Objective (Learning Outcomes)

1. To help children understand the event of Pentecost and the role of the Holy Spirit in strengthening the apostles.
2. To introduce St. Thomas the Apostle's mission in India and connect it to our faith today.
3. To inspire students to live as missionaries in their own daily lives.

Starter:

Activity: "The Strong Wind"

Ask the children to close their eyes. Blow gently (or use a fan) and say: "Imagine you are sitting quietly with the disciples. Suddenly, a strong wind blows, and you hear strange sounds..."

Ask: "What do you think is happening? How would you feel if flames appeared above your head?"

Connect: This is what happened at Pentecost — God filled the disciples with the Holy Spirit!

Development:

Pentecost (Acts 2:1–4)

Flames of fire came upon each disciple. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in different languages. People from many nations heard the Gospel in their own tongue. This was the birthday of the Church.

Peter's Sermon (Acts 2:14–21)

Peter stood up boldly and preached: Jesus is the Son of God. He brought salvation through His death. God raised Him from the dead. Thousands believed and were baptized.

St. Thomas the Apostle in India

Came to India in 52 A.D., reached Kodungalloor. Established seven churches. Preached the Gospel through teaching and local art forms (Margam Kali, Chavittu Nadakam, etc.). Martyred at Mylapore in 72 A.D. (Chinna Mala).

Season of Kaithakkalam (Season of Fruits)

Begins seven weeks after Pentecost. Reminds us to bear fruits of holiness in our lives. We remember saints, martyrs, and the growth of the Church.

Practical Application:

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Just like the disciples, we too receive the Holy Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation.

We can spread the Gospel not only with words but also with actions: Speaking kindly, Helping the poor and needy, sharing our faith at school or with friends, Being honest and fair.

Challenge: "This week, show that you are filled with the Holy Spirit by doing one act of kindness or courage."

Bible Verse:

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth.” (Acts 1:8)

Activity :

1.“Mission Flame” Craft- Give each child a paper flame shape. Collect the flames and stick them on a chart with the title: “We are Missionaries Today!”
2.Ask them to write one way they can be a missionary in their daily life (e.g., "Help my friend with homework," "Pray for the sick," "Be honest in exams").

Conclusion:

Pentecost was the beginning of the Church. The Holy Spirit gave the apostles courage, and the same Spirit strengthens us today. St. Thomas brought the Gospel to India, and now it is our turn to carry it forward in our lives.