

PETER'S WALK

PETER SHOULD BE IN THE PREPARED ROOM AHEAD OF TIME.

PREPARE ROOMS in the Center: NO lights – ONLY Candles

MEETING ROOM: Dimmer Lights and chairs.

BoomBox and CD

Bible

Chairs for each person.

Blindfolds

Rope

Candles

ROOM #1 : (feeding five thousand)

BoomBox and CD

Baskets with pieces of bread

Script

Candles

Bible

Chairs for each teen in a group

ROOM #2 : (walk on water)

BoomBox and CD

Garbage bags opened up on the floor

Masking tape

Towels

Water

Bible

Candles

ROOM #3: (little girl)

BoomBox and CD

Chairs for each teen in the group

Man Reader

Girl Reader

Candles

ROOM #4: (rock)

BoomBox and CD

Rock for each teen

Candles

Bible

ROOM #5: (crucifixion)

BoomBox and CD

Chairs for each teen in a group
Wooden Board
Hammer
Bible & Candles

BEGIN IN THE MEETING ROOM: the building is dark and the meeting room will be lit by candle light only.

MARIAN: this experience will encourage you to use all of your senses. It is to be an experience of trust, because each of you will be blindfolded. There will be guides to lead you around after your blindfolds are in place. It is not important that you know who the leaders are, but it is important that you trust them to lead you. Please know that no one will do anything to hurt or embarrass you during this activity. I ask that you do not talk. Just listen, and feel, and smell, and taste, and experience for now ...some of the feelings and experiences that the disciple Peter might have had as he walked with Jesus.

Have all teens take off their shoes and socks and put on a blindfold. Break into groups .

ROPE TEAMS:

John, Amy, Frank with 10 teens on a rope (1 leader on rope, 1 middle off rope, 1 end off rope)

Joe, Allison, Brian with 10 teens on a rope

Have each group place their right hand on the rope and their left hand on the shoulder of the person in front of them.....the first person in line puts their left hand on the shoulder of a guide. The second guide should stay in the middle or toward the end. Lead them into the hall way lit only by candle where:

HALLWAY NEAR ROOM #1:

BOB: “You don’t know me. We have never formally met. You have read or heard about my life, part of it that is. You never read about me as a child growing up, but you have heard about my life from the point where I met Jesus for the first time.

Sometimes when people read or hear about my life in the Bible, they make it sound kind of boring and ordinary; but it wasn’t at all. It was fascinating, exciting, frustrating, confusing and even scary.

I had no idea when I met Jesus that my life would change so much and even my name changed! I had always been called Simon, but Jesus told me that I would be called Peter, the Rock.

Jesus did not only change me. He changed everyone he met in some way. I wish that you could have met and known him as I did . He was so special. I have so many memories. Come now.....back in time.....and relive some of my memories with me.

*The guides now lead the group to Room #1 and when they enter the room they will have them sit down. Once they are sitting down..... **ROOM #1***

READER MAN:

THE ROOM IS PREPARED : MUSIC IS PLAYING SOFTLY, BASKET OF BREAD PIECES AND CANDLES ARE LIT. ..Once the teens are seated and silent.....you begin:

”Being a disciple made me feel so important. We used to have mobs of people following us everywhere. Some people just wanted a glimpse of Jesus. Others wanted to touch him. Some even wanted to be healed. Take for instance, one day when we were outside of a town and people had come out to hear Jesus preach and teach. He was even doing miracles that day. It was lunch time, but none of the people except for one little boy had brought any food with them. Jesus told us to feed the crowds with the little boy’s five loaves and the two fish. We all thought that he was joking around, but he was really serious. I couldn’t believe my eyes. He blessed the food, and we started passing it out to everyone there. There was always more in our baskets. We even had leftovers to pick up ! To this day it is really hard for me to believe that it happened. But I saw it. And I ate some of the bread and fish too !

Ask the teens to open their hands.....

Guides and/or reader feed the teens pieces of bread from baskets.

Then continue:

“There were five thousand who ate the food”.

Guides now lead the group to stand and go to Room #2.

ROOM #2

READER MAN

The room is prepared with plastic garbage bags taped to the floor and water poured onto them. Towels are there for afterwards.

Have the teens remain standing just in front of the prepared floor....be sure they do not move forward keep them back a foot or so. Ask them to remain perfectly still.....and begin:

“ when we had finally finished eating (all five thousand of us). Jesus told us disciples to get into the boat and head for Bethsaida. He said that he’s get everybody else started home and that he wanted some time to pray. I wondered, as we shoved off, how or when or where we were supposed to meet him; but I figured that he had probably told John. So I settled back in the boat to relax.

Most of us were exhausted after working in that crowd all day. But non of us could sleep. We were still discussing all the baskets full of leftovers !! By sundown we were almost halfway across the lake. Suddenly, a strong wind came up; it looked like a bad storm was on the way. Everyone grabbed oars. We rowed hard, but we weren’t getting very far at all. We were straining at the oars, just trying to stay afloat, when we saw someone or something walking out on the water. We figured that it must be a ghost. We were terrified. But then we recognized Jesus’ voice talking to us from out on the lake. I could NOT believe it! First he had fed all those people and now this ! What a day this was. And before I realized it, I heard myself yelling to Jesus....’Hey, if it is really you let me walk on the water to you’.....and Jesus yelled back ‘Come on!’. By this time, I realized what I had said. I really did not want to go out there, but I couldn’t chicken out now. After all, everybody was watching me. I had my reputation to consider.. So I stepped out. It was the strangest sensation ----- not to sink down into the water. The wind had picked up again and the boat was drifting farther and farther away. I panicked. But just about the time my head was about to go under, I felt a strong hand reach down and pick me up. All night long, all I could think of was Jesus. How amazing! Truly, he must be the Son of God. And I had walked on water with him. No one would ever believe me.

ONE AT A TIME have the teens walk across the water on the plastic garbage bags taped to the floor. The KEY is to let each teen take one or two steps without anyone guiding them, and then strongly grab their hand and lead them across(like Jesus did). At the other side of the garbage bags/water.....dry off with the towel - have them hold the rope again and when all in the group are done.....lead them to ROOM 3 – when them arrive in room 3 have them sit down.....

ROOM # 3

READER MAN:

ROOM is prepared with chairs for teens – music is playing softly and once they are all seated and silent.....George begins:

“It did not seem like a day ever went by that Jesus was not called upon to heal someone of some illness. He would always go out of his way to help, even to help the unclean lepers. He was not like any of the other religious leaders that I had known. He really cared about people, even children. Take for example, the time that Jairus’ daughter was very sick. Jairus had begged Jesus to heal his daughter. We were on the way to Jairus’ home when a servant came to meet us. He told us not to waste out time traveling any farther, because the little girl had died. Jesus ignored everything the servant was telling us. He just kept walking toward Jairus’ house. When we arrived, we saw the funeral preparations going on. Jesus told everybody that the little girl wasn’t dead; she was just sleeping. But how did he know? He hadn’t even seen her yet.!”

DAUGHTER’S VOICE: young girl:

“ For days and days, I had lain in my bed with a fever. Mommy and Daddy had tried so hard to make me well. I overheard them whispering in bed one night. Daddy said that he had heard about a man named Jesus, who healed people. Mommy asked him if he would go see if he could find that man. At the least, I think that was what she said. She was crying so much that it was hard for me to understand her. Daddy said that he would start out first thing in the morning. The next thing I remember is a strange man leaning over me and smiling. He have me a great big hug and then he told Mommy to fix me something to eat. I guess that Daddy had found the man who could make me well. I do remember one strange thing about that day. The man told everybody in my house not to tell anybody about what they had seen. I wonder what he meant by that...????”

Pause for a moment of silence, then Guides lead the group to ROOM 4 and when they arrive have them remain standing.

ROOM #4

READER MAN:

The room is prepared with music playing softly, candles and basket of rocks. Once all are standing quietly = begin:

“The time of day that I liked best was after supper, sitting around the fire. Jesus would be with the crowds all day, but in the evenings there were just the thirteen of us. We talked about what had happened that day. We told jokes and had such good times, and once in a while Jesus would tell stories. No matter what he said or how he said it, I always learned something new.

I remember one night in particular. Jesus had been kind of quiet; and as he stared into the fire, I could tell that he had something on his mind. Finally, he broke up our conversation with one question: “Who do people say that I am?”

Well that was not an easy question to answer because it seemed that everyone we know had a different opinion. But we told him that we had heard people say about him. Finally....he asked ‘ Who do YOU say that I am?’

All of us just sat there. How could he ask us such a question ? What kind of answer did he want? Finally, I blurted out.....’You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.’

There.....I had said it. I had been thinking about it for a long time, but finally I had told him. I thought that some of the other disciples might laugh, but nobody did. And then Jesus....well he told me that I was blessed and that I would be known as Peter, the Rock..... and then he said something even more intense....He told me that he would build his church upon ME. What did that mean?

Give each teen a rock to hold in his or her hand.....Once they have all received a rock....Lead the group to ROOM 5

When then arrive in room 5 - have them sit down.

ROOM #5

READER MAN : _____:

Room is prepared with a plank of wood , hammer, candles , music playing softly, chairs for each teen. Once all the teens are seated and silent, begin:

“I cannot ever hear a rooster crow without remembering that awful night when Jesus was arrested.

I guess that I have always bragged a little too much or thought that I was capable of doing more than I really could. But when Jesus told me that night in the upper room that I would deny him three times, I just could not believe it. After all of the things he had taught me. After all the things we had been through, I could never deny him.

But I did.

I remember the rooster crowing. Three times I said I did not know him. I wonder if Jesus told me that just so I would know that he knew how really weak I still was. I tried so hard to be perfect, to be strong, to be the best disciple that Jesus would ever work with; but Jesus knew how stupid I felt sometimes. He knew how scared I was too.

Maybe his telling me that it would happen was his way of saying that he understood....that he would forgive me, and that he would want me to keep working for him.

The worst part of denying Jesus was never getting the chance to tell him how sorry I was. They crucified him the next day.

*Have the reader – hit a wooden board with a hammer three timesthen have singer or CD
.... "Were you there when they crucified my Lord"
SILENCE>*

Guides then lead the group back into the meeting room and

MEETING ROOM:

Have them sit down, remain quiet and begin:

BOB: “But that is not the end of the story. After Jesus’ resurrection, we read these words from the Gospel of John. This was now the third time that Jesus had appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

MARIAN: John 21: 14-17

BOB: Peter had the chance to respond again to Jesus’ love. We have that chance too. No matter how many times we feel that we have betrayed Christ, he is always giving us another chance, asking us “Do you love me?”

A moment of silence and then Have the teens remove their blindfolds and invite them to sit in silence (or music)??

Wait for BOTH groups to return before turning up lights and putting on shoes.....then process:

BOB & MARIAN:

Questions / Sharing :

- **How did you feel?**
- **What did this experience tell you about Peter?**
- **How are you like or unlike Peter?**
- **We relived some of the most powerful moments of Peter’s journey (life). What have been one or two significant events of YOUR journey (life) so far?**