

## TIME WITH CHILDREN PENTECOST OFFERING

*Preparation: Know local ministries that have been supported through this offering.*

*Resources: A container of mustard seeds or one in a small baggy (see picture).*

**SAY:** Hello, my faithful friends!

**Sing:** (to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know It”)

If you’re faithful and you know it, clap your hands. // [clap, clap]

If you’re faithful and you know it, clap your hands. // [clap, clap]

If you’re faithful and you know it, then your life will surely show it, if you’re faithful and you know it, clap your hands. // [clap, clap]

**SAY:** How many of you have faith? Can you show me your faith? (Ask individual children by name as you desire.) Point to your faith for me. Where is your faith? (Wait to see how the children respond.)

**SAY:** Though we cannot necessarily see faith, we all have a measure of faith.

Hebrews 11:6 says without faith it is impossible to please God.

We live by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7). In Matthew, Jesus says if you have a tiny amount of faith the size of a mustard seed, you can move mountains. (Show the mustard seed(s).) Look at how small this seed is! And we learn in James that without work, faith means nothing. My friends, faith is very important!

Well, we have a friend in the Bible named Jeremiah. Jeremiah was known because he spoke God’s words faithfully to people even when they did not listen. And Jeremiah was also known because he cried — a lot. But Jeremiah still used his faith in God to help the people who were in Babylon build a new life of faith. The people were scared because they were forced to leave their home (similar to the people in Ukraine now and people who are seeking asylum in our country) and they had to start all over. They had to build a new life using their faith in God.

As people of faith, we build our own faith and we get to help others build their faith, like the [INSERT MINISTRY]. When we do [INSERT SERVICE] that helps the people of [INSERT THE GROUP WHO IS SERVED] build their faith in God. The same message God gave to Jeremiah through his tears is the message that God gives us today. God said, “Jeremiah, tell them, ‘I have everything planned out. I am not going to hurt them. My plan is for them to prosper and be well and have hope for a good future.’”

So, we all have a part to play in building a life of faith. God asked Jeremiah and his friends to build a whole new city! And the people of Babylon still had to do their part. They had to have faith and build houses. They had to have faith and plant gardens. They had to have faith and have feet that go, hands that sow, a heart to know and a mind to grow. Because building requires work and faith requires believing in the promises of God.

[OPTIONAL]

Soooo ...

**Sing:** (to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It")

If you're faithful and you know it, clap your hands. // [clap, clap]

If you're faithful and you know it, clap your hands. // [clap, clap]

If you're faithful and you know it, then your life will surely show it, if you're faithful and you know it, clap your hands. // [clap, clap]

**SAY:** Will you pray with me now? Repeat after me.

God,

Help us to trust you //

As we build a life of faith //

In Jesus' name. //

Amen.

