



## Adult & Pi/Pa Leadership Activity: Be a Torch-Carrier!



### Supplies:

- ✓ 3 Flashlights, one without any batteries or power
- ✓ "I'm Free to B." Sticker (sold in store at [www.FriedaB.com](http://www.FriedaB.com)), or an adhesive nametag
- ✓ Sharpie or marker, any color

\* One Leader will present this activity to the group.

Leader reads to group: *Those who believe in us and our gifts – who help us back up and encourage us to try again... they are leaders in our lives. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 reminds us of the importance of being there to lift one another UP: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up" (NIV). As Leaders of girls within our Troop, this is especially relevant: by taking steps to understanding the girls in our care – their gifts, their strengths, their vulnerabilities – we better prepare ourselves to lead them, by lifting them UP. Let's explore this concept with an activity.*

*I need one volunteer please.*

Bring volunteer to front of the group. Ask her to share with you and the group one thing she believes she is gifted at. Using the marker, write the gift she's shared, on the sticker or nametag (i.e., "I'm Free to B. a good listener"). Ask her to place the sticker on her shirt.

Now ask her: *Do you believe you are gifted to be good at this?* She naturally will answer yes. Ask the group: *Do you believe God gifted her to be good at this?* They'll naturally answer yes.

Now give her a flashlight; ask her to turn it on and point it directly at her sticker. Explain to the group: *This is what it looks like when we, as individuals, believe in the gifts God has given us: they glow, they show up, they make a difference.* Now ask her specifically: *Are there days when you doubt your gifts?* She'll naturally answer yes.

Take away the working flashlight, and hand her the flashlight with no batteries. Ask her to point it to her sticker and turn it on. Of course it won't light. Explain: *When we doubt our worth, when we don't believe in our gifts, they don't show up, they can't do their work.*

Ask the audience: *Whether she believes in her gift or not, does the gift still exist within her?* They'll naturally answer yes. *Yes, and this is the point. The gift is always there. But if we don't believe in our gifts, they aren't effective. This is where the leadership piece comes in.*

Ask for another volunteer – ideally someone who knows the first volunteer well. Bring her up to the front of the group. Ask her: *Do you believe (the first volunteer) is gifted in this area?* The second volunteer naturally will say yes. Hand her a working flashlight and ask her to turn it on and point it at the first volunteer's sticker. Explain: *Do you see? The genuine belief of someone else has the same ability to awaken our gifts, to make them glow, and jumpstart our own convictions.*

Ask the first volunteer: *Does this help you to again believe in yourself?* Naturally, she'll say yes. So replace her non-working flashlight with one that works, and ask her to turn it on and point it to her sticker. As she does, explain: *Now the light is even brighter, stronger... with the genuine encouragement of someone who knows and believes in you and your gifts, you grow more confident in sharing your light with the world.*

*As authoritative Leaders within AHG, this is our job: to be Torch-Carriers... to take hold of the light of our faith and use it to help lead girls forward in their faith, their gifts, their callings. As Torch-Carriers, our role is to encourage girls to seek UPwardly; to recognize and validate their gifts; and to counsel them when they are struggling with doubt or pride. We don't have to have all the answers; thankfully that is God's job. Our role as authority leaders is to lift them UP and help light their way. And, finally, may our leadership prompt girls to begin to lead themselves, according to their gifts. For young and old, each of us is called to be a Torch-Carrier within the Body of Christ, to bring light to darkness, and to celebrate His will and way.*

*May each of us bless one another – and the girls we serve – with this kind of leadership.*

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Here are a number of scripture verses for further exploring authority leadership:

- *Proverbs 22:6 (NIV): Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*
- *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NIV): Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.*
- *James 1:5-6 (NIV): If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt.*
- *Proverbs 16:18 (NIV): Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.*
- *John 3:30 (NIV): He must become greater, I must become less.*