

PMR First Third Ministry
Youth Group Program Outline

Week of May 31 – June 6, 2020

Theme: “Pentecost”

Purpose of this Outline:

- This resource is for your use with the Youth in your Community of Faith as we continue to meet online and to help inspire conversations of action and social justice with the Youth
 - You are more than welcome to see this outline as a jumping off point, for inspiration, do not feel the need that you need to follow it exactly! Each Youth Group is different, so you can tailor it to your context

Preparation:

- It is important to send an email to all of your Youth Group families (if you send it to your youth or their parents/guardians email addresses) that includes the Zoom meeting link and any materials that the Youth might need for your online gathering
 - I like to send the emails to both the Youth and their Parents/Guardians email addresses because it gives both parties an opportunity to discuss the theme of the Youth Group as a family and how it might apply to them
 - Tell Youth to wear Red/Orange or bright colours to Youth Group in celebration of Pentecost
- Security Measures for Zoom
 - Enable the “**waiting room**” function when scheduling your Zoom meeting because it allows you to monitor who is coming into the meeting and decline those who you do not know
 - It is key to always use a **Meeting password** when scheduling a Zoom meeting because it makes it more difficult for hackers to get into your online gathering
 - Only send your Zoom meeting link and details to your participants and their families because if you happen to post the meeting details on any social media platform (even if it might be a ‘private group’) it makes it easier for hackers to infiltrate your meeting
- Gathering of any supplies needed for Online gathering: Christ Candle, Lighter/Matches,

Program Outline (60 minutes of total programming)

- **Opening** (2-3 Minutes)
 - Greet each Youth by name as they log on to the Zoom Meeting
 - Remind Youth that it is important for safety that they keep their Video function on and so that they can fully engage in the online gathering
 - Lighting of the Christ Candle

- Feel free to say whatever words you like to say as you light the Christ Candle to start the gathering (I tend to use the words from Godly Play by saying “There was once someone who said and did amazing things that people started to follow him, and as they followed him they just had to ask him who he was, and one time when they asked him he said, I am the Light of the World”)
- **Check-in** (5 minutes)
 - Check-in Question
 - What has been a rose and a thorn for you this week? (Something positive and something negative)
- **Devotional/Bible Study** (6-8 minutes)
 - Watch this video about Pentecost by “Chuck knows Church”
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ScAr1UHI9I>
 - Bible Passage (Acts 2: 1-21)
 - When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to

blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

- Discussion
 - When I look at this passage, it's not the image of the fiery 'Holy Spirit' that catches my attention, it is the fact that the disciples started to speak in every language and that everyone in the crowd could understand what they were saying, regardless of where they were from. This makes me think that God's love and the Holy Spirit are not just for the few, but for everyone, regardless of race, language, culture, background, socio-economic status, gender, and sexual orientation. Just because Peter speaks about the 'men of Judea', we know that there were women followers of Jesus and those who were poor, but they were all welcome to share in God's love and understand it.
 - Inspiration from http://www.workingpreacher.org/preaching.aspx?commentary_id=4458
 - Pose some questions to the group:
 - When you hear this bible passage, what did you feel or experience while listening to it?
 - In your opinion, what is the most important thing about this story?
 - In our busy and complicated world, how can we transcend differences and be at peace as God's family?
 - How might God's spirit be at work in the world and in our lives?
- **Action** (13-15 minutes)
 - Pentecost Scavenger Hunt
 - Youth will be given 30 seconds to find each item on this list and bring it to the screen to show the leader (keep track of who has found which items)
 - List of items:
 - Water
 - Fire/flames
 - Words
 - Community
 - Love
 - Red
 - Orange
- **Closing** (2-3 minutes)
 - Encourage Youth to go out into the world and practice 'Random Acts of the Holy Spirit' (my Pentecost version of 'Random Acts of Kindness')
 - Closing Prayer

- Dear God, thank you for bringing us together here in community, as our world slowly starts to open up again, give us strength and hope so that we can be an “Easter people” and filled with hope in times of sadness and distress. In Jesus’ name, Amen.