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**Purpose:**

As we celebrate our 100th anniversary of Canadian Pentecostals being involved in missions, we invite our PAOC family to take time on at least one Sunday to CALL our people to GO. Within this document is a template you could use for sharing the call of God to MISSIONS ENGAGEMENT with a children’s ministry. We know children’s ministry happens in many different ways across our country, so please feel free to adapt the template to the age and style of your ministry. If you have a global worker present with you or if someone from your congregation has gone on a short- or mid-term missions experience, don’t be shy about asking them to participate with you. The majority of those we interview to become global workers first felt God’s call to a life of mission when they were children.

The key verse for the 100 Points of Light Sunday is Acts 1:8 and our key thought is “Jesus calls us to *go*!”

Please do not feel bound to this specific outline. We mean it to be a “spark” or an encouragement to you as you invite your church family to “go and make disciples” (Matthew 28:19).

You will notice that we refer to slides throughout the outline, and yes, we are providing PowerPoint and Keynote presentation templates for you to use.

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY OUTLINE**

**Title:** A Call to Go

**Scripture Verse:** Acts 1:8

1. Introduce the global worker
2. Introduce the country or ministry where they are
3. Share the need
4. What does Jesus ask us to do? (Teaching time)
   1. Be a witness!
   2. Share everywhere all at once!
5. What is the worker doing about the need?
6. What do we need to do?
   1. Know
   2. Pray
   3. Give
   4. Go
7. Activity time
8. Remember and Review

**Ministry Template**

**Title Slide: A Call to Go or A Call to Go in Multiple Directions All At Once**

**Key Verse:** *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”* (Acts 1:8, NIV).

1. **Introduce the global worker**

Tell the students the global worker’s name and if there is a PowerPoint slide available, put their picture, name, and country up on the slide.

1. **Introduce the country of ministry**

It is fun to put up a map of the world on a slide or have a globe with you and point out the location of the country. You could ask the students if anyone knows where the country is, or if anyone has gone there. Many of our churches will have the flag of the country up if they have a worker from there. If you do, appoint a child to be the flag bearer for your presentation and have them walk in with the flag and stand with the country’s flag.

If you can, introduce the individual you will talk about in Section 5.1 below. Give the children a sense of what their life is like and a hint of what their need is. Don’t worry about repeating yourself later as repetition is one of the ways children learn! The goal of connecting the children with an individual or family overseas before the need is shared helps children identify with that individual without having an “us versus them” complex.

1. **Talk about the Need**

Ask the global worker you are highlighting to share some of the needs of their country with you. You can do this by sending them an email. We have asked workers to Skype in or record a short video on their phone or one if they are with you in person—which is even better! If you are struggling to gather information, great resources include the book *Operation World*, our missions profiles on [www.paoc.org](http://www.paoc.org), or you can take a look around this website: <https://joshuaproject.net/people_groups/statistics>.

Essentially, you want the children to understand why we need to *go*.

1. **What has Jesus asked us to do? (Teaching time)**

Jesus has asked us to tell others about His love.

God’s Word says in Acts 1:8 (put on the screen)

*“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”* (Acts 1:8, NIV).

Perhaps have the students memorize this passage in the weeks leading up to or after the 100 Points of Light Sunday. The verses we memorize as children remain in our hearts through adulthood!

The word “witness” means, “God, I’ll do anything and everything You want me to, because I’m so convinced of the great love that You have for me that I would even put my life on the line.” Or, “You saved me, and I believe in You, so I have to tell others about You. I have to be a witness for You!”

These are big words!

Then this verse says to go to four places.

* ***Jerusalem*** – which was where Jesus’ disciples were living – their own neighbourhood or town.
* ***Judea*** – the region or province where Jesus’ disciples lived. What province do you live in?
* ***Samaria*** – a region nearby. The people in this region Jesus mentioned didn’t like the Jews, and the Jews didn’t like the Samaritans. Jesus was saying we need to be a witness to people who we don’t like!
* ***The ends of the earth*** – All over the world. Jesus wants everyone in the whole world to know about Him!

OK, and one more cool thing about this verse! The word “and” is in here. Somehow we are to go to all four places and not just to one of them!

I know we can’t all go to the ends of the earth, but what we *can* do is send someone else—like our missionary, to GO and tell people about Jesus.

Let’s stop for a moment and ask Jesus to give us ideas on what we can do to help spread His love.

1. **What is the global worker doing about the need?**

In this section you can do all kinds of things to show what the worker is doing about the need. You are a children’s worker and so you are incredibly creative, right?

Here are a few ideas.

1. Tell a story of one person the global worker has ministered to. If the person gives the worker permission, you may even want to show their picture on the screen. The global worker could also share the story by recording themselves on their phone and sending you the video. It doesn’t have to be fancy!

Somehow, telling the story of one person brings about more of a connection than talking about a large group or large statistics.

1. Maybe the global worker has a video you can show. Some of our workers have awesome videos. You, as the children’s ministry expert, can decide if it will work for your kids.
2. Use props to tell the story. People use props as an outline for remembering the story in their long-term memories.

A great way to begin this section is to say, \_\_\_\_\_ obeyed God’s Word and went to live and share Jesus in \_\_\_\_\_\_ .

1. **What do we need to do?**

There are four great words which you can have the children learn/remember and these can be used on future Sundays.

**Know** – We need to learn about where our global workers are and what they are doing to share Jesus. We can learn about the country and the people from their country. We should learn about what their needs are and connect those needs to who we are.

**Pray** – We can pray for our global workers and pray for the people they are ministering to. If you have a global worker with you, why don’t you have the children gather around them and pray for them? (Let the adults be silent.) You might be surprised by what the children have heard and learned through the presentation. If the worker is not present, have the students write a prayer card or make a prayer video and send it to the global worker. (If the worker is in a restricted access country, you may need to have some additional parameters included about what you can send).

**Give** – Explain to the children how our workers rely on friends, family, and their churches to do their missions work. For example, “The money our church sends helps \_\_\_\_\_ to live and share the love of Jesus in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” Have the children take up an offering for the global worker and their ministry. It may not be much, but it is an opportunity to teach on generosity within our culture of materialism and selfishness. Perhaps you can engage with giving over multiple Sundays. Children have done some very creative fundraisers over the years—so do not discount what could happen through their giving! We have known children who’ve engaged with the community beyond the church and it gets exciting for all involved. You may want to plant some seeds and ideas with the children, but they may come up with an incredible way to respond on their own.

It is always helpful for children and their parents to have a visual representation of their goals and progress if you take on a multi-week project. The “thermometer” is one way to track progress, or a clear piggy bank in the shape of a globe, or ??? Yes, you are creative and can come up with a way to help students remember what they are working towards.

**Go** – As we stated in our introduction, many of our global workers were called to missions as children. God spoke to them and the seed of His call within a thought germinated into a life on mission.

Could you take the time to say something like this? “Today we have been talking about missions and listening to God’s invitation to go to the ends of the earth. We believe Jesus can talk to kids, and maybe this morning Jesus is talking to *you* about missions, or helping with missions. If He is, do not be afraid, but write it down! Talk to your parents or caregiver about what you are thinking. And, you can start today by *knowing*, *praying*, and *giving*. Then, when you are old enough, you can *go*!

1. **Application Activity**

We do not just learn by *hearing*! We learn by *experiencing*! Here are a few ways you could take the students’ learning up a level.

* 1. ***Tasting*** – Each country has unique foods and tastes. Perhaps you could have a sampling station where children could taste one or two of those foods. (Remember to think about food allergies!)
  2. ***Singing*** – Maybe the children could learn a chorus or song in the language of the people the global worker ministers to. This could take place over several Sundays, and if it works well, the children could sing the chorus in front of the entire church.
  3. ***Language*** – Maybe there is a phrase or a Scripture verse the students could learn in the language of the people group connected with the global worker. This could be a lot of fun. If you are pressed for time, even learning how to say “hello” or “goodbye” is worthwhile to help students connect with the presentation.
  4. ***Tactile treasures*** – Many of us still remember touching the crafts and treasures our missionaries brought with them when they did their presentations. For some reason, the presentation materials were always on a table at the front of the church and I could not wait until the end of the service to go and look at them all!

1. **Take a “Light”Home**

The theme of 100 Points of Light allows all kinds of ‘help them remember’ items which could go home with the student. One idea, from a group of Bible College students, is to have the children take home a candle, LED light or tea light with a card inviting students to shine a light with their family and then pray for:

* 1. People who do not yet know Jesus
  2. Countries where the light of Jesus needs to go
  3. For more workers who will go

1. **Remember and Review**

On the following Sundays, continue to engage the students about missions. Follow up with memorization of Acts 1:8, sing the song again, pray again for the global worker, or go over the language learning. All of these kinds of activities help the children to remember a key part of our Christian faith.

On an upcoming Sunday, ask the children if God was talking to their hearts about missions and follow up with them. What a great opportunity for discipleship!

Your church probably supports more than one global worker. Feel free to use this template again! Maybe engage with one global worker every month to augment what you do in children’s ministry. We promise you won’t regret it!

**Thank you!**

We hope you find this template helpful and a spark for some creative ideas on how to connect kids with a passion for God’s mission.

If you have questions or want to celebrate your children’s ministry success in some way, please contact:

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Jodey works with our [Missions and Kids](https://paoc.org/mak/about) (MAK) program, and will be happy to connect you further with resources on kids and missions.