

WALK with JESUS

The walk with Jesus is an active game/ experience which is suitable for young people from the age of 10 and up. It works very well with teenagers also.

The game helps the youngsters to see their own life, and Jesus is offering his hand to help them walk through their life. In their walking through life in the game there will be some down hills and up hills, just as in regular life.

What you will need for the game is:

- A long thick rope (or couple of ropes you can tie together)
- A forest or some area which can be a little tricky for the participants to go through
- 6 blindfolds (for example scarfs).
- 4 bags of stones (depends how heavy the bags should be for the agegroup playing).
- 3 watercans with water
- Lots of paper/plastic glasses
- 4 candles
- Darkness if you want it to make it a little scary (again depends on the agegroup).
- At least 9 leaders (1 keeping the others busy, 1 to blindfold and explain, 1 for first station, 1 for second station, 1 for third station, 2 for fourth station., 1 for fifth station/ heaven, 1 for seperating the participants which have finished the game from those who haven't and keeping them busy).

To start the game you will need to put/tie the rope up between a couple of trees or something else which is good to tie it to.

Watch out to not put it up where there is too difficult to walk. Find one place where it is difficult to walk, and make sure the rope is there. All the other area around the rope should be quite easy to walk in.

Only one participants at a time can walk through, and the others have to be kept busy while the others are participating. It's the Participant's job to walk through his life with Jesus in his hand, blindfolded and Jesus' hand is the rope.

Before the experience starts the participants will be told to **not let go** of Jesus hand and they will be blindfolded and lead by one leader to the beginning of the actual walk. It is good to whisper to them that the walk is not dangerous, but only meant to be a good experience for them.

Every 5 meters (approximately) there should be a station.

The first station is were the bags of stones are. On that station a one leader has to be, and he will read this for every participant:

"These are your sins, you must carry them with you through your life."

After that the leader will give all the participant one bag of stones.

The second station is were the bags of stones will be taken off every passenger. The leader on that station will then read this:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28).

The third station is were the participants will get water to drink. The leader will say:

"Of this water you will thirst again, but whoever drinks the water Jesus gives them will never thirst. Indeed, the water Jesus gives them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life. (John 4:14).

The fourth station is were the participant is getting through a rough road. Maybe a tree is getting in their way, or some kind of

other difficulties. Then there will come a leader who is playing a demon. The demon will try to tell the participant to let go of the rope, because he is offering a better way through the forest, because this road is too difficult to follow. He speaks gently, so the participant is not afraid of him.

If the participant does let go, the demon takes him a couple of steps from the rope and leaves him there alone. He can say this in a scary way:

"Now you are all alone, hahaha, you let go of Jesus' hand!"

Then there comes another leader who is playing an angel. The angel helps the participant to find the rope again, where the road is more easy than before. The angel whispers very gently:

"Do not worry. I am an angel of God, and I will help you find the way back to Jesus. Just remember to not let go his hand again."

In case the participant does not let go, the same angel will help the participant to find the right way (or give him a rope leading him to the next station).

The last station is heaven. The blindfold will be taken off each participant.

The leader on that station welcomes the participants to heaven and tell them that the experience has ended.

The leader reads:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

On that station it is good to have candles, and a caring leader who is ready to answer questions about the experience and so on.

Have fun, and remember this experience can be very inspiring and useful :).