



rally day



LEARNING TO BE

"FAITH-WALKIN' FAITH-TALKIN' PEOPLE

A Rally Day Celebration for the Call For Discipleship

"Learning to Be Faith-Walkin' - Faith-Talkin' People" is designed to be an interactive introduction to the Call For Discipleship. It may be used as a Rally day program to celebrate the beginning of your church school year or highlighted later in the year to compliment your overall plans for implementing the Call for Discipleship

The following multi-sensory resources are formatted to help you plan a one-hour event for children, age 3 - 6th grade and their families. To get to one area of the Celebration, click on one of following or scroll down the page.

- ! [Age-appropriate crafts and activities](#)
- ! [A scripted large group presentation featuring](#)
- ! [A skit entitled "What's It All About?!" and a](#)
- ! [A song entitled "Faith Walkin' People" \(PDF file\)](#)

The age-appropriate activities may be arranged in learning centers to engage children as they arrive. They are intended to set the stage for a half-hour large group presentation that will help children understand what it means to be a disciple. The large group presentation incorporates the song, skit and crafts made in the activities. The following items may be crafted in the various activities and used as visual aids during the large group presentation.

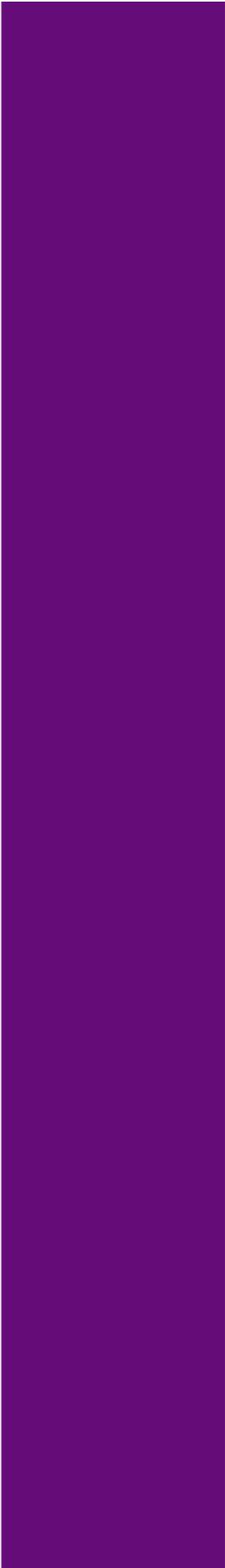
- ! [A Processional Cross \(10 minutes\)](#)
- ! [Faith Walkin' Talkin' Jewelry \(10 minutes\)](#)
- ! [Invitations to visit your Church/Sunday School \(10 minutes\)](#)

Scan through each offering and make note of the equipment, supplies and time recommended. Please feel free to adapt or include other activities to complement your own good intent and look for ways to include older youth as leaders or participants.



CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES

Engage the children in learning centers that incorporate the following activities. They are intended to set the stage for a half-hour large group presentation that will help children understand what it means to be a disciple.





"We're Following Jesus" Processional Cross

Time: 10 minutes

Equipment and Supplies:



A large piece of foam board
A variety of colored markers
A banner pole and stand
Duct tape, glue or other adhesive

Necessary preparations:

Make several copies of the Bible verses and clip art that illustrate ways to follow Jesus

Cut out two cross pieces at least 18" x18", using the pattern on the Clip Art sheet or choosing your own design

[Clip Art Sheet \(pdf file\)](#)

Intent:

To involve children in designing a special processional cross to use in Church school openings or gatherings and congregational worship services. It will affirm your children's sense of identity and belonging to your faith community. You may want to use it as a catalyst for actively involving church school classes in your worship services. As you encourage classes to take turns carrying the cross, invite them to be involved in other ways, i.e. as ushers, greeters and lesson readers. Families might also be recruited to play these roles.

Introduction to the Activity:

The cross is a symbol of faith in Jesus. Lutherans and other Christians often wear crosses to let other people know that they are followers of Jesus. With the cross before us, we strive to follow the directions Jesus gave his disciples for the journey. He asked them to serve, learn, pray, give, worship, encourage and invite others along the way.

[\[Back to the top\]](#)

At the beginning of a worship service, the pastors, choirs and other people often come down the aisle to the front of the church. Many churches lift high a processional cross to lead the way. [If your church has not been involved in this practice, talk with your pastor about including it as a way of celebrating the Call for Discipleship.]

Instructions:

Lay out the cross-shaped pieces and some markers and a few copies of the Bible Verse and Clip Art sheets. Invite each participant to choose a word or phrase from the sheet that illustrates a direction Jesus gave his disciples in Bible times. Recognize the words and symbols they choose as still important to people who want to be "faith walkin'-faith talkin' people" today. Have them proceed to decorate the two cross pieces. Younger children may need a stencil or pattern to trace.

Remind them that the cross reminds us of God's amazing love for us. God sent God's son Jesus to die on the cross so that he could take care of all the things we do that keep us from following God's lead.

Adhere the cross pieces to the pole and place the banner stand in the front of the sanctuary for later use.



Bible Verse Sheet

Use the following Bible verses to help you find words and pictures to draw on a banner and processional cross.

- s Jesus said, "Come and follow me. . . ." Matthew 5:19
- s Little children, let us love not just in word and speech, but in truth and action. 1 John 3:18
- s As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15
- s Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Colossians 3:20
- s Let us not become proud. Let us not make each other angry. Let us not want what belongs to others. Galatians 5:26
- s Live together in peace. Be understanding. Love one another like members of the same family. Be kind and tender. 1 Peter 3:8
- s Go home and tell your family. Tell them how much the Lord has done for you. Tell them how kind he has been to you. Mark 5:19
- s Friends love at all times. They are there to help when trouble comes. Proverbs 17:17
- s Treat everyone fairly. Zechariah 7:9
- s Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young. Set an example for the believers what you say and in how you live. Also, set an example in how you love and in what you believe. 1 Timothy 4:12
- s Each of you has received a gift in order to serve others. You should use it faithfully. 1 Peter 4:10
- s Give all your worries to God because God cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7
- s Do good and share what you have. Hebrews 13:25
- s Pray at all times. Ephesians 6:18
- s Forgive each other, just as the Lord has forgiven you. Colossians 3:13
- s Encourage one another and build each other up. 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- s You are the light of the world. Let your light shine for others so they can see your good works and praise God in heaven. Matthew 5:22
- s Be quiet and know that God is God. Psalm 46:10
- s God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7
- s Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not depend on your own thoughts. In all your ways, seek God and God will show you the way. Proverbs 3:5-6
- s Rejoice always, pray at all times and give thanks no matter what is happening. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- s Learn and use your minds to discover God's will. Romans 12:2b
- s You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart. . . . Keep these words in your heart. . . . Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up. Deuteronomy 6:8

[\[Back to the top\]](#)



"You're Invited" Post Cards

Time: 5-10 minutes

Equipment and Supplies:

Blank card 4" x 6" cards

Markers

[\[Back to the top\]](#)

Necessary preparations: Print a brief invitation for people to come and visit your church (include times, etc.) on one half of one side and a line dividing it! Draw a picture of your church along with some people on the other side to use as a sample to share your participants.

Intent:

To make send or share invitations with friends, to come and learn to be "faith walkin' talkin' people" at your church.

Introduction to the Activity:

Half the fun of doing something is asking someone else to join in, too! Birthday celebrations and special tasks we do, even school wouldn't be the same if we didn't have friends with which to share it. Think of invitations you have received. What do invitations usually say? Identify some of the directions Jesus gave his followers in Matthew 28:19. You may want to display this verse on a poster board. Show the children a sample of the invitation you have made for friends to come and learn about "faith walkin' talkin' people" at your church. Invite them to make one to send or share with a friend.

Instructions:

Give each child one or more postcards. Invite them to draw pictures of your church and people of all ages who worship serve and learn there. Have them think of people whom they would like to give their invitations Then, invite them bring their invitations to the large group presentation.

**"Wear it-Share It!" Jewelry**

Time: 10 minutes

Equipment and Supplies:

Shrink Art Sheets (available at most craft stores) or card stock paper
Oven

Yarn, leather or cord, large safety pins or T-Shirt pins (available at most craft stores)

Permanent fine tip markers

[Copies of the "foot and cartoon bubble" design on the Clip Art Sheet](#)



[\[Back to the top\]](#)

Necessary Preparations: Make copies of the foot and cartoon bubble design for the children to trace onto the Shrink Art Sheets. Scan the directions on the package to discover suggested oven temperature.

Intent:

To give children a symbol of discipleship to wear as a witness to others.

Introduction to the Activity:

As followers of Jesus, we need to keep learning to be "faith-walkin,' faith-talkin 'people everyday. Sharing our faith with people along the way is one important way to be a "faith walkin' talkin' person." Wearing jewelry , shirts and other things can also help us share our faith in Jesus. The foot and cartoon bubble design (on the Text and Clip Art Sheet) is a fun way to identify ourselves as a follower of Jesus. Giving children a choice of using it to make necklaces or bracelets will help them personalize their commitment to wear and share it.

Instructions:

Invite the children to make a necklace, bracelet, pin or "T-Shirt" clasp using the foot and cartoon bubble design as a design for a pendant. Follow the instructions on the shrink art packages to make pendants according to their specifications. You might also choose to make pendants using card stock. To follow this scenario, give each child a copy of the design to color, cut and paste to a piece of card stock.

Customize the size of the design and card stock to your own specifications. String yarn through them or adapt according to the jewelry they choose to do. Bracelets may be made of braided yarn, leather, etc. Invite the children to wear their jewelry to the large group presentation.



LARGE GROUP PRESENTATION

The large group presentation is a 30 minute introduction to the Call For Discipleship that will help children understand what it means to be a disciple. It is designed to follow a crafts and activity time (See crafts and activities.) The presentation incorporates a theme song, a skit and some of the crafts made during the activity time.

Time: 25-30 minutes

Equipment/Supplies: Piano or guitar
See props on the attached skit

Necessary Preparations:

Design and display common signs that give people direction i.e. stop sign, poison sign, hospital, exit, speed limit, one way, school, bike path, one-way, a cross etc.
Recruit cast and rehearse skit
Make copies of the song, "Faith Walkin' People"
Display the "We're Following Jesus" Processional Cross

Setting the Stage: Play through the accompaniment to "Faith Walkin'-Faith Talkin' People"

Introduction

Leader's notes: [As you point to some of the signs displayed, ask the group to identify the meaning of the symbol or the direction they provide.] Invite the group to suggest other illustrations suggestions of people or things that are dedicated to showing us practical ways to do things, i.e. teachers, parents and other family members, police, TV, commercials, etc. Recognize the fact that some things give us good directions and some lead us astray as you introduce the game "Hot and Cold." [It is recommended to help you illustrate how difficult it can be to see our way through all the different "voices" in the world that telling what to do and which way to go, i.e. ads and TV commercials, friends, etc.]

Game: "Hot and Cold"

Directions: Ask for two volunteers to play an advanced version of the game "Hot and Cold." Ask them to wait outside while you divide the rest of the group into two teams and give them an over view on how the game is played.

F Point out two different objects you have set out in plain or partial view. Use any common object such as a marker, masking tape, a book, or whatever you have handy.

F Associate each team with an object and explain that their job will be to help a volunteer find their object at the same the other team is trying to help the volunteer find their object. Invite the groups to prompt the volunteer with words that describe a degree of temperature, calling out "warm, warmer or hot" as the volunteer moves closer to their object and "cool, colder or freezing" as the volunteer moves away from their object.

F Invite one volunteer to return to the room at a time. Tell them that you have hidden a object in the room and invited the group to help him/her find it by calling out "warm, warmer or hot" as he/she moves closer to their object and "cool, colder or freezing" as the volunteer moves away from their object. [let the volunteer discover the mixed

messages without prior knowledge that there are two teams.]

The volunteer will most likely experience a growing confusion and frustration as he/she tries to discern which directions to follow. Choose an appropriate moment to intervene and interview the volunteer using the following questions:

- > What's going on here?
- > How does it make you feel?

Then, debrief the entire activity with the whole group with these questions.

- > How does this exercise reflect what happens in our own lives?
- > Who gives you directions? Do they all lead you in the right direction?



Spotlight's On... Jesus!

Use the game as a "stage-setter" for identifying God as the creator who made us and the One and only one who is able to show us the way. In John 14:6, Jesus says "I am the way, the truth and the light, no one comes to the Father except through me." Point to the processional cross you have displayed, if you made one, to illustrate that Jesus asks us to follow him and do the things he loves to do. Hold high the processional cross and ask a child to follow the cross as you remind the children that, it is only with the cross before us that we can follow the directions Jesus gave his disciples. It is only because Jesus died to take away our sins that we can live for him. Jesus asks to spend our days learning and serving, giving and praying, worshiping with others and inviting and encouraging friends along the way.

Associate the privilege of following Jesus with a reference to games like "Follow the Leader" or "Captain May I." Explain that they will have many opportunities to learn how to be followers of Jesus in your church this year, i.e. church school, worship and other activities. Rephrase your comments introducing the program theme, "learning to be 'faith walkin', faith talkin', people." Then, introduce the song, "Faith Walkin' People."

Faith Walkin' People

[After a practice run through the first two lines, be prepared to sing them again as an introduction to the skit.]

[\[Back to the top\]](#)

The Skit: "What's it all About?!!"

[The skit is designed to be an interruption to the song. Note the characters and costumes or props necessary to perform it on the script.]

Putting It All Together

Leader's Notes: Point out that many members of the group have been learning to be "faith walkin, talkin' people" for quite some time. Notice the jewelry with the foot and cartoon bubble design they are wearing. Refer to the following script as you conclude the program.

In fact, ever since they were baptized and became a part of God's family, they've been learning' to walk with others in Jesus' steps. In baptism, we were all given some special jobs to do. Parents and teachers are there to help kids become "faith walkin' talkin' people" every day. Kids are given the job to shine for everyone! And... since no one ever grows out of being a child of God, we're all in this together! We're on our way, everyday as we pray, learn, worship, give, serve, encourage, and invite people along the way!

[Mention that some people not have been baptized but want to follow Jesus. Invite them to make plans to talk with a pastor afterwards.]

Prayer: Ask for God's guidance as you all learn to be "faith walkin,' talkin' people."

Sending Song: "Shine, Jesus, Shine," "This Little Light of Mine," "We are Marching in the Light of God," or another appropriate song of celebration.



SKIT
"WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?!!"

Cast:

Leader

Mr./ Ms. Faith Walkit-Talkit

Costume: A "sandwich board" with the foot and cartoon bubble design ([on the Clip Art sheet](#)) enlarged to cover his/her entire body. (Cut holes for character to see and space for mouth)



Characters representing the seven faith practices:

Cheerleader (represents worship) Prop: Pom poms

Bible Person (represents Learn) Prop: Large representation of a Bible which should cover upper body with holes large enough so person can see through it

Bag Person (represents Give) Prop: carries a large brown bag containing the following items: canned goods, items of clothing, blanket, toiletries, giant heart, small bag that sounds like contains coins when shaken

Exercise person (represents Prayer) Costume: Exercise clothes

Helper (represents Encourage)

Tool Person (represents Serve) Prop: Tool belt with hammer, paint brush, etc.

Invitation Person (represents Invite) Prop: Several invitation cards

Script

[Begin the skit by teaching the children the introduction to the song "Faith Walkin' People." Prompt the person portraying Faith Walkit-Talkit to walk in after the song introduction has been sung at least once and interrupt the rehearsal with his/her opening lines.]

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Hey, wait a minute! Who or what's a "faith walkin', faith talkin', people anyway?" I've been looking for them all over the place!

Leader: Well hello and how do you do? I've heard of people putting their "foot in their mouth" before, but what's all this about?

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Well, I've been on the look out for faith walkin' talkin' people for quite some time and I have come to the conclusion that they must have pretty big mouths and feet. So, I designed this little outfit to attract their attention.

Leader: Nice try! But, being a "faith walkin'-talkin' person is not about how you look or dress...

Faith Walkit-Talkit: What's it about?

Leader: It's about how what you do and say and who inspires you along the

way!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Say what?

Leader: Come here, let's take a look around and I'll show you what I mean.

Cheerleader: (Enters in costume and engages the group in doing a cheer.)

Ready?! Let's go... Gimme a "G"

Group: G!

Cheerleader: Gimme an "O"

Group: O!

Cheerleader: Gimme a "D"

Group: D!

Cheerleader: What does it spell?

Group: God!

Cheerleader: Alright! Let's say, "Yeah God!"

Group: Yeah God!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: You mean, part of being a faith walkin', faith talkin' person means doin' a cheer?

Leader: It's all a part of worshiping and praising God.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Wow! That's pretty cool! Hey, who's that coming down the street?

Bible person: (Reciting lines in a sing song voice) There goes the animals two-by-two --Just like I see in the zoo! And...will you look at that? There's Peter! Whoa...Don't get me wet! He's walkin' on the water -n- you know what? I bet I could, too, if I kept my eyes on... Whoa look at Jesus standing there....

Leader: He/She is looking through the Bible to see life through God's eyes.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: How long does this learning thing go on?

Leader: It never stops!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Even when you power shop?! (Walks up to Bag Person) Hey, whatcha got?

Bag person: ["Shows and tells" Faith Walkit-Talk-it about some of the items in the bag and how they can be shared with someone in need, i.e. canned goods, saying "I know the Food Bank really needs some of this right now."]

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Looks like he's/she's got a lot to give!

Bag Person: God's given me so much I just can't help but share...

Exercise person:(Walks in and begins the following exercise, shouting the number as He/she moves through the following motions.)

ONE: With arms stretched out above him/her, looks up and shakes his hands.

TWO: Brings arms down and bows head, clasping hands in front of him/her.

THREE: Moves arms up and inward as he/she clap hands in front of chest

and follows through with arms spreading out to look like a fountain. Stops at shoulder level with elbows bent and hands pointed to either side.
FOUR: Pull bent elbows down to the waist, with hands open and palms facing upward.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Five, six, seven, eight! OK. I got the beat. Now what's he counting for?

Leader: He's moving through his prayer routine.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Could you run that by me one more time?

Leader: Just watch and see! (Exercise person illustrates each motion as it identified.) There's time for (1) praise, (2) I'm sorry's, (3) thanks, and (4) special requests. Or, another way of saying that is (1) wow, (2) sorry, (3) thanks, and (4) help! Wanna try it?

Faith Walkit-Talkit: OK, but I'm kinda new at this, so let's take it slow.

Prayer Person: (Prayer person leads the group through the exercise, using the word that identifies it this time.)

WOW!! (Look toward heaven, stretch arms.....)

SORRY...:(Clasp hands with arms hanging in front.....)

THANKS! : (Clap hands in front of chest.....)

HELP! (Pull bent elbows in to waist...)

Leader: That was pretty good! Let's try it again, a little faster.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: (falls to floor, exhausted) STOP! WAIT! I can't go on! I can't do it anymore!

Helper: (walks up to Faith Walkit-Talkit) Hey there! What's goin' on? Are you OK?

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Actually, I am absolutely NOT OK! I think I'm totally out of shape!

Helper: You know, I've been there myself. Until someone came by and told me that the only way to get into shape is to get with the program! You got to get into a routine! Hey, maybe I could help you. We could do it together... Come on, give it a try! (Helps him/her up.) Breathe in...breathe out. Now, Relax. How you doin' Feelin' any better?

Faith Walkit-Talkit: You bet! Thanks! I really appreciate your encouragement!

Tool person: (walks up to Faith Walkit-Talkit with a tool belt and hands him a hammer)

Great! Then you're all set to go!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Where are we goin'?

Tool person: Well, we got our paint brush (holds up paint brush), we've got our hammer (holds up hammer), we got our screwdriver. What do you think

we're gonna do? Make a pizza?

Faith Walkit-Talkit: Well, it looks like we might be building something or fixing something' up.

Tool person: You got it! Let's go. We've got some servant work to do.

Invitation Person: (Runs from back of room, down aisle) Hey, Wait up! I got something for you!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: What's up?

Invitation Person: I've got an invitation for you.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: To what?

Invitation Person: To come with me and follow Jesus! To be a disciple!

[\[Back to the top\]](#)

Faith Walkit-Talkit: But I'm right in the middle of learning to be a 'faith walkin'-faith talkin' person! Can you wait a day? What's a disciple?

Invitation Person: You're already well on your way to being a disciple.

Faith Walkit-Talkit: A What?

Invitation Person: A disciple! That's what a faith-walkin'-talkin' person is! It's all about following Jesus!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: (Points to each character, prompting them to step forward as he/she recognizes each one.)] OK, I think I really think I got it now! A faith walkin', faith talkin' person is a disciple or a person who PRAYS, LEARNS, WORSHIPS, GIVES, SERVES, ENCOURAGES and INVITES other people to join in, too!.

Leader: Yup! You got it! NOW can we finally finish the song?!

Faith Walkit-Talkit: (Portraying the cheerleader) Ready? Let's Go!

[Finish teaching the song , if necessary. Then invite the group to singing the entire song while characters dance.]

BACK TO
Teach the Faith
Initiative
HOME PAGE

ELCA  HOME

Faith Walkin' People

INTRO. C7

F

C7

Faith Walk - in' Peo - ple! (Clap, Clap) I want to be one!

F

(Clap) Faith Talk - in' Peo - ple, (Clap, Clap) I want to be one.

VERSES Gmin

C7

Je - sus said, "Come fol - low me."
Sing and pray and live each day,
Share and care and do your part
Show God's love in all you do.

F

B \flat

Step by - step I'll lead you to be...
learn - ing 'bout God's spe - cial ways for...
Reach out with a ser - vant's heart to...
Ask some kids to join in, to be...

CHORUS C7

F

C7

F

FaithWalk - in' Peo - ple (Clap, Clap) Faith Talk - in' Peo - ple (Clap,

C7

F

To Verses Final Ending

(Clap) Faith Walk - in' Talk - in' Peo - ple!_____