

1. The walk

Age range: Primary

Theme: We gather as a community for collective worship that is **inspiring, invitational and inclusive**, reflecting the fact that we are a part of a diverse school family and the wider church community. *This is part of our new series (and with apologies for the split infinitive!) 'To boldly go...'. You may need to tailor this script to suit the needs, age range & levels of concerns of your school community, which of course includes adults as well as children. This week we finish the story that we started at the end of last term and tell again the story of the risen Jesus meeting two friends who were on a walk to Jerusalem.*



How does this link to your school's Christian vision & values?

Use this section to reference your school's values and the things that are a part of your school's unique vision. This week, as we begin a new series, we are reflecting on journeying together, so do reference the way that you have done this in your school community across the year so far.

Resources:

- The PowerPoint slides are numbered with a point in the script so you can find your way, and the parts in **bold** show you where to click on to activate the next slide or animation.
- There is a script to use this week which has some join-in elements: if you prefer, there is also a photo version of the story at the end of the PowerPoint, on slides 18-25.
- If you prefer it, there are also 2 versions of the story recorded as video (during the Covid lockdowns!) You can find them here: KS1 version: <https://youtu.be/wm48Of2l-Js> and KS2 version: <https://youtu.be/4vm34MWzIWU>
- The words for worship / response elements of this script come immediately after the story, creating some space for children to fully engage with the idea of companions journeying together through life. You will pick this up in the reflective classroom activity this week, and also to teach the new gathering words ready for week 2.
- **This week, to follow on after the story, you will need to make three paper people, holding hands, large enough for your assembled children to see. You can find the instructions here: [How to make paper people chain](#) Fold one of the people so that it's entirely hidden behind the others. You will also need a felt pen or similar to draw faces on the people. There will be full instructions within this section, so do read through what you are doing before you do it, for maximum effect!**

Gathering:

Slides 1-3: Use your favourite gathering words, or revisit the ones from the Spring term, which we use at the start of the PowerPoint:



Leader: As we gather together,

ALL: ...we bring our hearts.

Leader: As we gather together,

ALL: ...we share our thoughts.

Leader: As community together,

ALL: We serve one another.

Signs for greeting: click on links

Hearts: [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - heart](#) (or you could use your hands as shown in the image)

Thoughts: [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - thought](#)

Serve: [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - serve](#) (or you could just open your hands in front of you)

Engaging:

- **Slide 4:** This term, we begin another new theme for our time together '**To boldly go.....**', as we journey together towards the end of another year, but before we do that.....
- **Slide 5: Songs from the heart**
You might remember that we ended last term on a bit of a cliffhanger..... a 'To be continued....' moment at the end of our theme from the Psalms...
- **Slide 6:** ...as we left the Easter story with Jesus on the cross. *[You might want to recall some of the things you talked about together – if you can remember!]* We recognised that the disciples, Jesus' friends, were feeling very sad, very disappointed and also very frightened. But we also said that this wasn't going to be the end, and that like the disciples, we were going to wait together to finish the story off.
So, let's do that right now!



- **Slide 7: The Walk**

There are some ways in which you can join in with this story *[introduce actions, using script on p3. If you don't want to use actions, then there is a photo version of the same story at the end of the PowerPoint, slides]*

- **Slide 8: Paper people** *You will need the paper people for this section:*

This part of the Easter story started with two friends walking together along the road..... *[show the two paper people]*

....both feeling hopeless and troubled about Jesus' death on the cross....*[draw sad faces on them]*
....but that's not where the story ended, because Jesus suddenly appeared, not dead, but very much alive and ate dinner with them!.... *[open out the third figure]*
....suddenly the friends were no longer sad and confused, but overjoyed.... *[flip them over and add smiles to the friends' faces on the blank side]*

Slide 9: Responding (and words for worship):

As we reflect and wonder together today, let's be still and quiet....

....it was good that the friends had each other for company as they started their journey.....

....**I wonder who is with you as you journey through life, and this summer term in particular?.....**

[leave space to think]

....the friends had journeyed together from Jerusalem in sadness but returned to Jerusalem in great joy.....

....our feelings go with us as we journey through our lives....

....**I wonder which feelings in the story you most identified with?.....**

[leave space to think]

....the turning point in this story was when Jesus turned up on the road and joined them on their journey....

....for people who are Christians, this is a picture of how they feel about being on the journey of their lives, that God is with them, even in times when they might feel alone, like the friends in the story.....

....**I wonder if this idea might help you in the journey of your life today?....**

Slide 10: Prayer: hold up your three figures again

As we look at the three figures joined together, you might want to use this prayer to bring your thoughts before God. I'm going to invite you to join me in saying **'Walk with us, God'** as a response if you'd like to.

Slide 11: In happy times and sad times

Walk with us, God.

Slide 12: In our school and with our friends

Walk with us, God.

Slide 13: In our homes and with our families

Walk with us, God.

Slide 14: As we share in life together

Walk with us, God.

Slide 15: Amen

Slide 16: Teach the new leaving words for this term (which are very similar to the opening words you will use next week!):

As you've heard, we are beginning a whole new series today, as we travel together to the end of another school year. As we have a bit of a journey theme across the term, which will take us through the weeks together, it will come as no surprise that our greeting of each other during this term has a journey theme as well! Let's learn this together.....

Leader: We have journeyed together today. As we leave this place and time and go into the day ahead....

ALL:**May God go with us.**

Sign for 'God': [British Sign Language BSL Video Dictionary - God](#)



Sign for 'go with us' – we have invented this! After you've signed 'God', bring your finger down alongside your other finger and make them 'journey together' in front of you.



'To boldly go.....!'

1. The walk

To sing / listen to:

[God is watching over you](#) (BBC)



Ideas for classroom reflection: **People chains.....**



Out of paper (newspaper works quite well, as it's quite thin & you can fold it many times), make a chain of people holding hands. Watch how to do this [here](#). On each paper person, write the name of someone who is a part of your 'journey' at home or in school – you might want to include God in this.



'To boldly go.....!'

1. The walk

The Walk

Every time you hear the word '**walk**', stand up and walk on the spot [or make two fingers of one hand 'walk' on the palm of the other]: every time you hear the word '**talk**' or another word that shows someone is speaking, make your hand do a 'chattering' sign (as if you were making a puppet talk).

It was Easter Day and two friends of Jesus were out **walking** from Jerusalem along the road to a village called Emmaus. The women had told them they'd seen Jesus, alive and well – but the friends didn't really believe what they had heard. And now they were **walking** to Emmaus and as they **walked**, they **talked** about all the things that had happened: about how Jesus had died, about how disappointed they were and how sad they felt that he wasn't **walking** with them along the road.

As they **talked**, they noticed a stranger **walking** beside them. The stranger was Jesus, but the friends were so distracted and upset that they didn't recognise him.

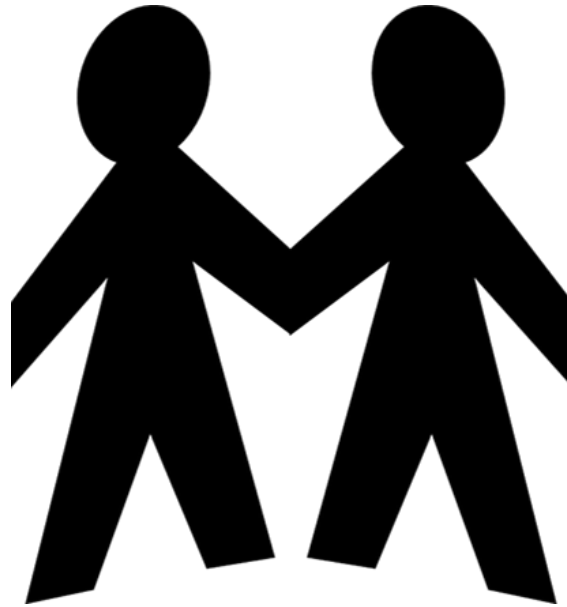
'What are you **talking** to each other about?' Jesus asked.

'Haven't you heard?' they **replied**. 'The whole of Jerusalem has been **talking** about Jesus of Nazareth, a great teacher and prophet who we'd hoped would be the Messiah-King and save us all.' And as they continued to **walk**, they **told him** all that had happened and how sad they were.

Then Jesus **said** to them 'Don't you remember what has been written?' and then as they **walked**, beginning with Moses, he **explained** everything. When they got close to Emmaus, the two friends **said to** Jesus, 'Stay with us for a meal so we can carry on **talking** together.' But they still didn't realise it was Jesus.

When Jesus was at the table with them, he took the bread and gave it to them to eat. At that very moment, they saw who it was who had **walked** and **talked** with them: it was Jesus! Then, just as suddenly, he was gone again, but instead of being sad they both began to **talk** at once about what had just happened, and that Jesus was *alive*! 'We have to **tell** the others what we have seen!' they agreed. And then they **ran**, not **walked** back along the Emmaus Road all the way to Jerusalem, to **tell everyone** what they had seen!





The two friends were on a journey together to Emmaus when Jesus joined them. Their sadness was soon turned to joy!



Think about the time that you have had in your class this year...



Talk together about who has been a part of this very special journey.



Make some paper people. Make one of them look like you and then add the people who've shared your journey.

