

# EarthCare (Teens): Faith

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## Power Points for Facilitators & Teen Leaders:

- God is all good and active in everything, everywhere.
- I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.
- I do my best by living the Truth I know. I make a difference!
- Classroom facilitators are here to draw out our youth, teens lead the direction of our conversations and facilitators are guides along the way.

## Opening Prayer / Inspiration Reading

“I am of the family of the universe, and with all of us together I do not fear being alone, I can reach out and touch a rock or a hand or dip my feet in water. Always there is somebody close by, and when I speak I am answered by a plane’s roar or the bird’s whistling or the voices of others in conversation far apart from me. When I lie down to sleep, I am in the company of the dark and the stars.

Breathe to me, sheep in the meadow. Sun and moon, my father and my father’s brother, kiss me on the brow with your light. My sister, earth, holds me up to be kissed. Sun and moon, I smile at you both and spread my arms in affection and lay myself down at full length for the earth to know I love it too and I am never to be separated from it.” David Ignatow, American Poet

## Opening Affirmation

It is my faith, as the intelligence of God within me, I contribute in some way, everyday to the good of this Earth.

## Check In

It is good that more and more people are becoming concerned and aware about their roles and responsibility in preserving the environment. Each of us can, in our way, contribute something in some way to the good of this Earth. Share one way God works in and through you to make the world a better place for all people to live.

## Joy Song

### Madre Tierra Madre Vida

Madre Tierra Madre Vida (2x)  
Llévame en tu Corazón  
la Medicina de tu Amor.

Translated as Mother Earth, Mother Life, hold/carry me in your heart, it is the medicine of your love. The chant is originally from a Peruvian Shaman, Alonso Del Rio. Dance movement are by Grace Marie.

- 1) Madre Tierra Madre Vida we should rock slightly back onto the left foot while progressing to the left, the left hand is on the right shoulder of the person in front of you, (Madre Tierra your right hand faces down toward the earth, Madre Vida your hand rises to the sky)
- 2) on "Llévame en tu Corazón" we turn to the RIGHT, lowering hands towards to earth as if scooping love, raising hands to our heart and turning to the left in full circle
- 3) on "la Medicina" grabbing each other hands, we bring the hands up from the earth while stepping into the center, es tu amor, release hands and step out with hands on heart.

[Madre Tierra Madre Vida - dance of universal peace \(youtube.com\)](#)

Video – Dance led by Ralph Nimmann with his wife Vitalija playing guitar on 2 January 2020 @ the Woodbrooke Quaker Centre in Birmingham during the Year End Treat: "Dancing into the New Year with Faith & Joy".

## Lesson – FAITH

Quote – “Faith is the perceiving power of the mind linked with a power to shape substance. It is spiritual assurance, the power to do the seemingly impossible. It is a force that draws to us our heart’s desire right out of the invisible spiritual substance. It is a deeper inner knowing that that which is sought is already ours for the taking, the “assurance of things hoped for”. – Charles Fillmore, *Keep a True Lent*

“Faith is a knowledge within the heart, beyond the reach of proof.” — **Kahlil Gibran**

1. What is faith?

Through faith we know with an inner knowing beyond the outer appearances of the outside world or even what has yet to manifest the Truth.

It is through our faith we understand all things in the universe are connected. We are connected to the rocks, to the birds, to the stars and because of this we are never alone. We are part of the family of the universe. We only need to feel the connection to the world around us. This leads us back to our Charles Fillmore quote where Faith is summarized as the “spiritual assurance to the seemingly impossible”.

2. When we define faith as an inner knowing of desire coupled with beyond what we can see where have you seen faith at work in your life or the lives of others around you?
3. Has there ever been a time you struggled to know what was yours to do next? What if you made the decision to turn it over to God? What if you let go and said I am listening; I am trusting and ready to lead as to be led. This is an example of faith, a surrender of control and movement into trusting an inner knowing and connection beyond any and all appearance of the naked eyes. Can you think of a time you just believed, let go and trusted all is well in God? Sometimes it is not knowing the details of how it works, it is just knowing it works.

Faith is just one of our spiritual resources, one of the powers or gifts that guide and reside in each of us to bring about our good for all.

## **Meditation/ Centering/ Mindful Moment**

As I close my outer eyes, take a breath and open my inner eyes, I rest into faith. Faith no matter how small, how deep, or how big is a vibration that carries me forward in all that I am to do. It opens my heart to the good which freely flows from me to the universe.

At any time, when things seem more than my heart can bear, when I do not think I can to enough and worry seeps into my mind, I call forward the power of faith. I affirm it is my faith which will see me through. I hold in my mind a picture that all things are possible. It is my faith which fills me up and gives me confidence.

Faith is forever expanding in my awareness and as it does it helps me hold the presence of God in every place, in every person, in every plant, in every animal and all circumstances. I see the good unfolding now. I know my spiritual power of faith is working now.

It is in faith my thoughts, ideas, and words are creating a brighter picture now for the Earth and all its inhabitants. I am listening to divine direction, an inner calling and little pushes to know what is mine to do. Here I sit in the stillness.

It is in this I give thanks and I know all is truly well.

## Creative Experience

Think about faith and how you or others experience faith in your life. If faith were to show up in ritual or ceremony, how would you celebrate the experience of faith related to the Earth? As you complete this lesson individually or with a group think about specific materials, props, settings, music, and readings you would need to create a celebration of faith. In this exercise get creative, and do not use any existing holidays or celebrations in observance, as you create an experience of celebration of faith related to the Earth. Remember as you create, it is in your faith all things are possible, so no limitations in your planning. Most importantly have fun!

## Blessings & Closing Prayer/ Inspiration Reading

We are the caregivers of this wonderful planet. Constantly in awe of the diamonds in the sky, and all the precious gemstone of the ground. From the rising sun in the east to the setting sun in the west. We feel it and we know God is ever present within this most wonderful, radiant, beautiful world. In this way, we clearly say yes to the continued care of our planet Earth. This is a place where people, animals and plants are rooted in the elements of air, fire, water and earth. This is a place with an abundance of water to nourish and cleanse the body. The air we breathe is invigoration to the soul. We respect the life rooted in the plants that yield crops of nourishment, vitamins and minerals. We pledge in the present now and to the future that the resources of this Earth as they are discovered, maintained and used will be done with care. Holding a vision of plenty, we give thanks in the name and nature of the living loving Christ. AMEN.

## 5 Basic Unity Principles

God is all good and active in everything, everywhere.

I am naturally good because God's Divinity is in me and in everyone.

I create my experiences by what I choose to think and what I feel and believe.

Through affirmative prayer and meditation, I connect with God and bring out the good in my life.

I do and give my best.