He helps us in our weakness.)

After groups read, have them share what they learned about what the Holy Spirit does.

Say: **You might be waiting for a big sign like a mighty windstorm and tongues of fire so you really *feel* the Holy Spirit at work in you. But did you know that in Greek, which is the language the New Testament was written in, the word for Spirit is *pneuma* (pronounced "NOOM-uh"), which means *breath*? Take a deep breath. Pause.**

Now think about it. Throughout this whole class you've been breathing. But did you *feel* yourself breathing? Probably not until I told you to take a deep breath. Breathing is so natural that it's just something that happens without you realizing it. Even if you don't think about it or feel it, it still happens.

Sometimes you might feel the Holy Spirit working his power through you. But other times, you might not even realize the Holy Spirit is working through you. You might say something to someone that was just what that person needed to hear because the Spirit gave you those words.

Brand Yourself

Say: **Let's look at one more question: Why? Why do we need the Holy Spirit in our lives? Let's see.**

Read Romans 8:5-6.

Ask: • **Why is it awesome to have the Holy Spirit living in you?**

Say: **The Holy Spirit leads us to life and peace. When we try to do things our own way, that leads to death. But we're not controlled by doing things our own way when the Spirit lives in us! The Holy Spirit helps us obey God in what we think and do so that we can have better, more peaceful lives.**

Earlier we talked about how the Holy Spirit is like a brand name on us identifying us as God's children. Let's brand ourselves right now! Remember, if you believe in Jesus, you already have the Holy Spirit living inside you. (If some kids would like to commit their lives to Jesus, be prepared to help them do so now, following your church's traditions and terminology.)

Distribute mailing labels and pens. Have each child write "The Holy Spirit lives here" on a mailing label, and have kids put the stickers somewhere on themselves.

Pray: **Jesus, thank you that you give us power by sending the Holy Spirit to live in us. Thank you that we are guaranteed that brand name to identify us as yours. In your name, amen.**



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Windy Blessings

[5 min]

Supplies

- paper
- glow-in-the-dark stickers*

Easy Prep

- Fold a piece of paper into an accordion fan.

Fan a Blessing

Say: **Jesus is powerful, and he gives us power. His power comes through the Holy Spirit, who came like a mighty windstorm in our Bible story. I'm going to give you a windy blessing to remind you of the Holy Spirit's power at work in your life.**

Pray the following blessing over each child as you fan kids with the accordion fan. Pray: **Jesus, please give [name of child] your power through the Holy Spirit. Help [name of child] use your power to shine in a dark world! In your name, amen.**

Say: **Now recharge your glow-in-the dark stickers under the light. As you do, ask Jesus to give you power through the Holy Spirit.** Allow time for kids to pray and charge their stickers. Then turn off the light to wrap up.

Wrap Up

Pray: **Holy Spirit, thank you for your power in our lives. Help us use your power to be Jesus' witnesses everywhere we go. In Jesus' name, amen.**



ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT

Pass the Power

[10 min]

Supplies

- “Jesus Passes on His Power” Activity Page (1 per reader)
- pencils
- crayons

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **Jesus is powerful. Before he went back to heaven, he promised to pass on his power through the Holy Spirit. Then the Holy Spirit came! From there, the church passed Jesus’ power on and on. Let’s do a puzzle where you have to pass it on.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will do a series of jumbles where one letter from each word gets passed on to the next.

Ask: • **What happened if you tried to do this puzzle out of order?**

Say: **Passing on the letter from one answer to the next gave you the power to finish this puzzle!**

Ask: • **Tell about a time you felt God passing power on to you.** Share your own example first, such as a time God gave you the words to encourage someone, or the courage to invite a friend to church. Not all kids may have examples, so be sure not to put anyone on the spot. Those who do have stories to share can be a great example to kids who don’t!

Say: **Jesus is powerful, and we have his power through the Holy Spirit! That power helps us pass on the good news of Jesus!**

ANSWER KEY: POWER, SPIRIT, WITNESS, HEAVEN, FLAMES, NOISE, LANGUAGE, AMAZED

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **Jesus is powerful. Peter and Jesus’ other friends received Jesus’ power when the Holy Spirit came. Let’s color that powerful day!**

Allow time for kids to color.