

Explore It

FOR LEADERS



I CAN TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

2 Timothy 1:5-14 Timothy

Please see the Introduction document and the COGS programme for leader's notes and further information/ideas.

Each child will need:

- Pens and paper
- Orange/red/yellow felt-tips pens, crayons or coloured pencils

Start It

Play the game around the theme of 'I'm going on a trip'. Announce that the children are going on an imaginary trip, but they can only bring certain items along. Any objects they bring must meet a specific criterion and their goal is to figure out what that is. If the children think they've figured it out, they need to guess to confirm, rather than shouting out what the criterion is.

For example, say, 'I'm going to Hawaii, and I'm going to bring [a swimsuit].' Then the children take turns saying what they are going to bring: 'I'm going to Hawaii, and I'm going to bring [a palm tree].' Based on your criteria, after each statement, respond 'Yes, you can' or 'No, you can't.'

Example criteria could be:

- You must say 'um' or 'uh' before you make the statement
- The items must go in alphabetical order
- The items must have a double letter in it
- The items must all consist of the same number of letters

Or

Tell the children you are going on a trip. They can only bring three things with them. Give them one minute to go around their house and bring back their three items. Allow some time for them to share what they have selected and why.

Ask the children the following and have them write down their answers on a piece of paper and show everyone, or use the chat function.

Write down one thing you would need if:

- You are going to climb a mountain
- You are going to rob a bank
- You are going to work as a gardener
- You are going to play a sports match
- You are going to work as a doctor
- You are going to the beach for the day
- You are going to church
- You are going to tell your friends about Jesus

🗨️ **Say:** Wow, that's a lot of good choices! In our story today, we are going to learn about a young man called Timothy. Timothy went on lots of journeys to teach people about Jesus, and God made sure he had everything he needed to do the job he had called him to.

We will see how Timothy had people to help him grow (as we talked about in Session One) and that God had a job for him to do (as we talked about in Session Two). Timothy made a difference in the lives of others by sharing what he believed (as we talked about in Session Three). Even though he didn't feel up to it, especially because he was young, Timothy trusted that God would equip him with everything he needed to teach others about Jesus.

Sing It

Sing and dance along to this lively song.

'Tell the World'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hy4QNFjrBwI>

Tell It

Watch the summary of Timothy as a part of God's Story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w4GSFluzBSA>

For a younger group you could use the story that can be found here:

<https://missionbibleclass.org/new-testament/part2/selections-from-the-epistles/timothy/>

Share a picture of Timothy (there is an example below, or choose your own via an internet image search) and leave the picture visible as you ask any of the following 'I wonder' questions:

- ➔ I wonder how God helped Timothy to share his faith.
- ➔ I wonder how God helps us to share our faith.
- ➔ I wonder what you would like to tell others about Jesus.
- ➔ I wonder what abilities God has already given us that we can use to serve him.
- ➔ I wonder how we could help the communities we're part of, even when we might feel too young to make a difference.

Action It

Ask the children to think of things that they are 'too young' to do.

Allow time for response and discussion. (You could make a list on the whiteboard.)

🗨️ **Say:** Timothy often felt that he was too young to serve God and teach others about Jesus. But his friend and role model Paul always encouraged him. Paul even asked Timothy to lead one of the new Christian churches and to help other believers grow in their faith. When Timothy felt worried or not confident, Paul wrote him letters to help him be a better teacher and leader.

This is part of a letter that he wrote:

'I remember your true faith. That kind of faith first belonged to your grandmother Lois and to your mother Eunice. And I know that you now have that same faith. That is why I remind you to use the gift God gave you. God gave you that gift when I laid my hands on you. Now let it grow, as a small flame grows into a fire. God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid. He gave us a spirit of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed to tell people about our Lord Jesus.'

2 Timothy 1:5-8 (ICB)

In another letter he wrote:

'You are young, but do not let anyone treat you as if you were not important. Be an example

to show the believers how they should live. Show them with your words, with the way you live, with your love, with your faith, and with your pure life.'

1 Timothy 4:12 (ICB)

Share screen with this verse (1 Timothy 4:12) and ask the children to read it aloud together.

Ask: What would you like to tell others about Jesus?

Ask the children to draw a picture of them telling someone else about Jesus. Ask them to include some speech bubbles of what they would be saying.

Allow time for the children to share their pictures and for discussion.

Choose one of the following Scriptures to use as a memory verse. Say it aloud together a few times. Split the group into pairs using the breakout rooms function and ask each pair to come up with some actions to go with the Scripture.

When you bring the group back together ask each pair to say the memory verse aloud with their actions, and ask the other children to copy.

'You are young, but do not let anyone treat you as if you were not important. Be an example to show the believers how they should live. Show them with your words, with the way you live, with your love, with your faith, and with your pure life.' 1 Timothy 4:12 (ICB)

'God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid. He gave us a spirit of power and love and self-control.'

2 Timothy 1:7 (ICB)

'Since you were a child you have known the Holy Scriptures which are able to make you wise. And that wisdom leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.'

2 Timothy 3:15 (NCV)

If you have time you could ask the children to write the memory verse on their drawing.

Pray It

Read 2 Timothy 1:6-8 again.

'That is why I remind you to use the gift God gave you. God gave you that gift when I laid my hands on you. Now let it grow, as a small flame grows into a fire. God did not give us a spirit that makes us afraid. He gave us a spirit of power and love and self-control. So do not be ashamed to tell people about our Lord Jesus.' (ICB)

Ask the children to take their pictures again and to use orange, red and yellow pens or crayons to draw fire around themselves. Explain that this is to symbolise the gifts and unique abilities that God has given them, and the strength, courage and love that the Holy Spirit brings. As they draw the flames ask them to pray quietly that God will give them everything they need to serve him and teach others about Jesus.

Explore It

Remember to share the Explore It (For Me) and Explore It (Together) ideas for children and families.



Image source: Screenshot from the YouTube video