

## 2. IDENTITY page 9-12

**Session Outcome:** Pilgrims reflect on who they are and where they come from using the image of journey. Pilgrims begin to grow in understanding of each other.

### **SONG: Trinity Song**

Frank Andersen

Father, in my life I see,  
you are God who walks with me.  
You hold my life in your hands.  
Close beside you I will stand.  
I give all my life to you, help me Father to be true!

Jesus, in my life I see,  
you are God who walks with me.  
You hold my life in your hands.  
Close beside you I will stand.  
I give all my life to you, help me, Jesus, to be true!

Spirit, in my life I see,  
you are God who walks with me.  
You hold my life in your hands.  
Close beside you I will stand.  
I give all my life to you, help me, Spirit, to be true!

### **PRAYER: Psalm 18**

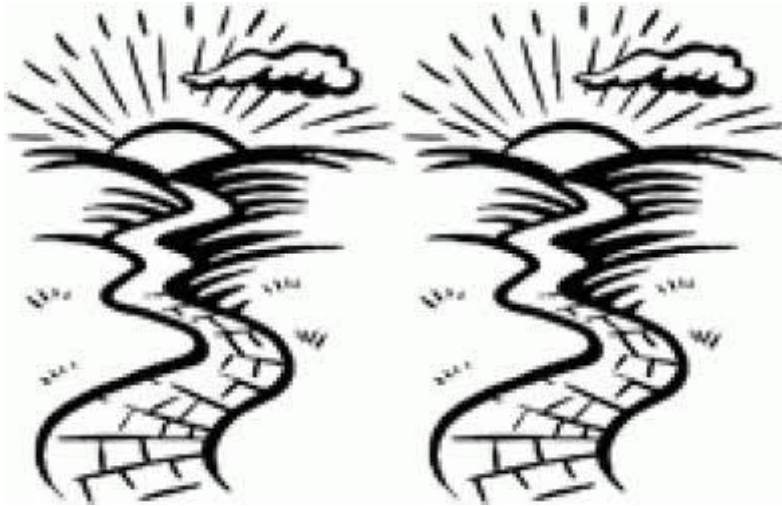
Psalms for the Road – Joy Cowley

#### **Who Are You?**

Precious Child, don't ever say that you are nobody.  
You are not no body. You are not even some body.  
You are a special, one-time, never-to-be-repeated  
act of God's creation. You are unique.  
Listen! Ever since the beginning of the universe,  
when God spoke the Word that created matter,  
ever since the emergence of life on this planet,  
there has never been another being made  
exactly like you. Not only that.  
There will never be another like you, again.  
Not ever! Think about that for a moment.  
Consider your giftedness, unlike any other.  
Reflect on the position that only you can fill.  
Doesn't that say something to your heart?

### **SCRIPTURE: Psalm 139**

God created each of us; unique, loved and gifted. Each of us must live our own unique journey.



## GROUP ACTIVITY: My Journey

**INPUT FOR DISCUSSION:** When we journey, we take all that has gone before us. Who we are and where we come from shapes how we experience the world. A pilgrim will experience moments of growth and discovery beyond their expectations. Sometimes the discoveries uncover gifts that we were unaware of; sometimes they uncover stories of pain or parts of us that we have hidden even from ourselves. Reflecting back, take time to acknowledge the journey so far, all that has been discovered. Begin to understand and accept all growth moments as gift.

**ACTIVITY:** Create a safe, respectful and reflective environment. Encourage pilgrims to take some time to reflect on the journey of their lives and imagine it as a road or path. Participants creatively depict their journey as a road using pastels on an A3 piece of white paper. Encourage them to include all that is important to them in their journey e.g. people, events, values, adventures, struggles, realisations, faith experiences, gifts/strengths, choices, teams etc. These might be represented as trees, rocks, rivers, birds etc. that they encounter on the road. Invite the group to sit in a circle and share some key points in their journey so far. *N.B. Sharing is optional and only at a level of comfort.*

## **TOOL FOR THE JOURNEY: Stations of the Cross**

The Stations of the Cross is a popular devotion consisting of 14 stations representing successive stages in the Passion of Our Lord. You might like to read Luke Chapters 22-24.

The Stations of the Cross is the most commonly prayed devotion in the Catholic Church. At every WYD there is an opportunity to attend a creative dramatisation of the Stations of the Cross. It will be helpful for you to understand the stations and experience engaging in the prayer. This can be done in your pilgrimage groups or on your own.

This tool is to be used in the context of your personal relationship with God. It is an invitation to enter into a gifted faith experience of who Jesus is for you. The Stations of the Cross is not a historical examination of "what really happened" on that day in history, rather an opportunity to use this as prayer, becoming open to each experience and recognising the reaction within yourself. These exercises can allow you to imaginatively visualize the "meaning" of Christ's passion and death. Journeying with Jesus in the Stations allows us to engage with his entry into the experience of those (and ourselves) who are tortured, unjustly accused or victimised, awaiting persecution, carrying impossible burdens, facing terminal illnesses, or simply fatigued with life. We can see the journey of our lives in the Easter story; full of joy, pain, emptiness, love and ultimately eternal life.

Move from one station to another. At each station, begin by looking carefully at the image and reflect on what it contains. Engage with the story (you may like to read the passage), use your imagination, speak to God and listen.

## TOOL FOR THE JOURNEY: Stations of the Cross



### FIRST STATION

Jesus is condemned to death  
Matthew 27:22-23, 26



### SECOND STATION

Jesus takes up his Cross  
Matthew 27:27-31



### THIRD STATION

Jesus falls for the first time  
Isaiah 53:4-6



### FOURTH STATION

Jesus meets his Mother  
Luke 2:34-35, 51



### FIFTH STATION

The Cyrenian helps Jesus carry the Cross  
Matthew 27:32; 16:24



### SIXTH STATION

Veronica wipes the face of Jesus  
Isaiah 53:2-3



### SEVENTH STATION

Jesus falls for the second time  
Lamentations 3:1-2, 9, 16



### EIGHTH STATION

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem who weep for him  
Luke 23:28-31



### NINTH STATION

Jesus falls for the third time  
Lamentations 3:27-32



### TENTH STATION

Jesus is stripped of his garments  
Matthew 27:33-36



### ELEVENTH STATION

Jesus is nailed to the Cross  
Matthew 27:37-42



### TWELFTH STATION

Jesus dies on the Cross  
John 19:19-20



### THIRTEENTH STATION

Jesus is taken down from the Cross and given to his Mother  
Matthew 27:54-55



### FOURTEENTH STATION

Jesus is laid in the tomb  
Matthew 27:59-61