

The 12 Powers of Christmas

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Each of the Powers needs one adult volunteer and several children. The 12 groups march into the room one at a time singing their verse of the attached song. There is also an action that accompanies each verse. Also, one person in each group carries in the sign naming their power.

The attached song is sung to the tune of THE 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS. The 12 groups enter one at a time singing their verse and doing their action. As each new group enters the entire group that is on stage sings the song, each doing their action as their power is named. This repeats until all of the groups have entered. Then ends with a big bow.

The Actions

- Faith:** The group assumes a prayerful position with their hands folded and gazing upward.
Love: The group blows kisses at the audience.
Strength: The group pauses a few times raising their arms like "muscle men."
Judgment: Each child carries a yellow star and one child carries a yellow basket in each hand. As the group enters the children take turns placing their stars in one of the baskets as if it were a scale of justice.
Power: The group raises their fist to the sky in a gesture of power. As the word POWER is sung for 4 counts the person with the drum bangs on it four times in time to the music.
Imagination: The group enters and cups their chin in their hand as if they are in deep thought.
Understanding: The group walks in each carrying their bell and rings it each time their power is named.
Will: The group points their index finger upward.
Order: The group walks in slouching and snaps to attention as their power is named.
Zeal: The group comes in waving their pompoms.
Renunciation: The group comes in tossing their little paper balls into each other's bags.
Life: The group comes in dancing with their red scarves.

Adult Costumes

- ♥ One Robe for each of the 12 Apostles in the appropriate color.
 - FAITH – Dark Blue – Peter
 - LOVE – Pink – John
 - STRENGTH – Light Green – Andrew
 - JUDGMENT – Yellow – James
 - POWER – Purple – Phillip
 - IMAGINATION – Light Blue – Bartholomew
 - UNDERSTANDING – Gold – Thomas
 - WILL – Silver – Matthew
 - ORDER – Dark Green – James the Lesser
 - ZEAL – Orange – Simon
 - RENUNCIATION – Russet – Thaddeus
 - LIFE – Red - Judas
- ♥ One scarf or head piece for each Apostle in the appropriate color.
- ♥ 12 Pieces of robe to tie the headpieces on with.
- ♥ One Sign listing the Apostle's Name. Attach cords so it can be worn around the neck.
- ♥ One poster mounted on a stick (we used paint stirring sticks donated by a paint store) with the POWER written on it.

Children's Costumes and/or Props

Divide the children up so each of the Apostles has some "followers." Make the necessary number of each costume. We also asked the children in dress in their color if they had it readily available. If not we asked them to wear white tops and dark bottoms. All of the head pieces were hooked together with safety pins.

General Supplies

- ♥ Craft Glue
- ♥ Hot Glue Gun
- ♥ Safety Pins
- ♥ 4" pieces of felt, long enough to wrap around the head in each of the 12 colors.
- ♥ Needle and thread

The descriptions below each power are what is needed for each child.

Faith:

- ♥ 4" piece of Dark Blue felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ 6 Clear blue stones.

The stones are then glued onto the headbands.

Love:

- ♥ 4" piece of Pink felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ 6 - 3" light pink felt hearts
- ♥ 6 - 1" red felt hearts

Glue the red hearts in the center of the light pink hearts and glue to the headband.

Strength:

- ♥ 4" piece of light green felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ Green, wired "Star" garland that is used as a Christmas decoration. Each piece as long as the piece of felt.

Attach the garland to the headband with a hot glue gun.

Judgment:

- ♥ 4" piece of yellow felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ 1 - 5" picture of a sun.
- ♥ A yellow star for each child
- ♥ One set of 2 yellow baskets

Glue the suns to the headbands.

Power:

- ♥ 4" piece of Purple felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ A purple metallic bow or a picture of a lightning bolt.
- ♥ One small drum.

Hot glue the bow to the headband.

Imagination:

- ♥ 4" piece of light blue felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ Silver, wired "Star" garland, each piece as long as the headband.

Attach the garland to the headband with a hot glue gun.

Understanding:

- ♥ 2" piece of cardboard covered with gold foil or gold scalloped bulletin board edging long enough to wrap around the head. *The edging is made of paper and can be purchased at Teacher Supply stores.*
- ♥ Cardboard cut in the shape of a light bulb and covered in gold foil.
- ♥ One small bell or chime for each child.

Attach the light bulbs to the headband.

Will:

- ♥ 2" piece of cardboard covered with silver foil or silver scalloped bulletin board edging long enough to wrap around the head. *The edging is made of paper and can be purchased at Teacher Supply stores.*
- ♥ Silver pipe cleaners shaped into the form of an arrow.
Glue the arrow to the back of the headband using a hot glue gun with the arrow pointing up.

Order:

- ♥ Lengths of dark green ivy long enough to wrap around the head. *Can be purchased at craft stores.*
- ♥ Green pipe cleaners – twisted together to make a rope long enough to wrap around the head.
Weave the pipe cleaners through the ivy and twist the ends together to form a headband.

Zeal:

- ♥ 4" piece of orange felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ 4 small orange pompoms made from paper or yarn.
- ♥ 2 Large pompoms for the children to carry.
Attach the 4 small pompoms to each of the headbands using the hot glue gun. The children shake the large pompoms as they enter.

Renunciation:

- ♥ 4" piece of russet or dark brown felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ 10 pieces of russet paper shaped into little balls.
- ♥ 10 – 2" pieces of russet yarn.
- ♥ 10 paper bags filled with a few additional little paper balls.
Attach the yarn to the little paper balls. Then sew the ends of the pieces of yarn to the headband, spacing them out around it. The little paper balls should be dangling from the end of the yarn. The children then carry in the paper bags with the extra balls in them.

Life:

- ♥ 4" piece of red felt long enough to wrap around the head.
- ♥ A small bunch of red flowers.
- ♥ Metallic red pipe cleaners.
- ♥ Sheer red scarf.
Hot glue the flowers to the front of the headband. Then hot glue the pipe cleaners to the headband

in a design around the flowers.

12 Power Song

Sung to the tune of “The 12 Days of Christmas”

Words by Denny Balish, Unity Church of Oak Park

On the first day of Christmas God gave to me: FAITH that God works for good.
 On the second day of Christmas God gave to me: LOVE radiating.
 On the third day of Christmas God gave to me: STRENGTH from within.
 On the fourth day of Christmas God gave to me: WISDOM to guide.
 On the fifth day of Christmas God gave to me: POWWWW OWWW OWWW ER
 On the sixth day of Christmas God gave to me: I MA GIN A TION
 On the seventh day of Christmas God gave to me: UN DER ER STANDING
 On the eighth day of Christmas God gave to me: WILL to direct me.
 On the ninth day of Christmas God gave to me: DIVINE ORDER
 On the tenth day of Christmas God gave to me: ZEAL and Joy.
 On the eleventh day of Christmas God gave to me: RENUNCIATION
 On the twelfth day of Christmas God gave to me: LIFE as a gift.