

Online Sunday School May 31st 2020

Pentecost



Today, we are celebrating the feast of Pentecost. Pentecost happens 50 days after Easter, and is the end of the Easter season in the church. Remember how, before he ascended to heaven, Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to the disciples? And told them they would be witnesses to the whole world? That promise is fulfilled on Pentecost!

ACTS 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a noise came from heaven. It sounded like a strong wind blowing. This noise filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw something that looked like flames of fire. The flames were separated and stood over each person there. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak different languages. The Holy Spirit was giving them the power to speak these languages.

⁵ There were some religious Jews staying in Jerusalem who were from every country in the world. ⁶ When they heard this noise, a crowd came together. They were all surprised, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. ⁷ They were completely amazed at this. They said, “Look! Aren’t all these men that we hear speaking from Galilee?^[a] ⁸ But each of us hears them in his own language. How is this possible? We are from different places: ⁹ Parthia, Media, Elam, Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, the areas of Libya near Cyrene, Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and those who had become Jews), Crete and Arabia. But we hear these men telling in our own languages about the great things God has done!” ¹² They were all amazed and confused. They asked each other, “What does this mean?”

¹³ But others were making fun of them, saying, “They have had too much wine.”

¹⁴ But Peter stood up with the 11 apostles. In a loud voice he spoke to the crowd: “My fellow Jews, and all of you who are in Jerusalem, listen to me. Pay attention to what I have to say. ¹⁵ These men are not drunk, as you think; it is only nine o’clock in the morning! ¹⁶ But Joel the prophet wrote about what is happening here today:

¹⁷ ‘God says: In the last days

I will give my Spirit freely to all kinds of people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your old men will dream dreams.

Your young men will see visions.

¹⁸ At that time I will give my Spirit

even to my servants, both men and women.

And they will prophesy.

¹⁹ I will show miracles

in the sky and on the earth:

blood, fire and thick smoke.

²⁰ The sun will become dark.

The moon will become red as blood.

And then the great and glorious day of the Lord will come.

²¹ Then anyone who asks the Lord for help

will be saved.' *Joel 2:28-32*



Acts 2:1-12 · illustratedministry.com

Pentecost is also known as Shavuot for our Jewish neighbours. It's a celebration thanking God for giving Moses holy books on Mount Sinai. It's also a harvest celebration, since it's the end of the grain harvest and beginning on the fruit harvest. In this story, lots of people were gathered to celebrate and give thanks!

As Christians, we're celebrating God sending the Holy Spirit with mighty gusts of wind and tongues of fire! The tongues of fire gave people the ability to speak in other languages, and to understand languages they didn't know! This was a big surprise to everyone! When Jesus told the disciples that he would send the Holy Spirit, this probably isn't what the disciples had in mind. How do you think they felt?

Has God ever surprised you?

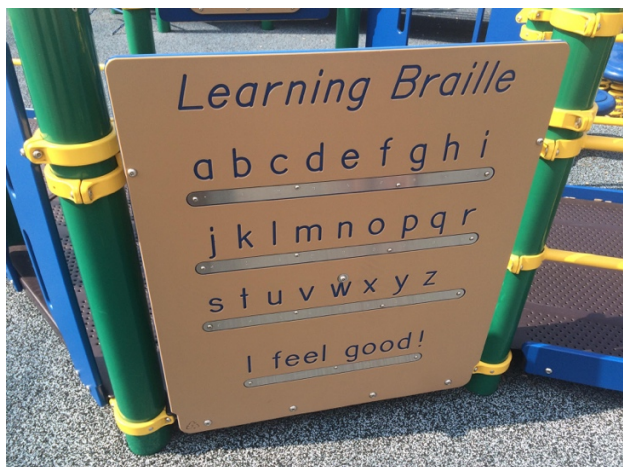
This was an important day for the church. In fact, some people call this the church's birthday! Even though people already knew and followed Jesus, this was the first time they received the Holy Spirit. It's also important that people who spoke different languages were able to hear and understand all the wonderful things God has done and how much God loves us. After this, lots of people were able to spread messages of love and justice to different groups of people.

I wonder what it was like to suddenly speak a new language?

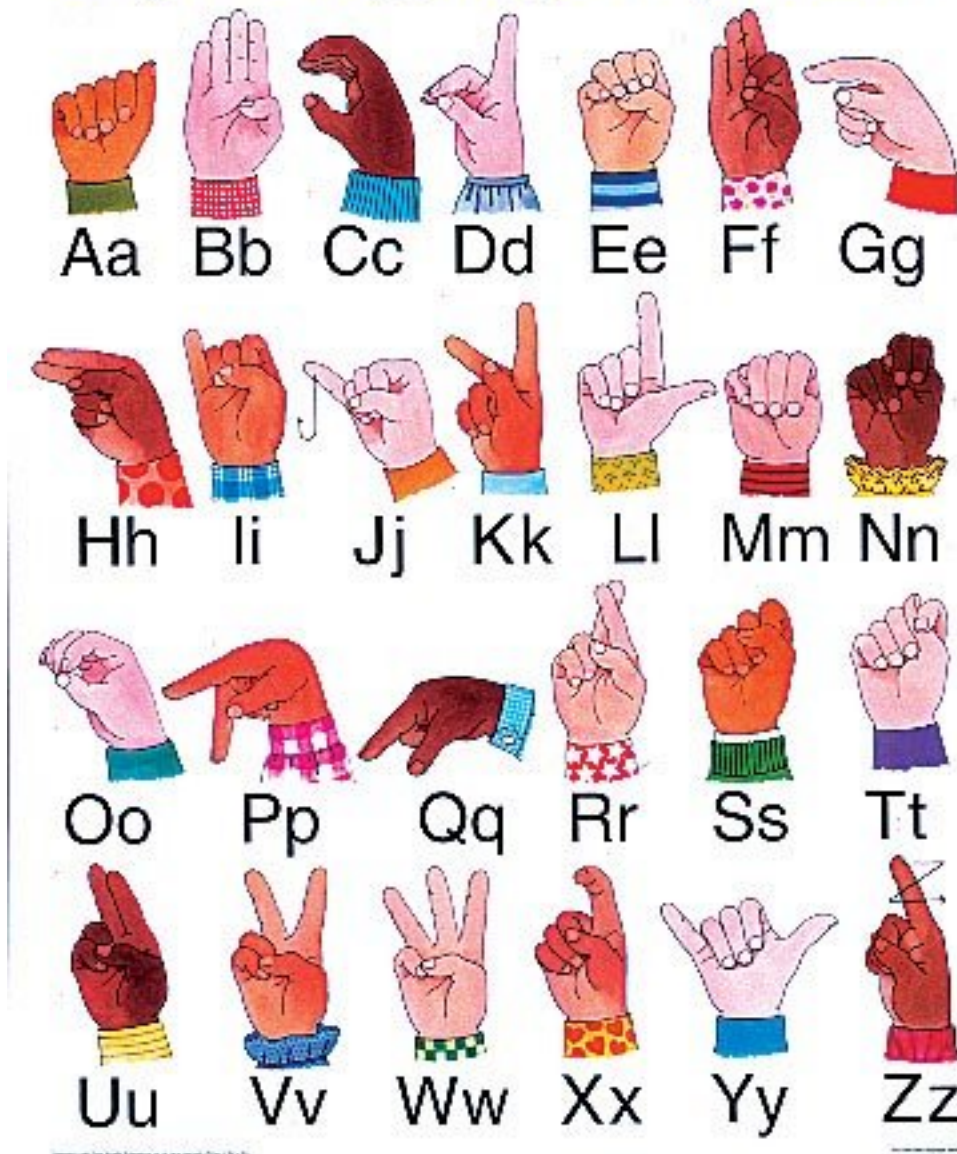
I wonder if you can feel the Spirit being poured out onto you?

I wonder what people told others about God?

It's important for people to have things in their own language. Can you think of examples of different languages showing up in your everyday life?



Sign Language Alphabet



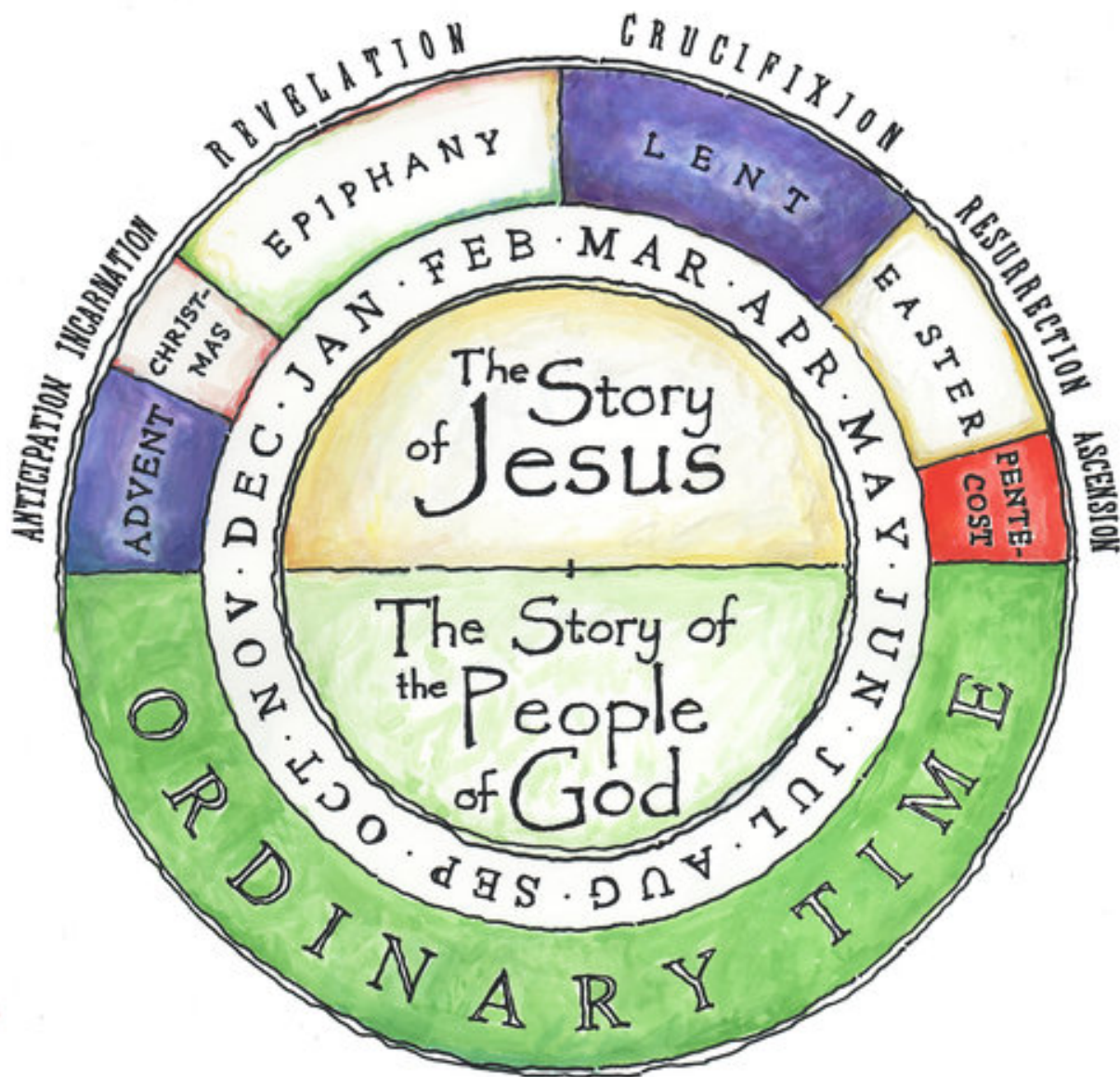
Learn how to spell your name (finger spell) in sign language!



This is the American Sign Language (ASL) sign for "I love you". Do you recognize this sign from our signed Lord's Prayer?

Seasons in the Church

Did you know that the church has its own calendar? It's how we tell the story of Jesus, from before his birth, through to his death, and the Holy Spirit coming to us. Unlike the 12 month calendar, it begins in December with Advent. Then comes Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time. It's called the liturgical calendar. You may hear people call each Sunday by its name in the liturgical calendar, such as "the fourth Sunday after Easter" or "Seventh Sunday after Pentecost".



Each season has its own colour. Today, you may notice people wearing red, the colour of Pentecost!

Where'd You Say You're From?

Whoosh! The Holy Spirit is blowing through! Acts 2:9-11 tells who saw and heard the disciples speaking in their own language. Who were these people, and where were they from? Unscramble the words to find out. Then see if you can find some of these places on the map.

These groups of people were known as...

saAbr _____

rhtanasiP _____

miatsEle _____

sdeMe _____

Gaillsnae _____

srnCaet _____

And others came from these places...

adeuJ _____

moRe _____

ilpyahPam _____

apdcCoaaiP _____

typgE _____

osPutn _____

ihayrgP _____

piMeaoanst _____

iyaLb _____

siaA _____



Easy Pentecost Cake

Celebrate the Church's birthday with this easy cake!

Ingredients:

- 1 ½ cups flour
- 1 cup white sugar
- 3 tablespoons cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 teaspoons red food colouring (optional – to make the cake red for Pentecost)
- 1 Teaspoon vinegar
- 5 Tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 cup cold water



Directions:

1. Mix flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt in a bowl
2. Make three holes in the flour mixture
3. Add vanilla and food colouring to one hole, vinegar to the second hole, and oil to the third
4. Pour water over top and stir with whisk or fork until smooth
5. Pour into 8x8 pan
6. Bake at 350 degrees F for 30-40 minutes or until a toothpick poked in the centre comes out clean

To decorate:

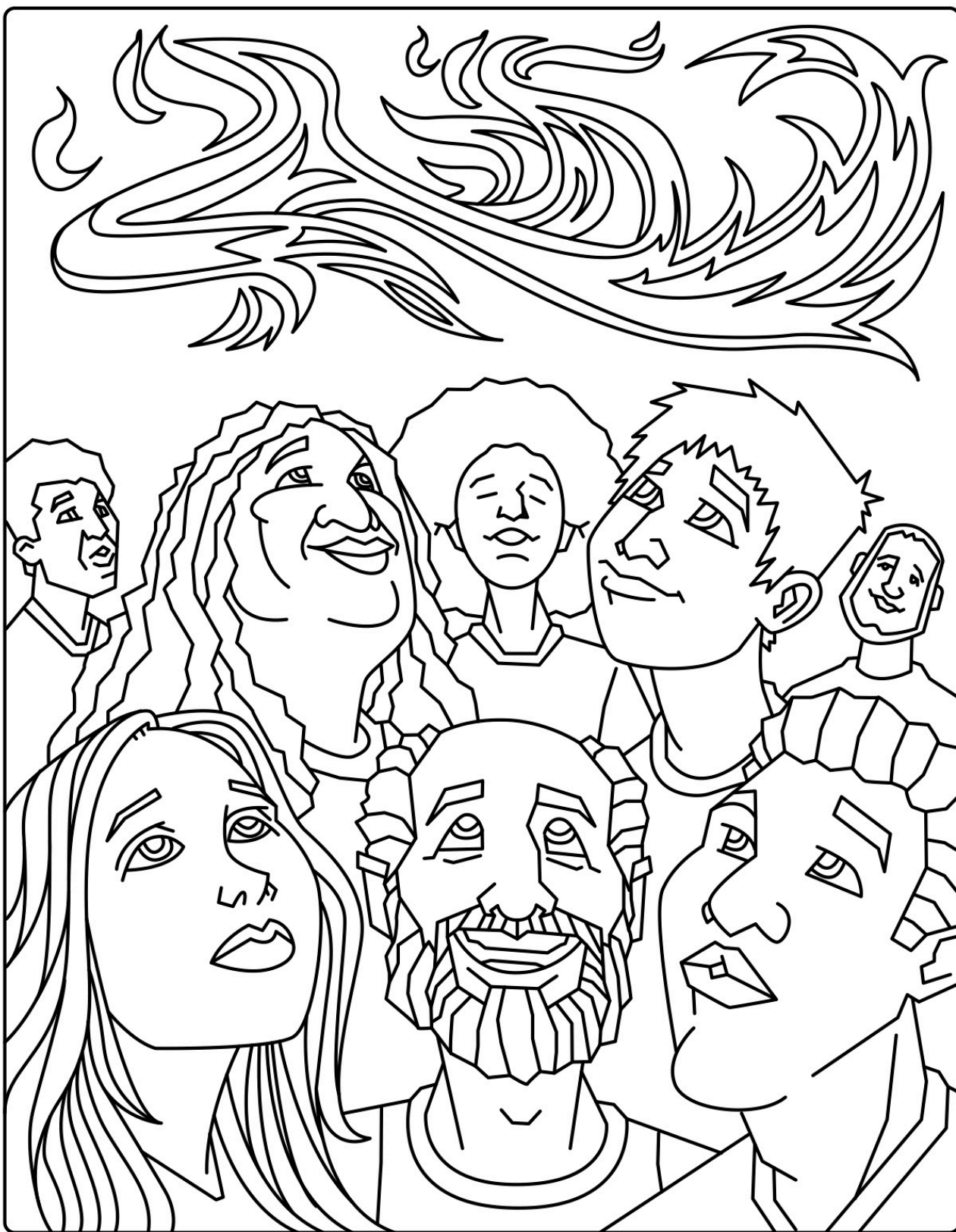
Get creative with whatever you have at home (bonus points if it's red!) Ella makes a glaze with icing sugar and water and tops with strawberries.

If you have candles lying around your house, put in 12 candles (one for each of the disciples – see if you can name all of them as you light the candles)

To Serve: Sing Happy Birthday in as many languages as you know!

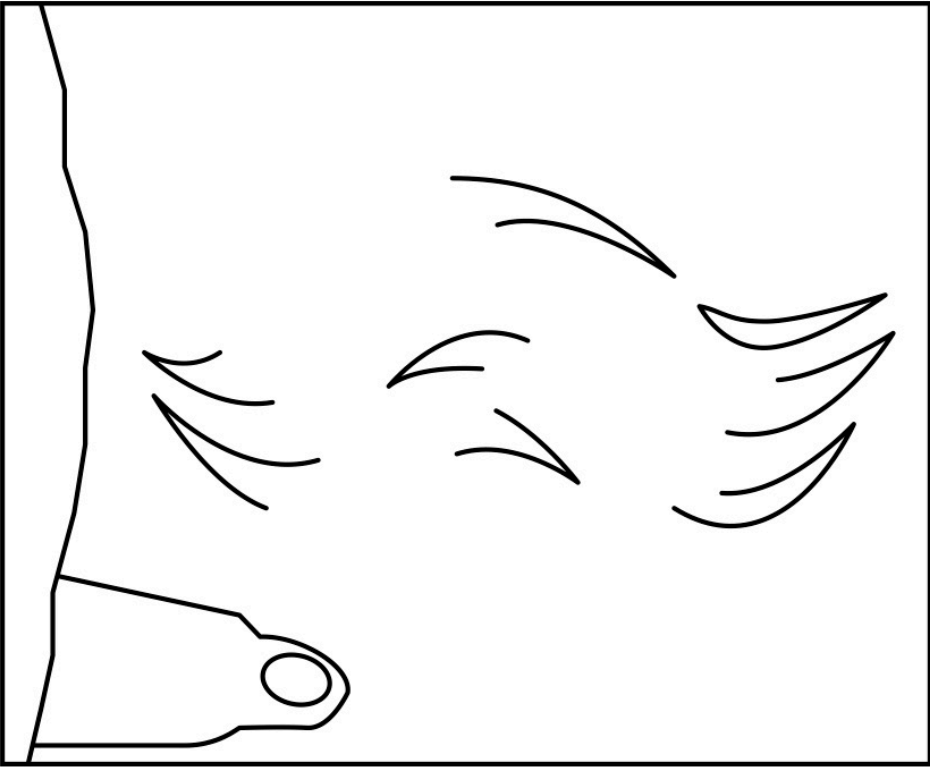
Here is a website with recordings of happy birthday songs in many different languages!

https://www.mamalisa.com/?t=e_family&c=173



FINISH ^{the} DRAWING

Acts 2 describes the incredible coming of the Holy Spirit. There was a strong wind, little flames like tongues of fire, and the miracle of every person receiving God's Spirit. Finish the drawing of the flames and gathered people. Draw yourself in the picture too, and imagine what it felt like to be there!



UNSCRAMBLE IT

How does the author of Acts describe the coming of the Holy Spirit? **Unscramble** the words to find out!

DUNSELY MOFR AHENVE REETH

AECM A OUDNS ELIK HET SHRU FO

DINW VIEIDDD ONGTSUE KELLI

REEFI DEEPAARP DAN ESTEDR

NO HEMT LAL FO HETM REEW

LIEEDL THIW HET LOHY TIRSPI

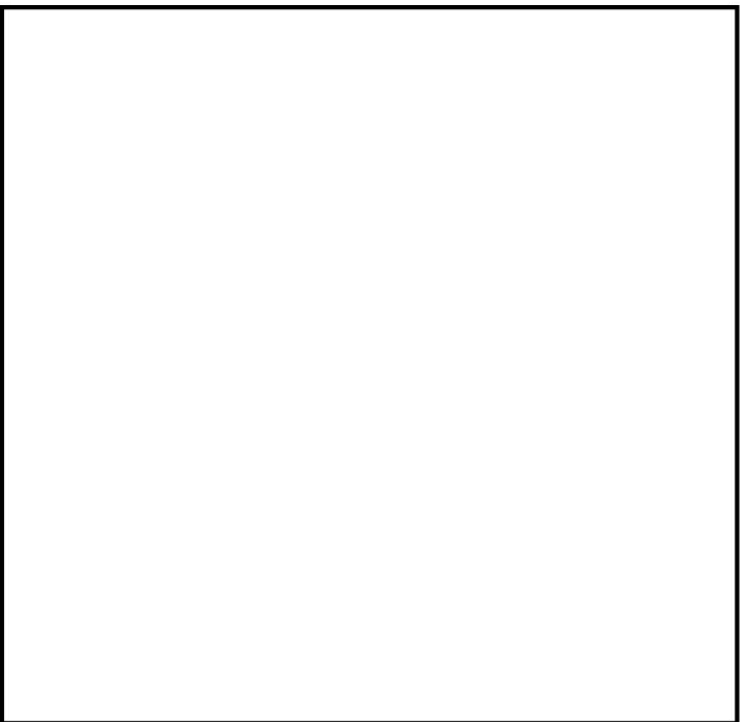
DNA GABEN OT ASKPE NI RETOH

GAUGESLAN ...

DRAW IT

1 Corinthians 12 describes how every person is given gifts or talents by God to use in blessing the world.

Draw a picture of you using a gift or talent you have!



Suggested for use on May 31, 2020 based on the RCL.
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CHILDRENS WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Acts 2:1-21, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13.

