| (A letter for a sponsor to give | the person that they are w | anting to sponsor - this p | page ONLY) |
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| Dear | | | |

THE 'WALK TO EMMAUS'

It is with great joy that I would like to invite you personally to attend 'THE WALK TO EMMAUS' Christian Experience. As I sought the Lord for who to invite, I felt that He gave me your name.

The 'Walk' is based on the resurrection story told in Luke 24:13-35. Just like the two disciples who walked with Jesus on the Road to Emmaus and enjoyed His presence, you will be able to soak in the refreshing presence of God, over these 3 wonderful days.

This 'Walk' takes place at Advent Park, Maida Vale. The dates for the 'Walk to Emmaus' are as follows:

MEN: Thursday 14th September – Sunday 17th September, 2023.

<u>WOMEN</u>: Friday 22nd September - Monday 25th September, 2023, this is a long weekend.

I have been so blessed to have taken other Christian friends to this Walk to Emmaus in the past, and each one of them have come back saying that they have truly experienced the multi-faceted gift of God's grace in new and refreshing ways, and that they have been deeply strengthened and encouraged in their Christian Walk. I cannot recommend to you highly enough this 'Walk to Emmaus Experience' as I believe it will be so uplifting for you and give you such a fresh revelation of how much your Heavenly Father really loves you.

I will be contacting you about this invitation very soon, wanting to give you time to think and pray about whether you would like to be a part of **the next**, Walk to Emmaus.

We so hope that you will be able to join us for this next, 'Walk to Emmaus'.

Closing dates to apply for the Men's Walk is 1st September and Women's Walk is 9th September.

May God bless you abundantly as you seek Him,

PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING 4 PAGES /...

THE WALK TO EMMAUS AND LUKE 24:13-35

(A letter from the sponsor to the pilgrim)

The Christian Emmaus you are going to attend is called 'The Walk to Emmaus'. The 'Walk' is based on the resurrection story told in Luke 24:13-35. Just like the two disciples who walked with Jesus on the Road to Emmaus, as a participant/pilgrim on the 'Walk to Emmaus', you too will come to understand and experience the multi-faceted gift of God's grace in new and refreshing ways. Emmaus is attended by Christians from many denominations, which makes the experience all the richer.

As your sponsor, I am so pleased to have the privilege of asking you to attend the upcoming 'Walk to Emmaus'. Here is some useful information for you to know prior to you attending your 'Walk'.

<u>Venue</u>: Both the Men's Walk and the Ladies' Walk takes place at Advent Park, 345 Kalamunda Rd, Maida Vale. Perth. WA 6057

Application for Attendance: Each person attending the 'Walk to Emmaus' needs to fill in an

'Application for Attendance' form. This form asks you to provide your contact details, a reason you want to attend the 'Walk', as well as information about the cost of the 'Walk'. As you will note, there is a sponsor section on the form to fill in. Once the form is totally filled in, please send it to the Registrar, (as shown on the form) as soon as possible to secure your place on the 'Walk', ALONG WITH YOUR DEPOSIT, as stated on the form. Please note, if you are sending your deposit as an E.F.T., you need to put **your full name** as the 'reference'. Second to this, fill in your section and return to me, your sponsor to complete and send in.

<u>Cost of the 'Walk to Emmaus'</u>: The cost of the Perth Walk is \$240. The cost includes your accommodation, activity supplies and your meals whilst at Advent Park. It is appreciated if your fees can be finalised by one week prior to you attending the Walk. Talk to your sponsor if you need any assistance to pay.

Transport: Please discuss transportation with your sponsor—as this will be arranged for you.

What happens when we first get to Advent Park. Upon arrival at the site, you will find out which bedroom you have been assigned to share with another Pilgrims on their 'Walk to Emmaus'. Much prayer goes into which pilgrims will share with whom. Most times you share a room with a person you may not know, so that you have a chance to meet and fellowship with new people. You will have an opportunity now to make up your bed, or someone may make it for you. You will also be shown where the bathrooms and other necessary facilities are, like where to make a cup of coffee first thing in the morning or before retiring.

<u>What is the 'Walk' based on?</u> The 'Walk' is based around the theme of God's love and grace. Each day there will be five talks based around this theme. These talks are given by the Walk to Emmaus Team Members. Communion is celebrated daily when an Order of Service book is followed. It is also used in the quiet chapel times, along with Bible passages and reflections. There will be times of corporate sharing and quiet reflection



Page 2

How much will I get out of the 'Walk'? This is a time for you. As busy men and women, you are often giving out of your time and caring for others. However, this 'Walk' is a special time away just for you - a God assigned time for you to be refreshed and experience the presence and grace of God in a new way. You will gain most out of the 'Walk' when you give yourself the opportunity to come away from the pressures of the world and to be rejuvenated in your walk of faith. The 'Walk' therefore is not a time for you to be concerned about your family or your friends or about work commitments, it is a special time just for you. As a result, all pilgrims are asked to not use their mobile phones at all during the 'Walk', so that they are not distracted or bothered by other concerns.

<u>Emergency phone no:</u> You will be asked to leave your phones turned off in your bedroom. You will receive an Acceptance Letter from the Registrar with an emergency number on it, for your family members to use to contact you during the 'Walk'. A member of the team will then arrange for you to speak with them.

You will also get the maximum of out of this 'Walk' by simply being yourself. People on the 'Walk' will truly appreciate you for who you are. And finally, you will gain the maximum benefit out of the Walk if you choose to get involved in the activities that are provided at your group table. Everything at Emmaus has a purpose - each part of the programme has an important part in making up the whole picture of the weekend – it is best to enjoy each new experience that God brings along your path. Leave out making a judgement about the Walk to Emmaus until you have experienced the whole weekend.

What will I be doing most of the 'Walk'? You will be spending a large amount of your time at the Walk with a specified table of men (if you are a male pilgrim) or women (if you are a female pilgrim). These tables form small mini communities where there is much sharing, fun and opportunities to grow in grace together. To start with, you may wonder why you have been placed at a certain table - but rest assured, much prayer has gone into who sits at which table. The leaders will have endeavoured to ensure, that you don't know anyone else at your table (or at least are not close to them), in order that you and everyone else at your Table may feel free to share their experiences, needs etc. By the end of the Walk experience, most people feel a special bond with the people at their Table.

Preparation for the Emmaus Walk Weekend:

We would encourage you to start praying for yourself before you attend the 'Walk'. Pray that you might be open to receiving what God has planned for you over each of the days of the 'Walk' and that your heart would be good 'soil' for His grace to flourish in. It might be useful to pray that you could leave your everyday cares and those you love in the hands of God prior to attending the 'Walk' so that you can fully give of yourself to engage in the 'Walk to Emmaus' experience. Please be assured that the walk leaders will be praying for you leading up to the 'Walk' and throughout the duration of it, as well as the many team members.

You might be pleased to know that the only walking you will do, is basically the short walk to the dining room and your bedroom, and that you won't require hiking boots at all! However, the days start rather early and finish quite late on the Walk, and you will be tired. Most people find it quite difficult to sleep on the first night in a new bed/place and so can easily tire before the weekend is finished. PLEASE THEREFORE, GET AS MUCH SLEEP/REST AS YOU CAN BEFORE THE 'WALK'—as this will help you get through the long days. Just in case you are in a bedroom with a snorer, you may wish to use the set of ear plugs **provided** to assist you to sleep better at night. If you do find difficulty sleeping in the bedroom you have been assigned to, please let one of the Emmaus Team Members know and they will endeavour to assign you a different bedroom to share.

<u>Is there much time alone on the 'Walk'?</u> There will be, little time alone on the 'Walk' - it is a corporate 'Walk' and not an individual one - however at the same time, it is also an intensely personal 'Walk'. If you want your own 'Quiet Devotional Time', you may need to use the 'shower' time in the morning or at bedtime - however there will be plenty of reflections on God throughout the days' program.

Continued on page /... 3



Page 3

Timetable

You are asked to leave all watches/timepieces in your bedroom, or at home. You will however, be informed at all times when each aspect of the programme is on—including when to get up in the morning, when best to have showers etc. The reason for this is that you might fully enjoy life on your 'Walk' without the constraint of time:

Showers:

There are plenty of showers to use, a bell will advise you that it is time to rise and get ready for the day.

Bedding: Only a mattress is provided. Bring a pillow and a slip, sheets/blankets/doona or sleeping bag

Mealtimes:

All meals are held in the dining room at the Camp site (you will be shown where this is on arrival). You are free to sit with whom you like for any of the meals and initially people tend to sit next to people they know. However, it is encouraged that as the weekend progresses to sit next to new people, in order that you might get to know many of the other people on the Walk. The Lord will provide good sharing times.

Clothing:

Please bring plenty of warm casual clothes, socks and shoes, and maybe a scarf, gloves and beanie. Nobody dresses elegantly—the focus is on staying warm. (Please see the list of suggested packing items below).

Staying comfy throughout the 'Walk':

As you may be sitting at a table most of the time, you may wish to bring a <u>small blanket</u> for your knees, to keep you warm, and a <u>small cushion</u> for your back, if that will be more comfortable for you. During morning and afternoon tea times, you will be directed outside for refreshments and fresh air.

What can I do if I get to the 'Walk' and find I have left something behind? Please let one of the Emmaus Team Members know and they will direct your request to someone who will do their best to organise it for you.

Drinking water: This will be available, you may wish to bring your own bottle to refill as required.

<u>Travel mugs</u>: These are VERY VERY useful, as at times the breaks may be cut short if the program is running behind time, having one of these allows you to take your hot drink back into the Conference room with you.

Suggested list of things to bring for your 'Walk to Emmaus'

| Bible, bedding as above, Gloves, scart, beanie as desired. Jacket or coat Warm comfy footwear | |
|--|---------|
| Warm socks Layers under jumpers or track suit tops, Comfy Jeans, warm pants or trackie pan | ts. |
| Pyjamas, dressing gown, and slippers as you desire. Toiletries Hairdryer or shaver, as rec | quired. |
| 2 cushions (optional) for seats, and /or a blanket. Earplugs are provided. | |
| Thongs for the showers Medicine you may require Hot water bottle or wheat pack. | |
| Security of your belongings. Your room will have one key to enable you to lock the door, to be shared with your room-mate. | |

Continued on page /.....4



TWO SPECIAL THINGS FOR YOU TO KNOW ABOUT THE 'WALK'

- 1. The 'Walk to Emmaus' is a non-denominational gathering of Christians, so you will have the wonderful opportunity, to mix with people from different churches. This makes the 'Walk' a very rich and rewarding experience, but may require some extra grace on your behalf. Each person attending will be truly valued for whom they
- 2. The whole 'Walk to Emmaus' is bathed in prayer it has been long before you get there, and will be throughout the whole time you are there. As we sought God for your name, we believe it is God whom is ultimately calling you to go on this 'Walk' and that it is your appointed time to come away and enjoy, His grace towards you on this Emmaus experience.

I would love to be able to say to you - Thank you so much for agreeing to come. I am so excited that you will be going to be part of the 'Walk to Emmaus' experience for 2022. May God truly bless you in the time leading up to and throughout your 'Walk'. Remember, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

| God bless | you, | abundantly | y with Hi | s jo | y and | peace, |
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P.S. Please fill in the Application Form as soon as possible and follow the directions.

Send it with your deposit of \$50, to our Registrar, or to your sponsor, or use EFT.

The Registrar:

Perth Emmaus Community,

c/o Cathy O'Dea

PO Box 274

Boddington WA 6390

Please email deposit information to registrar@perth.emmaus.org.au

P.S. Currently the website is can be find at: https://perth.emmaus.org.au/