

Pentecost Offering

1 Timothy 4:12–16 The Message (MSG)

¹¹⁻¹⁴Get the word out. Teach all these things. And don't let anyone put you down because you're young. Teach believers with your life: by word, by demeanor, by love, by faith, by integrity. Stay at your post reading Scripture, giving counsel, teaching. And that special gift of ministry you were given when the leaders of the church laid hands on you and prayed—keep that dusted off and in use. ¹⁵⁻¹⁶Cultivate these things. Immerse yourself in them. The people will all see you mature right before their eyes! Keep a firm grasp on both your character and your teaching. Don't be diverted. Just keep at it. Both you and those who hear you will experience salvation.

1 Timothy 4:12–16 Easy-to-Read Version (ERV)

¹²You are young, but don't let anyone treat you as if you are not important. Be an example to show the believers how they should live. Show them by what you say, by the way you live, by your love, by your faith, and by your pure life. ¹³Continue to read the Scriptures to the people, encourage them, and teach them. Do this until I come. ¹⁴Remember to use the gift you have, which was given to you through a prophecy when the group of elders laid their hands on you. ¹⁵Continue to do these things. Give your life to doing them. Then everyone can see that your work is progressing. ¹⁶Be careful in your life and in your teaching. Continue to live and teach rightly. Then you will save yourself and those who listen to your teaching.

Resources and Equipment—

- Computer
- Video projection
- Web access
- Way to play music—ipod, phone, cd, computer
- Youth if you have them (even better if they have been to Presbyterian Youth Triennium)
- Presbyterian Youth Triennium (PYT) site—presbyterianyouthtriennium.org
- YouTube videos
 - *Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2013* video—www.youtube.com/watch?v=He1BY2uRJPo
 - *Happy*—www.youtube.com/watch?v=wdpfijWHDpU
 - *Istanbul*—www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKMig268iLY
 - *Istanbul with tutorial*—www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxfZmTvcoqw
 - *Revolution*—www.youtube.com/watch?v=oj5vBG9ZOyU

Opening Activity—

Have energizer videos playing, or have youth come in to lead energizers with the children. The video listed above for *Happy* has a tutorial with it (the beginning) and one of the *Istanbul* videos has a tutorial as well. Written directions for *Istanbul* and *Revolution* are included. Younger children can just follow along as best they can. Energizers are used often at youth conferences at the beginning of a large gathering time. Most conferences start with energizers, then sing, and then listen to the keynote address.

Pentecost Offering *(continued)*

Opening Prayer—**Open with this prayer or one of your own.**

Gracious God, you have created our bodies to move and to serve you. Teach us to use our bodies to glorify you. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Bible Lesson—

Today we are talking about youth in the church. In his first letter to Timothy, Paul writes to encourage Timothy, who is just beginning his ministry. In this fourth chapter, Paul reminds Timothy that his age should not be an obstacle to ministry.

Read 1 Timothy 4: 12–16

The version below is the Easy-to-Read Version from biblegateway.com.

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- Have you ever been made to feel unimportant? What did it feel like?
- According to this passage, what are the things we should do to show our faith?
- What are ways you can be a good example for others?
- What are ways you can serve God in the church? In the community?

Activities—

If you have youth in your church, have them come in and talk to the younger children about mission trip experiences or experiences with camps and conferences (PYT, Montreat, MoRanch, or your local camps). How has their faith changed over the years and with different experiences? What is a moment in their faith journey that has been important to them? If you do not have youth in your church, ask your pastor about her or his experience as a youth. Many pastors have felt called to ministry because of events that happened while they were youths.

If there are youth in your church, how can you support them so they can go to PYT? In the *Presbyterian Giving Catalog*, PYT Scholarships are \$475. Can you raise money for a scholarship for a youth to attend PYT?



Pentecost Offering *(continued)*

Have the students create a skit to show how young people can be an example of faith to older members of the congregation and the community.

Kid President—Robby Novak

Check out *Who We Are!*—www.kidpresident.com

Check out www.christianchronicle.org/article/they-truly-have-unbreakable-spirits to learn more about Kid President and his story. Tell the kids about this incredible young man and watch some of his videos.

- *How to change the world (a work in progress)*—www.youtube.com/watch?v=4z7gDsSKUmU
- *20 things we should say more often*—www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5yCOSHeYn4

Check out some of the stories on <http://inspiremykids.com/>

- Nicholas Lowinger has been collecting new shoes for children who live in homeless shelters inspiremykids.com/2014/nicholas-lowinger-incredible-teen-sole-homeless/.
- The Buddy Bench is an idea to help kids not be lonely on the playground and to be aware of others around them—inspiremykids.com/2015/the-buddy-bench-can-an-8-year-old-boy-changes-school-playgrounds-forever/.

What problems or issues can the children think of that exist around them?

Are there hungry kids in their school?

What can they do to help other kids who are in need?

Closing—

What are the ways that children and youth can set an example for others by demonstrating their faith? Just because people are young does not mean they cannot participate in the kingdom of God.

Closing Prayer—Close with this prayer or one of your own.

Creator God, you have given us gifts with which to serve you. Keep us strong in our faith and consistent in our walk, that we may be an example to the world of your love. **Amen.**

Scripture Verses are from the NRSV unless otherwise noted.

Scripture from <http://www.biblegateway.com>

Written by the Rev. Karen Wagner, Southminster Presbyterian, Prairie Village, Kansas



Pentecost Offering *(continued)*

Istanbul

Music: Istanbul, They Might Be Giants

Directions (left/right) are from the perspective of the leader

Snakes and charmers/switch

Boys put hands together in a slithery motion; girls play “air recorders.” After a count of 12, go “Ugh, Ugh” with palms together overhead, then switch. After another count of 12, go “Ugh, Ugh.”

Camel stomp/Shimmee

Stomp up and down, alternating left and right feet. Shimmee is two shimmee steps left (saying “ooh, ooh”) and two shimmee steps right (saying “ahh, ahh”).

Snakes and charmers/switch

Camel stomp/Shimmee

Camel walk/Crazy camel/Tut

Camel walk four steps left, bent at the waist throwing your hands up in front of you (a shooing motion) saying “Oh” on each step. Crazy camel is a wild spin as you move back to the right yelling “Ohhhhhhhhh.” Tut is arms bent palms out with an in-and-out motion.

Camel stomp/Shimmee/nobody’s business

Nobody’s business is a finger wag.

Snakes and charmers

Camel walk/Crazy camel/Tut

Camel stomp/Shimmee/nobody’s business

Snakes and charmers

Camel walk/Crazy camel/Tut

Camel stomp/Shimmee/nobody’s business

Big finish!





Pentecost Offering *(continued)*

Revolution

Music: Revolution, Kirk Franklin

Directions (left/right) are from the perspective of the leader

Form the cross with attitude

With the music: right fist above head, arm bent; left fist up, forearms form a cross. Left fist to side; right fist to side; right fist up, left fist forming a cross; moving with the music in a rotating motion raise the cross to the sky.

Rolls

To the music: roll forward; roll left; roll back; roll right.

Dig/revolution (left)

Palms flat, pointing down, dig down motion (“do you want a revolution”); palms up to the left, reach up “whoop, whoop.”

Dig/revolution (right)

Funky walk/whoop

Funky walk 3 steps to left, then twirl saying whoop, whoop, whoop.

Hitchhike/raise the roof

Hitchhike 3 steps to the right, then “raise the roof” 3 times quickly.

Repeat from rolls