



PYT POST EVENT MISSION!

“Let My People GO” Exodus 3-7, Post-PYT Bible Study

Opening Prayer

Dear God, we invite you in this space. We welcome you into our lives. We know that there are things around us that trap us and keep us from you. We know that there are systems in this world that trap others in oppression. You call us to free ourselves from the things that keep us in bondage. And, you call us to participate in liberating others from oppression. May we hear your call. May we be brave and wise. May we follow you and walk with others to freedom.

Welcome/Check-in

At PYT last summer, there were “Go To Groups” for learning and action on Environmental Racism, Disaster Assistance, Peacemaking, and more. Also, there was an Advocacy walk on Friday—including stops like signing postcards to Wendy’s about paying tomato pickers a fair price.

Since Triennium, have you noticed more about how you are connected to people all around the world? There are such blessings in the way we are connected, and the people we were able to meet at Triennium! On the other time, sometimes the ways we are connected to other people are harder to know and aren’t always a blessing for both sides. Sometimes the way we are connected is through systems that oppress some people for the comfort of others. There are people we might not know but are connected to us because they pick the tomatoes we eat on a hamburger at a fast food restaurant, or they sew the clothes we buy. There are people who work in factories and mines whose health is impacted by their work with toxins that power our computers and cell phones. And there are people who live in the neighbors polluted by the toxic waste dumps connected to our use of consumer goods.

What can we do? Can we make any change? How does our individual life make any difference in these huge problematic areas?

Because we trust God who brought God’s people out of slavery, and because we trust in Christ who saves us, and because we trust in the Holy Spirit who continues to blow justice in unjust places, we believe that how we live matters and that with God’s help we can make a difference.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 3-7

Micah 6:8

Discussion questions

What are examples of modern-day oppression or injustice?

Have you ever heard God’s call, for you to take action or to be a leader in bad situations?

What gifts do you personally have that can help you get out of—and help to lead other people out of—oppressive situations?

How can you “do justice” with a kind and humble heart?

Can you think of examples of some leaders who maybe only does one of the three of Micah's "list" (justice, kindness, humility) and other examples of leaders who embody all three?

Watch a clip *(the youth leaders or group can decide if there's time for one or both, or which one is best for the group)*

Video from Grist "environmental justice explained"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dREtXUij6_c

Environmental Racism explanation, including Flint,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrbeuJRPM0o>

Reflection time

Discussion time/processing the video:

What populations of people are impacted the most by pollution, toxic waste, or climate change?

What populations of people benefit the most from parks, from tree planting programs, and from zoning laws that put heavy industry only in some areas?

Does this seem like the world God wants?

How are environmental concerns (clean air, clean water, climate justice) also social justice issues?

What in these videos did you hear that surprised you?

God's call on our lives, to respond to situations of injustice

What would the world look like if it were the way God desires?

How does the reality of environmental racism compare to God's vision for the human community?

How can we help make the world more like God's beloved community? What are actions we can take that get us closer to the end goal of living in a world that reflects God's intentions? Brainstorm ways that you can make a difference.

Some key actions you might want to consider include:

- **Listen to and learn from** the people most affected
- **Acknowledge** the role we all play and the impact of our choices
- **Speak up and ask hard questions** about public policies, and social/environmental realities in our world
- **Use any privilege or platform you have** to make it better
- **Spread awareness**—talk with your parents, your church, your school, decision-makers—about these issues

Closing prayer

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which Christ walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which Christ blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are Christ’s body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.” – [Teresa of Ávila](#)

Writer: Rebecca Barnes, coordinator - Presbyterian Hunger Program;
Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Editor/Project Manager: Gina Yeager-Buckley, associate Ministries with Youth;
Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Artwork: Beth Thomas