

6. The Church is Born

Waiting for News

Lucy's uncle is a fisherman. He is out at sea but has promised to be home for her birthday and bring a present with him. Day by day she watches and waits but still no sign of the boat. At long last, as the birthday party is about to start he arrives with a big present!

Perhaps there was a time when you were worried while waiting for news. Do you remember what stopped you worrying and how you felt when the news arrived?

Fear changes to Joy

After the death of Jesus his friends felt very frightened. They even locked themselves away in a room. They did not dare to tell the people about Jesus. They had seen some people put him to death. They were afraid this would also happen to them.



The apostles did not forget Jesus' promise that he would send the Holy Spirit. Day after day they waited and prayed.

Suddenly, the Holy Spirit came to them at Pentecost and everything changed. They knew what they had to do. They became brave. They left the locked room and went out to tell people about Jesus.



They had courage. They knew they might be taken to prison or even put to death. But they trusted in the promise that Jesus made to them: 'I will be with you always'.

At last they began to understand the things that Jesus had been teaching them.

They knew that it was their job to go out and tell other people.

They knew that Jesus had sent his Holy Spirit to help them.

The Holy Spirit helped them to:

- **remember** what Jesus had taught them;
- **understand** what Jesus had taught them;
- **have courage** to go out and tell other people.

This is when they began their real work as apostles. An apostle is someone who is sent with a message.

The leader of the apostles was Saint Peter.



THINGS TO DO

1. Think of some good news you had.

(a) Who did you want to tell?

(b) Why did you choose that person?

2. Imagine you are an apostle.

Make a post card that shows one thing that you want to tell other people about Jesus.



3. Write a meaning for each of these words.

Pentecost
Apostles
Good News
Holy Spirit

Then, check your answer in the glossary, at the end of this book.

WORD TO LEARN

promise