



Delegation Leader's Guide

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Welcome

Welcome, Friends, to the 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium!

In the name of Jesus the Christ who calls us to “Go, and make disciples,” thank you for what you have done already to prepare for this week and for all that you will do for the young people coming to experience PYT 2016! Thank you for hearing a call and responding, “Yes,” to journeying with young disciples this week.

Andrew Root refers to the action of what you’ll be doing as a Delegation Leader as “*place sharing*.” “*Place sharing*,” says Root, “*seeks to be in relationship with young people as the location of God’s very presence, because place-sharing seeks to conform itself to the very action of God.*”¹ This is the ministry you have been called to. I believe wholeheartedly in the entire PYT experience, and I believe that this theme lends itself well to what happens after PYT ends. As a Delegation Leader, your role will be to guide young people in to considering how they will “Go” once they leave Purdue and return home.

This manual has been deliberately and humbly designed for you. I have prayed for you and the young people you will lead with each page written. It will be helpful for you to **read the entire guide before you arrive at Purdue for PYT**. This guide is your primary tool for exploring the “GO!” theme and how it impacts “real life” back home. As a Delegation Group Leader, I trust that part of your stewardship of that call will come in the form of preparedness.

Please know that as their Delegation Leader, young people will trust you for guidance and advice. I encourage you to use your best judgment and to ask for help when you need it. The Community Life Ministry Team is here to support you. If you need help with the use of this manual for your delegation group time, the Small Group Ministry Team is here to support you.

Blessings to you as you make preparations for PYT ’16. May the God of Grace, Jesus who calls, and the Spirit who leads be with you. Thank you for being willing to “Go” where you have been called.

Blessings,
Samantha

¹ Andrew Root, *Taking Theology to Youth Ministry* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012), 86

Help! I'm a Delegation Group Leader!?

Here is where I would offer you some FAQ's—except this is a bit different so there are no “Frequently Asked Questions”—it's all new! Let's imagine that there are instead some WNDITWBQ's (We've Never Done it This Way Before Questions).

WNDITWBQ's

Didn't delegation time used to be right before lights out?

Yes, but for PYT '16, we considered again how to best be stewards of our time and our young people. We determined that one way to faithfully do this is to shift delegation time, to offer specific time and an intentional resource to guide delegations to enhance the events of PYT and to consider how the theme is relevant after the event ends.

How should I prepare to lead my delegation group before and during PYT?

Read the manual. Pray for your delegation. While at PYT, you are encouraged to look ahead and be prepared. After each completed session, please go ahead and look over the next session guide to see how the theme will be explored, etc.

When do we gather?

The schedule includes three one-hour blocks of time during which delegation groups will gather. These times are on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Where will we meet?

For delegations larger than 20 participants, a space will be assigned for you. Please be sure to check out your space *before the event*.

For delegations fewer than 20 participants, you can choose! Find a grassy area, a shade tree, a dorm lobby. Find a space and *clearly communicate its location* to your delegation. Some locales, however, are *not* good delegation group meeting areas; including but not limited to: anywhere off campus, Starbucks, a restaurant, a dorm room, the hallway right outside small group locations.

My delegation is huge—how will that work?

If your delegation is large, divide them in to smaller groups of 10-20 during the first session; call upon the adults in your delegation to help you as a presence in those smaller groups. Explain for each session, your delegation will gather all together, and then you will experience each session within these smaller groups.

One last helpful tip:

This time is meant to help you to really check in with your delegation, to help them process PYT while they are at PYT, and to help them plan to take the “GO” theme back home. The material in this guide compliments the small group lessons. If you wish, use this time to travel with your delegation to check out the Exhibit Hall or visit the Prayer Center. If you determine that one of these one-hour time blocks can be best used in that way, please take advantage of those spaces and of the conversation and relationship building that happens as you walk together and check stuff out.

Theme Overview

This theme is as much about when we leave PYT as it is about the event itself. We will seek to explore throughout the week what happens when we leave Purdue.

- Going is not busy work.
- Going is not escape.
- Going is not running away.
- Going has the most impact when the process of Going involves thoughtful reflection with oneself and others.
- Going is enabled by God’s counsel, authority given to Jesus and shared with Jesus’ disciples.
- Going is risky.
- Going is often a process.
- But sometimes Going is quick.
- The biblical stories of Going we will be exploring demonstrate the process of Going. In each situation there is a *NO* moment or posture, a *TURNING POINT* (we are calling it a *TURNING PLACE*), and a *GO* moment.
- We are human. This means that our Going is not perfect, nor always carefully choreographed, and sometimes there is failure, sin, or a problem.
- Go is a command. Go is a directive.
- To “Go with God” is to embark on a “worthy adventure.”

Wednesday – Session 1

“GO and See and Do Likewise”	Luke 2:8-20 & 10:25-37	1 hour
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Thursday – Session 2

“Teach Me the Way I Should GO”	Psalm 32	1 hour
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Friday – Session 3

“The Great GO-Mission”	Matthew 28:16-20	1 hour
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“How To” for this Guide

Each session is organized in the following way:

Session Goals

Will highlight the objectives, what you will complete and explore, for each session.

Supply List

This guide assumes that participants will have Bibles, pens, and paper with them. Please encourage members of your delegation to come prepared.

Leader Tips

Is the session at a glance. This section will offer brief insights into what you'll be accomplishing and discussing.

Session Guide

You will notice that each session is divided into four sections:

1. Easy Come, Easy GO (time spent gathering and forming community)
2. From THE WORD GO (scripture exploration)
3. GO For It (activities in response to scripture)
4. Ready, Set, GO (closing activity)

Additionally, your job is to create a safe and welcoming space for your group. Please consider the following:

1. **Know Your Space** – Check it out and choose where you'll gather prior to the first delegation group gathering.
2. **Know Where You Meet** – It is important to know where your delegation group is located, particularly if there is an emergency. You must know what building you are in or around, or what street you are on.
3. **Hospitable Environment** – Creating a hospitable environment is key. Depending on where you choose to gather, there could be distractions (traffic, other groups, etc.). How can you best work around them? Choose to sit in one large circle or several smaller circles so that everyone can be seen and heard.
4. **Exits & Bathrooms** – Make sure that all of your exits are unobstructed, known by all group members, and that you have a plan of exit in the event of an emergency. Also, make sure that you know where the closest bathrooms are and share that information with your group during the first session.
5. **Exhibit Hall & Prayer Center** – Remember, if one day you want to forego the guide in order to visit either of these places with your delegation, do it! But choose to have good conversation as you travel and check stuff out. That time can still be used to check in and build relationships.

SESSION 1

WEDNESDAY (1 hour)

B: 9:00-10:00

A: 11:00-12:00

“GO and See and Do Likewise”

Luke 2:8-20 & 10:25-37

Goals

1. To consider with your delegation where you see the parable of the Good Samaritan played out in the places you come from.
2. To tie in Tuesday’s call to “GO and See!” with Wednesday’s call to “GO and Do Likewise!”
3. To consider how we will be both shepherd and neighbor this week.

Supply List

Participants will need Bibles – and using a Bible App is a great tool

Paper & pen with which you can take notes

Leader Tips

Today’s **Small Group Session** focuses mainly on considering stereotypes and how we ascribe to them; conversation on how we are to “GO and Do Likewise” will happen during **Delegation Time**. Since this time slot is limited, please do your best to ensure this conversation takes place and look for ways to continue the conversation back home, once PYT ’16 has ended! See the “**Help! I’m a Delegation Group Leader!?**” page for tips on leading a large delegation through each session. And don’t forget! If this feels like a good day to check out the Exhibit Hall or the Prayer Center with your group, do it!

EASY COME, EASY GO

Gather and get comfortable; make sure that everyone from your delegation is present and ask participants to say in *one word* how their experience at Triennium has been so far. If participants seem to have a negative feeling so far, be sure to check in with them individually.

From THE WORD GO

Divide your delegation group in half. One group will explore Luke 2:8-20 and the other will explore Luke 10:25-37.

Instruct groups to read the scripture together and then to prepare to present their passage to the opposite group speaking only in hashtags (#s). For example: #smartyantslawyervsJesus, #who’smyneighbor?, #toldastory, etc.

Ask:

- What about the shepherds' response to the call to "Go and see" speaks to you?
- If you could write an addendum to Jesus' conversation with the lawyer, how do you imagine the lawyer responded to Jesus' words to "Go and Do Likewise?" Is this an easy or hard call to live in to?
- The shepherds were called to "Go and See" and the lawyer was called to "Go and Do Likewise"—how are these calls intertwined? For us back home? For us this week?

GO FOR IT

The backstory of the Good Samaritan (GS) is that Jesus' hearers were SHOCKED that a Samaritan would be a helper—AND that the Jewish person would let the Samaritan help him. So the GS didn't just do a nice thing—he risked his reputation, his standing in his community, and the possibility of being harmed by the very person he helped. Helping is sometimes risky.

- Brainstorm a list of places in your hometown(s) where the Good Samaritan is being played out (or has the potential to be). Discuss ways of responding to the call to "Go and Do Likewise" after this event.
- The Good Samaritan didn't just "do a nice thing,"—he went out of his way, he summoned his courage, he gave of his resources, he *noticed* and *saw* and *paid attention* to someone in need. In what ways must we summon our courage in order to "Go and Do Likewise" at home? How do you see our church—as one who sees or ignores? If you see the church as one who ignores, how can we change that?
- The shepherds were told to "Go and See." If that is our call this week at PYT '16, how can we respond faithfully?

**Delegation group leaders: this conversation will hopefully generate some positive discussion around responding to Jesus' call beyond this week. Pay close attention to what you hear your delegation saying, take notes, and consider ways to lead them in responding when you are back home.*

READY, SET, GO!

End with a prayer asking God to guide you to respond to him with wonder and to faithfully Go and do likewise.

SESSION 2

Thursday (1 hour)

B: 9:00-10:00

A: 11:00-12:00

“Teach Me the Way I Should GO”

Psalm 32

Goals

1. To spend time really checking in with your group as we approach the halfway point of the week.
2. To consider ways we “should Go” once returning home—ideas for service in your area.
3. To consider ways we hear and know God’s instruction.

Supply List

Bible

Paper & pen with which you can take notes

Leader Tips

Today’s **Small Group Session** focuses on prayer—after all, Psalm 32 is a prayer! In their Small Group Session, participants will spend a lot of time meditating and praying. Spend this time considering ways you can engage in ministry back home, or if this feels like a good day to check out the Exhibit Hall or the Prayer Center with your group, do it!

EASY COME, EASY GO

Gather and make sure that everyone from your delegation is present. Begin with a game of Encore—divide your group into teams of 10-20 for larger delegations and of 5-10 for smaller delegations.

Explain that you will share a word and each group must sing at least 7 words of a song with that word in it. The first group has 20 seconds to sing the phrase. Then moving clockwise, groups continue to sing songs with the chosen word. After the first group, the time limit is reduced to 10 seconds. A group is eliminated from the round if they cannot think of a song, or they sing a song that has already been sung. The last group standing gets a point.

Use these words: love, heart, prayer, go.

Next, invite individuals to share with their teams how their PYT experience is going—and to share with a song lyric. They are to sing a lyric to their team that best sums up their feelings. As teams are doing this, wander around, taking note of the feel of the group; follow up with anyone who may be struggling.

From THE WORD GO

Invite delegation members to split into groups of 5-12 (different than their Encore groups) and to read Psalm 32:8.

Instruct each group to create a body sculpture, which to them best portrays the promise of this verse. Every member of the group must be a part of the sculpture, and it should not be individual sculptures, but rather, each person coming together to make one piece.

Allow several minutes for groups to work and then invite each group to share their sculpture (and a brief description if needed) with the whole group.

**Delegation Group Leaders: don't feel pressured to have anything to add or instruct. Some individuals/groups will appreciate the chance to use their bodies to interpret the scripture; some will find it difficult, and that's ok! Great learning will happen while groups work together to creatively engage the text using their sculpture to communicate the message.*

Use these questions for follow-up discussion:

- How do we know when God is teaching us the way we should Go?
- What kinds of things keep us from going in the way God leads us to Go?

GO FOR IT

Continue yesterday's conversation for back home ministry opportunities.

Ask:

- Psalm 32 includes God's promise to "teach us the way we should Go." What are some of the "ways we can go" and serve others back home?
- Encourage discussion about specific ministries of your church (food pantry, soup kitchen, clothes closet, nursing home ministry, tutoring program) or within your community.
- How can the youth ministry plug in to those ministries (fund raise, donate time, bingo with senior citizens, homework help, mentor)?

**Delegation Group Leaders: The idea is to generate discussion—to allow your delegation's young people to explore the ways they can "Go" back home; take good notes of their ideas and follow up on them upon returning home.*

Invite students to spend a few moments silently considering the question, "How does God show me the way I should Go?" Invite them to write a short response (1-3 words) on a sheet of paper, have their picture made with their response, and post it to Instagram and Twitter using #pytgo or share it on your story using Snapchat. Their responses will help others identify ways they can listen for God.

READY, SET, GO!

End with a prayer asking God to grant wisdom as we seek to discern the way God is teaching us to Go.

SESSION 3

Friday (1 hour)

B: 2:00-3:00

A: 4:00-5:00

“The Great GO-Mission”

Matthew 28:16-20

Goals

1. To prepare your delegation group to Go from Purdue and PYT to serve at home.
2. To consider ways God has equipped us to Go.
3. To explore the Great Commission found in Matthew 28.

Supply List

Bible

Paper & pens for anyone who didn't bring any

Leader Tips

Today's **Small Group Session** focuses on the story of Moses and on learning to consider our own call from God. In their Small Group Session, participants will spend a lot of time exploring the idea of call, and how a call on one person affects not only the one who is called, but all of those we are called to serve as well. Spend this time exploring the Great Commission. And don't forget! If this feels like a good day to check out the Exhibit Hall or the Prayer Center with your group, do it!

EASY COME, EASY GO

Gather and get comfortable; make sure that everyone from your delegation is present.

Begin with a game of “I Doubt It”—invite participants to stand and explain that you will read several statements. If they believe them to be true, they should remain standing. If they believe them to be false, they can yell, “I doubt it!” and squat down.

Offer no indication in between statements of whether or not each is true—just read them and have fun seeing how your group reacts.

- When hippos are upset, their sweat turns red.
- Cherophobia is the fear of fun.
- Billy goats urinate on their own heads to smell more attractive to females.
- During your lifetime, you will produce enough saliva to fill two swimming pools.
- Recycling one glass jar saves enough energy to watch TV for three hours.
- About 8,000 Americans are injured by musical instruments each year.
- An apple, potato, and onion all taste the same if you eat them with your nose plugged.
- Every year more than 2,500 left-handed people are killed from using right-handed products.
- The longest time between two twins being born is 87 days.
- It is impossible to lick your elbow.
- Human thighbones are stronger than concrete.

**all facts listed above are true and were found at www.thefactsite.com*

After reading the last statement, invite participants to be seated and ask for reactions:

- Who doubted most of what was read?/Who believed most of what was read?
- Do outrageous claims seem easier to believe or to doubt?
- Whether it's fun facts, outrageous claims, or faith, what role does doubt play?

From THE WORD GO

Invite delegation members to split into groups of 5-12 and to read Matthew 28:16-20. Instruct groups to have one voice read through the first time and a second voice to read through a second time.

Invite groups to imagine that Jesus only had a Tweet (140 characters) to communicate the Great Commission and to jot down on paper what he would have said. Encourage groups to share their "tweet-able commission" with the larger group, and to post them on social media if they want, using #pytgo.

Use these questions for follow-up discussion:

- Matthew records that even as they worshipped, some doubted—what kinds of doubts might they have been having?
- Jesus offered instruction and a promise—why would Jesus give such important instruction to people who doubt? Does doubt make faith weaker or stronger?

GO FOR IT

Remind delegates that the Great Commission is Jesus' call to *all* of us to Go and make disciples and to be advocates for others.

Ask folks to split into groups of 5-10. Give them five minutes to check out www.wikihow.com and to view a "how to" video/list or two.

Then, allow 15 minutes for their smaller group to develop a way to make a Wiki How "To Fulfill the Great Commission" list. These can be comical or serious—the point is to consider how they can "Go and make disciples."

Small groups should be prepared to share their "how to" with the rest of the group.

READY, SET, GO!

Join hands or link arms and offer this prayer over the group before you depart:

God our Creator, you have called us into being through love, joined us together in love, and placed us in your world to love. Grant us the strength to carry your blessing from this place to the next, to Go boldly, humbly, and faithfully. Lead us by the power of your Spirit and in the name of your Son, Jesus, who marked for us the way we should Go. Amen.