

LET'S PRETEND

This is a mind trip that involves an imaginary walk with Christ. Tell the young people that you are going to play a game of Let's Pretend. For many of them it will be the first time in years that they have used their imagination (publicly, anyway). Start with a short prayer for God's blessing then ask the young people to lie down on the floor, keep their eyes shut, and get comfortable. Then the suggestions go something like this:

1. Pretend you are walking down a long dusty road and you are all alone; no one else is in sight. (Give several seconds after each suggestion for them to visualize it.)
2. Now, pretend you see Jesus walking on the same road as you. Is he walking toward you or away from you?
3. Now pretend that he walks with you for awhile. What do you say to him? He to you?
4. Suppose he says, "I'll give you absolutely anything your heart desires." What do you ask for and why that?
5. Suppose he asks what is your most troublesome problem? What do you say? Why is that a problem for you?
6. Pretend now that you meet your very best friend. Do you introduce your friend to Jesus? If so how? Suppose your friend asks Jesus what you are really like inside and Jesus explains honestly how it is with you? How do you feel? What do you say?
7. Now you come to a fork in the road and your paths must part; what does Jesus say to you as he leaves? What do you say?

Allow a few minutes for each person to wrap things up mentally. Tell the kids to open their eyes when they are through with their walk. Usually you take five to 10 minutes for the walk and about 30 minutes for the discussion. Have the kids describe how they felt and what happened on their walk.