

National Youth Sunday 2017
Generations Celebrating Faith (Psalm 145:4 & Acts 2:42-47)
Children's story by Tyler Roebuck

A Celebration of Faith

This is intended to be read by three individuals: an older adult, a younger adult (with young children), and a child (late elementary or middle school). Could be a grandparent/parent/child group.

A: (child's name), do you know what today's scripture is about?

C: Yes! It's about celebrating acts of faith!

A: That's right! And did you know the Church of the Brethren has a famous man who acted out of faith, and has saved many lives because of it? His name was Dan West. Dan saw starving people in the world, and felt sad for them. He wanted to help them and give them food to eat.

C: That's really nice of him!

OA: Sure was! But instead of just giving them food, he started a program that gave people cows and goats and chicken and all sorts of animals so that they could keep having food to eat for a long time. When the cows the hungry people got gave birth to calves, the family was supposed to give the babies to other families who didn't have food so that they could eat.

C: Wow, he sure did help a lot of people! He must have had strong faith!

OA: It was very strong indeed. Can you think of anyone who is living today that acts strongly out of faith?

C: Um... Yeah! There was a guy who came to our school to talk about the environment. I think his name was David.

A: You're right! David Radcliffe is his name. What do you know about David and what he does?

C: He helps with the rainforests by planting trees everywhere! Oh, and he also lives really carefully so that he only uses as many resources as he needs to survive. I think he called it "sustainable living."

A: He also helps with programs in Nepal and all over the world that help women and girls get an education and find a safe place to live. He has a pretty deep faith too, doesn't he?

C: I'd say so. What about you, (older adult's name)? Do you know anyone who acts out of faith?

OA: I once heard of a young person, not too different from you, who did a mighty act of faith even though she's only 11. Her name is Gretchen, and she's from Goshen, Indiana. Do you remember the Chibok girls who were kidnapped in Nigeria?

C: I think so. They're still gone, aren't they?

OA: Yes, and the Church is still sending aid to help our brothers and sisters in Nigeria. Well Gretchen was so filled with compassion when she heard of their kidnapping that she started a small store right in her church to raise money for the Nigerian Crisis fund. Through selling her little Knick Knacks for Nigeria, Gretchen has sent more than \$500 to help our friends there. So you see, no matter your age, you can do great things out of faith.