

Opening Prayer

God we continue to be moved by all that you did at PYT 2016. Thank you for the experience to meet people from all over the world and to engage in conversation and play with our new friends. Thank you for all the people who helped us get there and get back safely. Thank you for our small groups where we encountered your words through study and conversation. Thank you for the times of worship where we encountered you in the words spoken, preached, sung and performed. We pray God that we are reminded of your words at PYT 2016 and that you continue to teach us to Go and do likewise.

Welcome

After the prayer, welcome everyone. Invite them to share what has been going on in their life since PYT 2016. If it is a larger group, break them up into smaller groups to share. Here are some guiding questions?

- 1. What have you carried with you since PYT 2016 or what impact did PYT 2016 have on your life?
- 2. Have you had a chance to share your experience with others? How have you done that?

(When the small groups are done, ask them to share one or two things from their smaller group to the larger groups)

Scripture Reading

After everyone is done they will move into reading the scripture from Luke 10:25-37. As someone reads the scripture, have them underline or circle phrases that stand out to them from the passage. Have some newsprint on the walls and have people go and right down the words and phrases that stood out to them from the scripture. Once everyone is done writing down their words and phrases get them to share about what they wrote on the newsprint.

Say, "At PYT 2016, the theme for Wednesday was "Go and do likewise" which is the ending phrase in this scripture. It's a familiar story to many of us that seems to have a way of always hitting us like we never heard it before. It's a call to be neighborly, to show mercy. On that day in worship Rev. Anna Sweet Brockman preached on this passage. We are going to watch a clip of her sermon now. As we watch notice what she says about *acts of mercy*.

Watch the clip of Anna's sermon Click here for link to video clip:

Questions after watching clip:

- 1. Anna speaks about how we are to offer and receive acts of mercy. What does she say are acts of mercy? (listening, giving, renewing relationships)
- 2. Anna says that when we participate in acts of mercy we will be led by the grace of God to do acts of what? (justice)

Say, "The theme for PYT 2016 was GO! It was a chance for us to hear from God and to leave that event ready to go into the world and live out our faith. Anna says that it is young people who can lead us in the difficult conversations. That young people have this great capacity for listening and trying to understand people who are different from them. Her ideas of having difficult conversations and performing acts of mercy that lead to acts of justice has only grown more relevant since last summer".

Reflection Time

Give everyone a piece of paper or notecard and pen. Have them write down the words; listen, give, renew leaving space for them to write under each one. Say, "Reflecting on the scripture passage and sermon clip we are going to seek God's guidance on how to "Go and do likewise". On your paper/notecard there are three words; listen, give, renew. At the top of the paper/notecard write down someone in your school, town or city that you feel has been robbed/abandoned/forgotten/abused/ignored/bullied. After coming up with that person, write down underneath each word ways that you can listen, give and renew that person. Play some music in the background and give everyone time to write a few things down underneath each word. When everyone is done, ask if anyone wants to share with the group what they wrote down.

Say, "we are called by God to go and do likewise, to share the love of God through the giving and receiving of mercy, grace and justice. Take what you wrote to heart, take the necessary steps to listen, give and renew to others".

Closing Prayer

Have everyone stand in a circle. Invite them when you say the words listen, give, renew to offer up the ways in which they have committed to do those things for others. Close with the following prayer;

God of all.

We come asking for your wisdom and guidance as we leave to go and do likewise.

We desire to live in a world that is filled with your acts of mercy.

We pray now God that you help us to listen...

Help us to give...

Help us to renew...

Lord hear our prayers,

Amen.

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