

## Bringing **The Story** Home- Ch. 28



### **NEW BEGINNINGS**

*Bringing The Story Home is a tool for you to use with your family to connect with the weekly lessons taught in "The Story" curriculum. Feel free to use these activities in a way that fits your family life. Do what works with the time you have each week.*

**Timeless Truth:** The Holy Spirit helps God's people to spread Jesus' love.

**Bible Basis:** Acts 1:2–11, 2:1–6, 23–24, 32–33, 42–47, 8:4–8, 9:1–9, 17–19

**Key Verse:** "All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak in languages they had not known. The Spirit gave them the ability to do this." —Acts 2:4

**Parent Tips:** Read the key point from the Sunday school lessons that relate to your children. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table during the week. The Living Faith activity encourages your family to plan a garage sale to benefit people who are struggling in your church. The Extra Mile introduces your family to Team Hoyt who epitomize sacrifice and love.

**Get The Point:** God gives his people the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can live inside me.

### **Table Talk:**

- **When the disciples preached about Jesus and people saw the truth, the believers started eating and praying together. The Bible says they "shared everything." Do you think this was hard for Jesus' followers?**
- **What would be the hardest thing for you to share?**
- **Why did the early Christians help each other out so much?**
- **Do you think Christians still look for ways to share with each other?**
- **This chapter of The Story says Jesus' followers had hearts that were "glad and honest and true." How do you think they showed that?**
- **Talk a little about being glad, honest, and true. If you could always live that way, how do you think people would look at you?**

**Living Faith:** The early church cared and provided for each other. That's an example we can follow today. At Bethany we offer quite a few opportunities to help those around us who are in need.

Once a month (every third Sunday), members are asked to bring donations to help replenish Bethany's Food Pantry. People in need often come to the church office to ask for food.

This year the schools of Bethany have joined with other schools in our district to support the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. Learn more about the Lutheran Malaria Initiative at <http://www.lutheranmalaria.org/site/c.emJXKgOYJhl6G/b.7716885/k.BF10/Home.htm#intro>. We are each sending portion of our weekly chapel offerings to buy mosquito nets for children in countries where malaria kills. The goal of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative is to eradicate malaria from our world. Other chapel monies go to other groups that help those in need.

Members of our congregation participate in the Habitat for Humanity builds. They actually help to build new homes for people in need.

Our Mission India group plans and carries out various events and activities to raise money to help spread the Gospel to the people of India. The group is planning to go to India this coming December to serve in several orphanages where we sponsor children. Sponsorships are available if your family would like to participate. More information is available at: <http://bethanylutheran.org/624125.ihtml>

Our Mission Alaska group travels to Alaska each summer and leads Vacation Bible School for the children in two different areas of the state. Various activities are offered to raise the money needed for the trip. Cooks Nights Out take place at local restaurants and a percentage of the receipts are given to Mission Alaska. A rummage sale also takes place to help offset trip expenses. For more information about Mission Alaska, contact Pastor Seth Moorman at [smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)

You can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors (near and far) by donating to or participating in, these and/or other opportunities to help!

**Extra Mile:** Believers in the early church sacrificed for each other. Rich people sold their land and helped the poor. Strong people defended and protected the weak. The Hoyt family can teach everybody something about sacrifice. Watch these videos of about Team Hoyt.

- On YouTube, search for "Dick & Rick Hoyt" or go to: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDnrlv6z-mM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDnrlv6z-mM)
- On YouTube, search for "The Story of Team Hoyt" or go to: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roZrT\\_tciKA&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roZrT_tciKA&feature=related)
- On YouTube, search for "My Redeemer Lives—Team Hoyt" or go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H2yeUKZlit4>

Answer these questions. Is Dick Hoyt a hero? Who benefits more, Dick or Rick? What one lesson do you want to take away and apply to your own life? What does their story teach you about unconditional love? What does their story teach you about sacrifice?

**Prayer Time:** *Dear God, thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to call me to belief in you and to keep me in the true faith. Thank you for the gifts of the Holy Spirit that you have given to me, the gifts of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. Thank you for forgiving all of my sins and for the sure hope that when I die it will be to spend eternity with you. Amen*