

# Take Action: Walking with the Lord

This activity builds awareness of the many different ways in which we can follow the Lord. Students follow directions to walk in various ways, followed by reading and discussion.



## ***Supplies Needed for Each Student***

- a copy of *Walking with the Lord*

## ***Introduce the Activity***

1. Have you ever seen a baby take his or her first steps? What were the steps like?
2. Have you watched an elderly person walking? How do old people walk?
3. If you are sitting in your house and hear the footsteps of someone approaching without seeing him or her, what clues tell you who it is?
4. Let's experiment with ways of walking. Stand up and find space to move around.

## ***Directions***

1. Invite the students to move in a variety of ways. Here are some suggestions: slowly; humbly; confidently; proudly; seriously; selfishly; fearfully; joyfully; quickly. Stop while the students are still enjoying the activity and begin the discussion.
2. What did it feel like to walk in different ways? What was easy? What was difficult?
3. Sometimes people talk about "walking with God." What might this mean? Have you ever felt that God is walking right beside you, or known someone else who has?
4. The book of Daniel gives a wonderful example of this. Daniel's friends were thrown into a very hot furnace for worshipping their God when this was banned. King Nebuchadnezzar later looked into the furnace and saw a person who looked "like the Son of God" walking with them, protecting them (Daniel 3:25).
5. Distribute *Walking with the Lord*. Ask volunteers to read the verses from the Word.
6. How does the Lord ask us to walk with Him?
7. The story of the rich young ruler (Mark 10:17-31) is about a young man who asked how he could get to heaven. The Lord responded that he should obey the commandments, and the man said he had already done that. Why did he go away sad? Why wasn't keeping the commandments enough?
8. Although the young man did the right things, his "way of walking" was wrong. He had "many riches". Spiritually, this means that he knew a lot. He lacked a humble spirit. He thought that he did all of the good things by himself. The Lord knew this and so asked him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is God."
9. What difference does attitude make in the big picture? Can someone with a "bad" attitude get into heaven?
10. Conclude by reading the true story at the bottom of *Walking with the Lord*.

# WALKING WITH THE LORD

**Read the following verses from the Lord's Word. Think about the ways in which the Lord asks us to walk with Him.**

You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to **walk** in them: I am the Lord your God. (Leviticus 18:4)

You shall **walk** in all the ways which the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess. (Deuteronomy 5:33)

Now if you **walk** before Me...in integrity of heart and in uprightness, to do according to all that I have commanded you, and if you keep My statutes and My judgments, then I will establish the throne of your kingdom. (I Kings 9:4-5)

Blessed is the man who **walks** not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. (Psalm 1:1)

Yea, though I **walk** through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me. (Psalm 23:4)

Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They **walk**, O Lord, in the light of Your countenance. (Psalm 89:15)

Blessed is every one who fears the Lord, who **walks** in His ways. (Psalm 128:1)

He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to **walk** humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)

And they were both righteous before God, **walking** in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. (Luke 1:6)

**The following true story shows the power of walking with the Lord, trusting in Him.**

As the siren began to whine, men stopped their machines, dropped their tools and ran at full speed towards the air raid shelter. Bombings were common in London during the Second World War. A direct hit on a building could mean death for hundreds. The relentless daily barrages made even brave people fearful for their lives.

In the midst of the frenzy, one man walked towards the shelter with unhurried steps. His mind turned upwards, he saw the crowd, but took his time. A young man running past him yelled out, "Hurry up! It could save your life!" Turning towards the young man and looking into his eyes, the older man quietly said, "It's all right. God knows when it is my time to die. Hurrying won't make any difference!" Stunned, the young man slowed his steps. He had never met anyone who seemed so calm and confident in the face of danger. He felt drawn to the older man—to his inner strength.

Waiting for the all clear signal in the crowded shelter, the young man asked the older one about his faith. He was a member of the New Church. In time, the young man, too, became a member of the New Church.