

The background features a series of vertical rays emanating from the bottom, creating a sunburst effect. Scattered throughout are various white snowflake designs, some of which incorporate a circular logo with a stylized 'W' and 'Y' inside. The text 'winter youth' is prominently displayed in the upper half.

winter youth

wonder

Wonder at the story of God and find yourself in it

**Youth Worker Welcome
and Experience Guide**

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General Overview

We're glad you have chosen to use Winter Youth Celebration to shepherd your students. This guide is designed to help prepare and guide you through the experiences. Please read through the information and feel free to contact us:

Event Questions:

Jeremy Schumacher
jeremys@cbnw.org, 541.451.4270 ext. 27

Registration:

Jennifer Bertz
jenniferb@cbnw.org, 541.451.4270 ext. 21

As group leader

One of the main focuses of Winter Youth is to empower you to shepherd your group well. We believe that this event will provide you with excellent opportunities to invest in the lives of your students. Here are some ways we suggest you serve your group during the week:

❖ Participate

One of the most powerful ways you can lead your group is by example. Engage in the activities of the event as a humble learner. Students will be challenged and encouraged by your humility, patience and openness to the Holy Spirit as you learn alongside them. Our hope is that all of us, adults included, will be transformed.

❖ Discover

Winter Youth encourages students to look deeply into the story of God and then to discover the implications for their own life and community. Students are encouraged to share what they are learning and how God is shaping them through His story. As we allow students space to process for themselves, many different points of implication may arise. As leaders, we must fight the temptation to always tell students what we think they should see in the story, and allow God to speak to and through them as they listen and discover this for themselves.

❖ Listen

Throughout the day you will be given time to process with your group. Use these times as an opportunity to hear what God is doing in your students' lives. Encourage them to share their feelings, joys, and struggles. Challenge them to be looking and listening for God, moment by moment. The temptation may be for you to try to preach or give specific application points...our challenge to you is to not do this! Encourage your group to share how God is shaping them in the evening celebrations.

❖ Help

This is an old event that is still being developed. But we are also aware that there is always room for improvement. We genuinely want your feedback. One thing we do ask is that you are careful with your critique around your students. It is not helpful to your students (or to us) to process the effectiveness of the event with them during the weekend. We know you are a leader and will have lots of ideas about how to make this event better – save them to share with us!

❖ Pray

Ask God to lead you and speak to you as you shepherd your group. Set aside time each day to pray that God would transform your students through the understanding and experience of His Kingdom.

Schedule

Sunday December 27th

9:00-Noon	Check In & Registration	Lobby
12:30-1:30	Youth Workers Welcome	Multnomah
2:00-3:00	Welcome & Gathering I	GBR
3:00-5:00	Workshops	
	- leaders	Multnomah
	-students	GBR
5:00-6:30	Dinner	
6:30-9:30	Gathering II	GBR
9:30-11:30	Experience: (Drink Coffee, Share Stories, Play Games)	MSH

Monday December 28th

8:00-8:30	Youth Worker Meeting	Multnomah
9:00-9:45	Getting Alone	GBR
9:45-12:15	Gathering III	GBR
12:15-5:30	Lunch and OMSI	Off Site
5:30-8:00	Dinner and Separation Experience	
8:00-10:30	Gathering IV	GBR
11:30-Midnight	Midnight Praise	GBR

Tuesday December 29th

8:00-8:30	Youth Worker Meeting	Multnomah
9:00-9:45	Getting Alone	
9:45-12:15	Gathering V	GBR

12:15-2:45	Lunch and Wanderings Experience	
2:45-5:15	Gathering VI	GBR
5:15-7:30	Experience: (Feasting, Reflect, Communion)	
7:30-11:30	Play Together: (Laser Tag, Karaoke, Cosmic Mini-Golf)	MSH
9:30-11:00	Broom Hockey	Off Site
11:30-Midnight	Midnight Praise	GBR

Wednesday December 30th

9:30-12:30	Final Gathering	GBR
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GBR: Grand Ballroom
MSH: Mt. Saint Helens Ballroom

*Schedule subject to change.

Discovery pathways

❖ Gatherings

These will look very different this year. For each gathering, we will meet in the Grand Ballroom and hear one of the twelve stories that we will be working through. Then the group will be divided up into dialogue groups and sent to their breakout area (it will be the same group in the same area for each gathering). After about forty minutes, the groups will come back to the Grand Ballroom and watch a group of students process the story on stage. Then Caesar will tell a second story and we will repeat the dialogue process. By the end of the conference, we will have covered twelve of the major stories in the Bible to paint the redemptive arc of the story of God.

❖ Experiences

There will be three specific hands-on experiences designed to help students engage the stories. Supplies will be provided, but it is up to the youth leader to lead the group through the experience. The guide for each experience is located in this manual, starting on page 16.

❖ Evening Celebrations

All three nights are an occasion to take what students have heard and express themselves by telling stories, singing songs and feasting. We want each night to end in celebration. The first night will be a coffee shop atmosphere with music and board games for everyone to kick back and have a good time. This is supposed to be a familiar and reproducible environment for students to be aware of other people's story and where they intersect with God's. The second night will be celebration in singing at Midnight Praise. The third night will be a feast where we will celebrate communion together as a remembrance of the whole story of God. Part of this time will be playing together with games and activities at the hotel and broom hockey at the Lloyd Center ice rink.

Information

❖ Conference Host

If you have any questions or concerns at any time during the conference and need to get in touch with someone, contact Dave Bertz 541.401.0685 or Jeremy Schumacher 503.913.9355.

❖ Youth Workers Meeting

Each day there will be a time for youth workers to recalibrate for the day's activities. The Winter Youth Team will give any schedule updates and activity explanation that is needed. It is also a time to hear from your group and pray together. Coffee and muffins will be provided.

❖ Meals & Free Time

We have customized free time to the culture of your students and have provided opportunities for various youth groups to connect. We hope it will feel • fun • intentional • group-specific • group-oriented • user-friendly • choose-your-own-adventure • empowering to leaders.

We have allowed more time during lunch and dinner so you can connect with your students and even do something fun. We are making the chill room available during all meal and free times. It is designed to be a place for your group to play together and meet up with other groups. You are on your own for meals. Your manual contains a map and detailed list of places to eat within walking distance of the hotels. Your patience with longer-than-usual wait times is appreciated wherever you choose to eat.

❖ Youth Group Discussion

This is an opportunity for students to share their thoughts and what they are learning together. Groups can meet in the lobby, hallway seating areas, rooms, or go off site. We encourage you to work hard at this time and listen carefully to how God is moving in your group.

❖ Getting Alone

A quiet time is scheduled in the mornings for your students to read scripture and talk to God. The material will be provided in each student's conference manual. This year we are trying to briefly train students in reading Old Testament narrative.

❖ **Hospitality Suite**

Room 256 is set aside for youth workers to connect and refresh. Snacks and beverages are available while you converse with your staff, conference presenters, winter youth team, and other youth workers. This year the hospitality suite will be open from 6:30 AM to 12:30 AM each day. It will be closed during the "Gatherings."

The information table is located outside the GBR and will be staffed to answer questions, take sign-ups, hold lost & found, etc.

Wear your name tag at all times; it is your pass to all Winter Youth events and activities.

When you leave the Grand Ballroom (or any meeting room), your attention to cleaning up the area where you were sitting is greatly appreciated.

NO girls in guys' rooms and NO guys in girls' rooms.

❖ **Team Barnabas**

Feel free to give them prayer requests as they will be praying for your church throughout the conference. You will see them in navy blue jerseys – ask them if you need directions or information. Please honor their requests and take time to thank them for being here!

❖ **Nurse**

Robin is the conference nurse and is available for consultation if anyone gets sick or injured. You may ask any Team Barnabas member or the staff at the Information Table to have her paged. If you are unable to find a staff to page her, you can call her on her cell.

Robin Claudson 360.756.7616

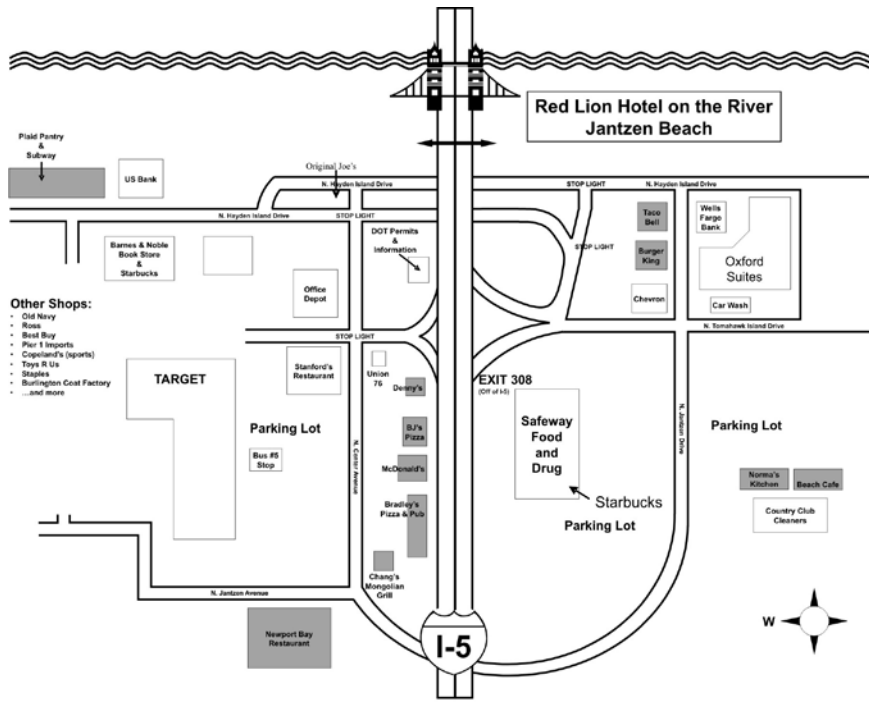
❖ **Hotel Courtesy Reminders**

While in the halls, please walk and speak quietly.

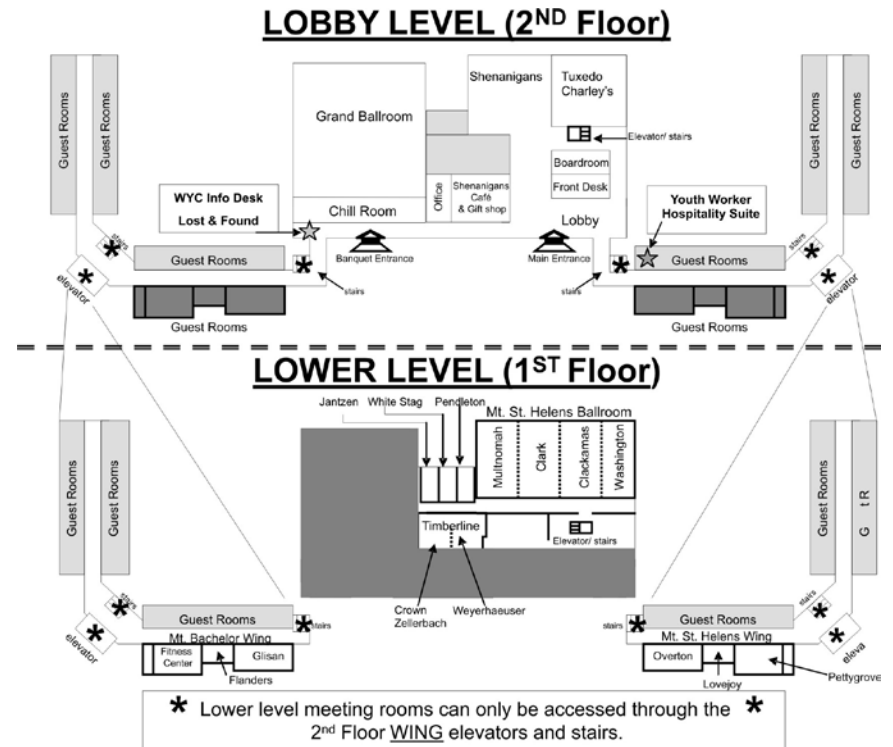
The phones are for room-to-room calls only. Please do not make calls between 11 pm and 7 am. If you need to place a call to someone outside the hotel, use the pay phones located in and near the lobby or a personal cell phone. The TVs are set up specifically for television viewing; they are not to be used for any other purpose. If you unplug existing connections to accommodate any personal equipment (such as X-Box or Play Station), the hotel will bill your church for the cost incurred for repair/replace-

ment. If you choose to use room service, pay cash and please tip generously. Please use the stairs; there are not enough elevators to move all of us quickly. Use of skateboards, roller blades, scooters, etc. is strictly prohibited on hotel properties (all property surrounding the hotel). All charges made to rooms and any damage or theft reported by the hotel staff will be billed to your church.

Area map



Hotel map



Places... in the area

Jantzen Beach Supercenter Food Court & Carousel

Target:

1400 N Jantzen Ave. Portland
503.247.0331

Starbucks:

1718 Jantzen Beach Ctr. Portland
503.978.1865

Taco Bell:

1235 Jantzen Beach Ctr. Portland
503.285.9893

McDonald's:

12005 N Center Ave. Portland
503.289.2127

Burger King:

12225 N Jantzen Dr. Portland
503.285.5883

Denny's:

12201 N. Center Ave. Portland
503.285.0735

Safeway:

11919 N Jantzen Dr. Portland
503.247.7980

BJ's Pizza:

12105 N. Center Ave. Portland
360.693.6685

Newport Bay Restaurant:

11950 N. Center Ave. Portland
503.283.2474

Chang's Mongolian Grill:

12055 N Center Ave. Portland
503.240.0205

Cafe Del Torro:

11935 N. Center Ave. Portland
503.285.7277

Original Joe's:

1321 N Hayden Island Dr. Portland
503.978.7224

Norma's Kitchen:

12010 N Jantzen Dr. Portland
503.240.3447
(really, really good, but seating is limited)

OMSI Experience

Group Leader Information:

- Your Winter Youth nametag lanyard is your pass to get into OMSI and must be visible while in the museum.
- You do not have to pay the \$2 parking fee.
- Directions to OMSI from the hotel (I-5 Southbound)
 1. As you near downtown Portland, take exit 300B
 2. Once on the exit, move to the left-most lane.
 3. Follow the brown OMSI signs off the freeway to Belmont Ave.
 4. Continue east on Belmont to 7th Ave.
 5. Turn south (right) onto 7th Ave.
 6. Continue south to Clay St.
 7. Turn west (right) onto Clay St.
 8. Continue west to Water Ave.
 9. Turn south (left) onto Water Ave.

Science is the explanation of what happens in creation. Industry is the “harnessing” of that knowledge for human good. Both are gifts from God and reflect in some way God’s original design for people made in his image as “rulers” of this world. But here’s the thing, knowledge *about* the world and knowledge *how* we might use it don’t come close to answering *why* kinds of questions: “Why is the world that way?” or “Why do I exist?” or “What value does that thing ultimately have?” or “For what end should we use our knowledge?” And without that side of things, the version of the world’s story is incomplete, misleading and idolatrous.

The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry is a great place to see how people put together a version of the story without God. But God’s Story in Jesus Christ is much bigger and fuller; and answers not only *what*, but *why* kinds of questions. God himself claims that his version of the Story is not only true, but when we see the world through God’s Story, it brings meaning and redemption to our lives.

As you go through four specific areas/exhibits we hope that God will:

1. Give you an appreciation for the marvel of his creation.
2. Give you an understanding of what OMSI’s version of the story is with

its incompleteness.

3. Change you with His Story that is bigger, fuller and transforming.

For each area, bring your group there and make sure they have sufficient time to walk through the exhibit. Make sure to locate any important readings. Then, regroup and discuss the following questions. Scripture passages are listed for your reference.

Area 1: “Beginning the Journey” (Upstairs in Life Hall)

Important Readings

- 1) the “Beginning the Journey” plaque
- 2) the “disclaimer” plaque as you enter the multiple-fetus display
- 3) the plaque below the last fetus of the display.

- From what you read and saw, what is a human being?
- From what you read and saw, why do people exist?
- Why do you think OMSI feels that it needs to put a “disclaimer” sign in front of the fetus display?
- Does OMSI’s version of Story explain why you feel weird looking at dead babies?
- According to God’s Story, what is a human being?
- According to God’s Story, why do people exist?
- How does the information displayed in the exhibit affirm God’s Story?
- Who in your life have you “reduced” to something other than someone made in God’s image? How have you done that?
- How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus came as a baby?

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7,15-17; Isaiah 43:6-7; Psalm 139:13-16

Area 2: “Life Hall”

- On what main themes does this exhibit focus?
- What does OMSI say is the point of using science for our bodies?
- How long would you like to live and why?
- What does God’s Story say about people’s desire to want to live a very long time?
- What does God’s Story say about disease and death? Does it ever end?
- What does God’s Story say about our bodies in eternity?

- How do you see sin or disease wrecking your body or that of someone you love? How does that make you feel?
- What does it mean that Jesus “carried our diseases”?

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:6,16; Proverbs 10:27; 28:16; Ecclesiastes 3:11; Isaiah 53:4-5; 1 Corinthians 15:35; Revelation 21:4

Area 3: “Earth Hall”

Important Readings:

Description of Geode at the front of the exhibit from the main hall

National Park Service Mission plaque, also near the front of the exhibit

- What colors can you see in the large, white geode? Does understanding what makes up a geode explain why we enjoy looking at it? How can both understanding and enjoying it be an act of worship to God?
- Why does the National Park Service preserve some places “unimpaired”? What would God’s Story say about that, both positively and negatively?
- What is OMSI’s version of the Earth’s Story (beginning, crisis, end)?
- Why do you think some people in the world worship parts of creation (sun, animals)?
- Why do you think people have a natural curiosity for very ancient things?
- What does it mean that God saw what he made and declared it “very good”?
- How can we see the earth itself as a character in God’s Story?
- In God’s Story, how does Jesus relate to the earth as a whole?
- How can you use the earth and elements of it as a tool to worship God?

Genesis 1:1, 31; Exodus 20:4-5; Psalm 19; Romans 8:19-22; Colossians 1:16-20; Revelation 21:1

Area 4: “Scream: the Science of Fear”

Important Readings

Introductory plaques in front of the exhibit

- What is OMSI’s goal for the exhibit? What is fear?
- From what you read and saw, what are the good and bad elements of fear?
- From what you read and saw, what do we need to do with our fear?
- Which fears are direct results of mankind’s sin? Why is that?
- What were Adam and Eve afraid of (Gen. 3:10) when they hid from God and each other after they had eaten the fruit? What does that say about our relationship-fears?
- What is the opposite of fear? How does God give us that?
- How does God’s Story say we should deal with fear today?
- In God’s Story, is fear something that will last forever?
- What does “fearing God” mean?
- What is something you fear more than you trust God?
- What has God given in Jesus that answers that fear?

Genesis 3:10; Psalm 56; Proverbs 1:7; Ezekiel 34:28; Isaiah 11:1-9; Micah 4:4

Group Experience - SEPARATION

LEADER READS:

This group experience is designed to help us dive deeper into the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, and Noah and the Ark. We'll be traveling to 3 locations, and at each location, we will participate in a different exercise to help us better understand and identify with these stories.

Dress to be outside and bring your conference journal and Bible.

Throughout this experience, ask yourself:

What would it have been like to actually be in these stories?

How am I like the characters in the stories?

How are these stories challenging me to think and live differently?

(To begin, have a student volunteer read the paragraphs on the next page aloud.)

STUDENT READS:

Our story began with God creating a beautiful planet, with all kinds of living creatures and natural wonders. God also created a distinct creature in his own image: human beings. God shared a close relationship with these humans, walking with them in the cool of the day. They lived in God's kingdom – under his care and protection – a life that was full and complete.

Now we return to the story, exploring deeper the choices that the first humans made to be separate from God.

If we look closely, we will see parts of ourselves everywhere in this story. Places that are thousands of miles away will begin to feel familiar to us. Events in the story will feel similar – even identical – to events in our own lives. And characters we meet along the way will remind us of each other and of ourselves.

God's story and our story are not two straight lines running parallel with each other. No, one story bends far into the other. And in the end, we find that the stories merge. And now, let's get back to the story...

STATION 1 – HUMAN REBELLION

Go somewhere where you can observe God's creation. Sit in a tight semi-circle so you can all hear each other.

LEADER READS:

Picture in your mind the story of creation. This story paints a picture of humans, God and nature all living in perfect harmony.

(Discuss the following questions)

What do you see in your mind when you think of this story?

If humans never rebelled, what might our world be like today? How would humans be different? How would nature be different?

(Pass out the apples, **BUT INSTRUCT EVERYONE NOT TO EAT THEM** yet!)

STUDENT READS:

(EXCERPT FROM THE SEPARATION STORY)

One day, a clever serpent came to Eve and asked her, "Did God really say you can't eat ANY of the fruit in the garden?"

Eve told him, "No, we can eat from any tree in the garden. It's only the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil that we are not allowed to eat from – or even touch, or we will die."

Trying to trick Eve, the serpent said, "You won't die! God knows that as soon as you eat that fruit your eyes will be opened, and you will become just like him! You will know everything, both good and evil."

Eve, believing the serpent, looked at the delicious fruit, and thought, "Humm...we will know everything..."

Then she took some of the fruit and ate it. She also gave some to Adam, who was with her, and he ate it.

Instantly, their eyes were opened, and they became filled with shame and fear. They tied fig leaves together to cover up their nakedness.

God's heart was broken because of Adam and Eve's disobedience. God always does what is right and true; he could not ignore what they had done. So God punished Adam and Eve by throwing them out of the garden – outside of his care and protection.

No longer following God's ways, Adam and Eve were now subject to sickness, pain, and even death.

LEADER READS:

As we look at the story of Adam and Eve's separation from God, we can't help but think of our own choices to rebel against God.

Look at the apple in your hand. Imagine that it's the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

Now, bite into the apple and remain silent for a moment.

(After pausing for a moment, continue...)

Before we move to the next location, we are going to spend some time quietly confessing to God areas of our lives where we've chosen not to follow his ways.

Use this time to ask God for forgiveness and strength. You may even want to write a prayer in your journal. After two or three minutes, we will travel to the next location.

STATION 2 – CAIN AND ABEL

Go to the mall or a store at the Jantzen Beach Center. Once you have arrived at the location, find a place where your group can sit and discuss.

LEADER READS:

This experience is one of listening and imagining. Close your eyes, and begin to replay the story of Cain and Abel...see this story unfold in your mind.

(Discuss the following questions...)

What did you see? What do you remember about the Cain and Abel story?

How do you think sin changes our view of ourselves and other people?

How does sin affect people's relationships with each other?

STUDENT READS:

Not long after Adam and Eve rebelled against God, the effects of sin continued with their sons. Right away, we see humans struggling with insecurity, jealousy, hatred, comparison, deception, and even murder.

The separation that Adam and Eve experienced was not just from God, but also from each other.

Every relationship was affected. We, as descendants of the first humans, continue to follow in the ways of insecurity, jealousy, hatred, comparison, deception, and even murder.

LEADER READS:

Now close your eyes again.

As we sit outside this market, I want you to picture the places you go on a regular basis: school, work, extra-curricular activity, etc. Picture the faces of people you see every day, picture the people who sit next to you in your classes, picture the people you work with. *(Pause)*

Now, picture the person with whom you are the closest. Think about why you are friends.

What's great about your relationship?

What do you like about this person?

What do you think they like about you?

Spend a moment thanking God for this person. You may want to write something down in your journal.

(Let the students continue to silently consider these questions. Some of the power of this experience will be found in silence.)

Now close your eyes again, and picture someone else you know...picture someone you feel disconnected from...someone you feel separated from. Silently think about...

Why is it so hard to connect with this person?

What are the main emotions you feel toward him or her?

How do you wish your relationship was different?

How have you contributed to the separation you feel?

How can you help make this relationship to be the way God intended it?

Quietly ask God to help you restore this relationship. Ask Him to fill you with love, compassion, patience, and strength. Ask Him to forgive you for ways you have treated others badly.

(Let the students continue to silently pray for a minute or two.)

Now, open your eyes. Look at those around you. These are your brothers and sisters. Look closely.

What kind of relationships do you think God intends for you to have with this group?

It might feel a little strange, but continue looking at one another. Think about how your relationships would be different if you weren't corrupted by sin.

In a minute, I want you to find a partner. That partner should be one of the following...

Someone whom you need to ask to forgive you. You may have mistreated them or ignored them.

Someone who will pray for you and keep you accountable in your relationships.

This time should focus on sharing and praying about how we sin and struggle in relationships. It's about how you need God to transform YOU and the way YOU look at yourself and others. It is not a time to focus on what other people have done wrong to you!

(After 3-4 minutes, continue to station 3 for instructions on next location.)

STATION 3 – THE FLOOD

Listed below are two local cemeteries. Be sure to look up directions before you start the experience. You will need to be finished with this station before dark.

Rose City Cemetery (14 minutes from hotel near Lloyd Center)

5625 Northeast Fremont Street, Portland, OR 97213

Park Hill Cemetery (9 minutes from hotel)

5915 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98661

Find a place in the cemetery where your group can stand in a circle. This should be a quiet place where you can easily see headstones. This is a time for reflection and serious thought. Please don't run around, sit or play in the cemetery. Show maturity and be respectful.

STUDENT READS:

(EXCERPT FROM THE FLOOD STORY)

The number of humans on the earth grew rapidly. Not only did rebellion spread from Adam and Eve to their sons, it spread from generation to generation.

Even though humans were created in God's image, each person chose to disobey God's ways. Humans were completely out of control, acting out in selfishness and violence all the time.

When God saw that the people's hearts and minds were filled with evil day and night, his heart was broken. So God decided to start over, saying, "I will completely wipe out the human race that I've created. I am sorry that I ever made them."

LEADER READS:

Not only does sin cause immediate and relational separation, it also has physical consequences.

What physical consequences does sin have?

In what ways do you think sin leads to death? Is it just physical death? What other kinds of death are there?

Where do you see the physical consequences of sin in our world?

Separated from God, sin will always lead to death. We look around this cemetery and we can see the effects of sin. Before sin, no one died. Sin brings death in many ways...physical, emotional, environmental, spiritual.

When we choose our own ways instead of God's, it leads us to a life of pain, struggle and loneliness. Sin causes us to miss out on life the way it was designed to be.

For the next 10 minutes, I want you to slowly and silently walk around the cemetery by yourself.

Stay within eyesight of the group. Look at the gravestones. Think about

the lives and families of the people buried here. On each gravestone, there are birth and death dates. In between those numbers is a dash. That dash represents a life...as you pause at a few gravestones, think about how *you* want to spend *your* life.

As you walk, talk with God. Tell God about the areas of the world and your life where you desire for him to bring renewal. If there are areas of your heart that feel dead and lifeless, ask God to revive them. Ask God to give you a new hope today.

(Gather back together in a circle.)

STUDENT READS:

(EXCERPT FROM THE FLOOD STORY)

God said, "Even though people's thoughts and actions are bent toward evil from the time they're children, I promise to never again destroy all living things with a flood. As a symbol of my promise, I will hang a rainbow in the clouds. Whenever you see a rainbow, this will remind you of my promise to you."

God blessed Noah and his sons, telling them to have many children and once again fill the earth with people.

LEADER READS:

The rainbow that God created was a sign of hope, showing us God's continual love for us and his desire to restore all things back to the way he designed them.

Let's spend some time in a circle praying and thanking God together. Let's thank God for always providing a way for us and giving us hope. Tell God out loud how he has specifically given you hope. Ask God to bring restoration to your life, group, family and world.

(After your prayer time, discuss...)

How did this experience impact you?

Write your response in your journal.

Group Experience - WANDERINGS

LEADER READS:

The Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the wilderness before arriving at the Promised Land. Imagine what that must have felt like...40 years, wandering in the wilderness, unable to get where you wanted to go.

Today, you'll have a chance to experience just a small part of that wandering, to imagine what it was like, and to ask God how your own experiences might be similar to what the Israelites went through.

Right now we're going to go on a long walk, stopping at the various points to learn about and discuss the story of the Israelites' wanderings.

Wait until we get to our first stopping point before eating or drinking anything from your lunch.

Throughout this experience, ask yourself...

What would it have been like to be in these stories?

How am I like the characters in the stories?

How are these stories challenging me to think and live differently?

(Begin walking. Go at least 4 blocks and look for a park or area to stop and have lunch. Do not stop walking until you find a good spot that has few distractions and minimal noise.)

STATION 1 – COMPLAINING IN THE DESERT

LEADER READS:

Okay, who's hungry?

What's the longest you've ever gone without eating?

When was it, and why did it happen?

How did you feel when you finally got food?

(Hand out lunches and continue discussion while eating.)

STUDENT READS:

(Excerpt from the Law and Commands)

It wasn't long after the Israelites left Egypt that they began complaining to Moses. They complained about not having enough to eat and not having water to drink.

They kept nagging him, asking, "Why did you make us leave Egypt? We had plenty to eat and drink there. Did you lead us into the wilderness to die?"

Moses cried out to God, "What am I going to do with these people? They're about to kill me!"

So, each time the Israelites ran out of food or water, God provided for them through a miracle; he sent birds to their camp for them to eat, he covered the ground with a flaky bread-like food, and he even made water pour out of a rock for them to drink!

LEADER READS:

Why were the Israelites complaining? Do you think they had a good reason to complain?

What did God provide for them?

(Manna means "What is it?" and it tasted like honey cakes or donuts!)

How would you have reacted to what God provided?

In what ways do you struggle with complaining? What do you typically complain about?

Why do you think we complain so much?

Now, take out the piece of chalk that's inside your bag. On the sidewalk, write or draw out the things that God continues to provide for you – things you are thankful for (complete this exercise in your journal, if you

are inside). Do this as a creative prayer exercise to God.

We'll spend the next 5 minutes writing and drawing, and then we'll begin walking again.

(After about 5 minutes of writing, lead the group to walk a short distance, maybe to the other side of the park or area in which you stopped.)

STATION 2 - CALLING

STUDENT READS:

(Excerpt from the Law and Commands)

Two months after leaving Egypt, the Israelites set up camp at the base of Mount Sinai. Moses climbed up the mountain so he could meet with God.

There, God spoke to him saying, "Tell my people this, 'You saw how I carried you on eagles' wings and rescued you from Egypt. Now, if you obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my treasured people – a kingdom of priests – set apart to represent me.'"

LEADER READS:

What is a covenant?

How could the Israelites keep their side of the covenant?

What do you think it means to be a "kingdom of priests"?

How were the Israelites to be "set apart" (which also means holy)?

Read the following verse:

...for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. – 1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)

Take a moment and write your answers to the following questions. Then discuss your answers:

How do you think God desires for us to be set apart and to represent him?

If God now calls us his "royal priests," what do you think that means for YOU?

(After a few minutes of discussion, ask your group to stand and face the same direction. Then continue with the instructions on page 10).

STATION 3 – COMMANDS AND LAWS

LEADER READS:

Imagine you are one of the people of Israel, standing at the base of a large mountain. Close your eyes as we read this next part of the story.

STUDENT READS:

(Excerpt from the Law and Commands)

Then God told Moses, "Gather the Israelites at the base of the mountain so I can speak to them."

As the people gathered, God warned them, "Do not climb the mountain or even touch the edge, or you will be put to death."

Right then, a powerful storm rolled in, and a dark cloud covered the mountain. God spoke to them from a blazing fire on top of the mountain, giving these commands: "I am your God who rescued you from slavery in Egypt. Put me above everything else. Do not worship other things. Do not misuse or disrespect my name. Remember to set aside a day each week to rest and worship me. Honor your parents. Don't murder or steal or lie. Do not sleep with anyone but your husband or wife – be faithful. Don't lust after what others have – be satisfied with what I give you."

As God spoke, the people trembled with fear and moved away from the mountain! Moses told them, “Don’t be afraid. God is showing you his awesome power. From now on, let your fear of Him keep you from sinning!”

As the people stood in the distance, Moses climbed up into the dark cloud. Up on the mountain, God gave Moses more instructions, called laws, to give to Israel.

These laws gave specific details about things like...how to treat neighbors and enemies, how to handle conflicts, what constitutes fair punishment, when to work and rest, when to celebrate and worship, and what offerings are acceptable to God.

Another time, Moses went up on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights with his helper Joshua. God gave Moses two stone tablets. On these tablets were the details of the covenant written by God’s finger!

LEADER READS:

What is the purpose of the Commands?
Why do you think the Israelites needed them?

What kinds of things did the Commands and Laws address?

Why do you think God is so specific about these things?

What do the Commands and Laws show us about God?

In your journal, write out a word or a couple of words that describe what you think our world would be like if God left it up to us to write our own laws.

(Take a minute of reflection and writing.)

Now, write out the one commandment that God gave Moses that is most difficult for you to follow. Spend some time in prayer, confessing that sin to God, and asking him to help you in that area.

(After everyone has completed this, walk back to the place where you stopped for lunch.)

STATION 4 – GOLDEN CALF

STUDENT READS:

(Excerpt from the Law and Commands)

While Moses was away on the mountain, the people went to his brother, Aaron, and said, “We don’t know what has happened to Moses. Make us a god that we can see who will lead us!”

So, Aaron created an idol in the shape of a golden calf and put it on an altar for them to worship. He told them, “Here is the god that saved you from Egypt!”

The next day, the people had a wild party as they worshipped the golden calf.

When God saw how the Israelites were acting, he said to Moses, “I have seen enough stubbornness and rebellion from these people. I am going to destroy all of them with fire and create a new nation from your children.”

But Moses begged God not to kill them, and God withdrew his threat and allowed them to live.

When Moses returned to camp and saw the people worshipping the calf, he was so angry that he smashed the stone tablets on the ground! Then he took the calf, ground it up into powder, mixed it with water, and made the people drink it.

The next day, Moses returned to the mountain to ask God to forgive his people. God responded, “*Whoever has sinned against me must be punished.*” And God sent a plague to punish those who had worshipped the calf. About 3,000 of the Israelites died from this plague.

Soon after that, God also said to Moses, “I am full of mercy and grace. I am slow to get angry and full of love and faithfulness. I show my love by forgiving rebellion and sin, but I will not let sin go unpunished. This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel: I will show my awesome power through you and remove those who oppose you, but you must always listen to me and obey my commands.”

Moses met with God for another 40 days and 40 nights. On a new set of tablets, God wrote the details of how to live in his covenant. Moses gave these tablets to the people of Israel so they could follow them, live in His ways, and enjoy His blessings.

LEADER READS

Why do you think the Israelites made an idol to worship?

Why was it so terrible for them to worship an idol?

Do you think they deserved to be so severely punished?

What does this scene show us about God?

What idols do we worship in our culture?

Inside your bag, you'll find a small chunk of clay. For the next 3 minutes, try to sculpt the clay into the shape of something you tend to idolize or put before God.

(After about 3 minutes)

Now, get into groups of three, and share what you created. Then, pray for each other, asking God to help you put him first. As you pray, carefully squeeze your clay idol in your hands, destroying it. After you are done praying, you can use the wet-wipes to clean your hands. *(Walk back to your starting point. Discard your clay in the next trash bin you find.)*

STATION 5 – FORTY YEARS OF WANDERING

STUDENT READS:

(Excerpt from the Law and Commands)

The people of Israel continued on their journey to the Promised Land. During one of Moses' trips up the mountain, God also gave Moses specific instructions about how to build a holy tent called the Tabernacle. God said, "Build a special place for me to live among the people I love."

So Moses gathered the very best craftsmen and workers and they began building the Tabernacle in the center of their camp. God covered the Tabernacle with a cloud during the day that changed to a pillar of fire at night. When this cloud moved, they followed it and set up camp wherever it stopped.

But when the people of Israel got close to the Promised Land of Canaan – within a few miles of the border – they wouldn't enter the land because they were afraid of the people who lived there.

They said, "We can't defeat them. They are stronger and bigger than us. Next to them we are like little grasshoppers!"

God had promised to fight for them and give them this land, but the people did not trust him. So God punished them by making them wander in the desert for 40 years. This was a time filled with struggle and complaints against Moses and God.

LEADER READS:

In a minute, we will walk to a place that represents the edge of the *Promised Land*.

As we slowly walk to this point, pair up with someone and discuss what it must have been like to be an Israelite...wandering in the desert for so long, but also seeing God do amazing things right in front of you.

How would you have felt?

How are you like the Israelites?

(Walk slowly to the spot designated as the entrance to the Promised Land. When you arrive, stop before crossing the line to enter.)

(When you arrive at the edge of the Promised Land, discuss the following questions with your group.)

Why were the Israelites afraid to enter the land?

Why did God punish them?

Do you think they deserved to be punished?

What do you think it would have been like wandering in the desert for 40 years?

What do you think would have been your biggest struggle while wandering?

The Israelites were punished by years of wandering in the desert. They were already tired and frustrated, but they would not enter the Promised Land. *Until...*

(Transition directly into next story.)

STATION 6 – ENTERING THE PROMISED LAND

STUDENT READS:

(Excerpt from the Law and Commands)

As Moses neared the end of life, he reminded the people of Israel of all of God's promises, laws, and commandments. Moses challenged them, "You must love God with all of your heart, mind, soul and strength...for he is your life!"

Then Moses said to Joshua, his assistant, in front of all of the Israelites, "Be strong and courageous! Now Joshua will lead these people into the land God promised us. Do not be afraid or discouraged; God will never leave you or forget about you."

After Moses died, Joshua became the new leader of Israel and led them to recapture the Promised Land from their enemies. Finally, after many generations, the people of Israel were able to live in the land God promised to them.

LEADER READS:

What did Moses remind the people of in this scene? What did he say?

Why do you think the Israelites needed to be reminded of God's promises?

Based on all the scenes we looked at in this experience, how do you think that God desires for us to live?'

STUDENT READS:

As the Israelites entered the Promised Land, God performed another Miracle for them: *he stopped the over-flowing Jordan River so they could cross safely on dry ground.*

To remember this amazing act, the Israelites built a monument to God, using 12 stones from the middle of the river bed (one stone for each of Israel's tribes). This monument would serve as a reminder to future generations of how powerful and awesome God is!

LEADER READS:

Right now we are going to join hands and cross the line into the Promised Land. As we do this, ask God to take you to a new place in life, strengthening your faith and trust in him.

(Cross into the Promised Land.)

Take out the stone and Sharpie from your bag. Write some of the ways God has provided for and protected you on the stone. Write as much as you can fit! After a few minutes, we will stack our stones and pray together.

(Stack your stones as a remembrance of God's faithfulness in your lives. Spend some time praying as a group, asking God to give you faith to live as his people, set apart to show the world what it means to live in his ways.)

Feast

Explanation of our communion feast:

We cannot love God unless we love each other, and to love we must know each other. We know Him in the breaking of bread, and we know each other in the breaking of bread, and we are not alone any more. Heaven is a banquet and life is a banquet, too, even with a crust, where there is companionship.

Dorothy Day in *The Long Loneliness*

Step by step suggestions to feast

1. MEET with other groups & discuss feasting plans.
2. CHOOSE a feasting locale with another group. This could be a hotel room, restaurant, or another location of your choice. (see restaurant options on pages 41 and 42)
3. Sign up EARLY for the restaurant locations and get directions and communion elements (bread and grape juice) at the information table. Spots are limited at certain restaurants, so sign up early.
4. DRIVE. bike. blade. to locale.
5. READ communion/feast explanation (on previous page).
6. ORDER feasting delicacies (if at a restaurant).
7. Have students or leaders READ the communion liturgy on pages 43 and 44 while waiting to eat.
8. EAT communion together when food is ready.
9. CONTINUE feasting.
10. Choose what to PLAY:
Broom ball at Lloyd Center Ice Skating Rink (9:30-11:00)
Wear: long pants, tennis shoes, something warm (like a sweater).
Laser Tag at Red Lion Inn
Karaoke at Red Lion Inn
Cosmic Golf at Red Lion Inn
11. PLAY together.
12. COME BACK for Midnight Praise in the Grand Ballroom.

Notes: Have students bring cash to make payment easier. Remember that your Feast is a proclamation to the world about God. Honor your servers by tipping well. Intentionally mix it up with other groups and don't be afraid to linger.

Restaurant options

Please have students bring cash and try to have just one bill so it is easier on the restaurant staff. ***Please be generous when tipping your server.***

Pizza & Pasta

Pizza Mia: 915 N. Anchor Way Portland 503.285.8889

- \$1.95 happy hour menu available at anytime for WY attendees!

BJ's Pizza: 12105 N Center Ave. Portland 360.693.6685

Vancouver Pizza: 2219 Main St. Vancouver 360.750.1176

The Old Spaghetti Factory: 7730 160 Ave. SE Vancouver 360.253.9030

Smokey's Hot Oven Pizza: 2905 St. Johns Blvd. Vancouver 360.695.6866

- coupons & menu available online www.smokeypizza.com

BJ's Pizza: 12105 N Center Ave, Portland 360.693.6685

Mexican

Café Del Toro: 11935 N Center Ave. Portland 503. 285.7277

Taco Bell: 1235 Jantzen beach Ctr. Portland 503.285-9893

Taco Time: 1254 Jantzen Beach Ctr. Portland 503.286.3422

Burrito House: 1220 N. Hayden Meadows Dr. Portland 503.285.3439

Chez Jose East: 2200 NE Broadway St. Portland 503.280.9888

Who Song and Larry's: 111 SE Columbia Way Vancouver, WA
360.695.1198

American

Homestead Restaurant: 11925 N. Center Ave. 503.289.6339

Original Joe's: 1321 N Hayden Island Dr. Portland 503.978.7224

Chomper's Burgers Etc: 901.N Anchor Way Portland 503.289.8882

Elmer's: 9848 N. Whitaker Rd. Portland 503.289.9848

Boomers Burgers: 1335 N Hayden Island Dr. Portland 503.517.2041

Billy Heartbeats: 2039 Lloyd Center Portland 503.288.6010

Subway: 1465 N Hayden Island Dr. Portland 503.285.6022

McDonald's: 12005 N Center Ave. Portland 503. 289.2127

Lloyd Center Food Court: 2201 Lloyd Ctr. Portland 503.282.2511

Applebees @ Lloyd Center 503-284-8040

Asian Cuisine

Mar's Meadows Chinese Restaurant: 9620 N. Whitaker Rd. Portland 503.286.8888

Chang's Mongolian Grill: 12055 N Center Ave. Portland 503.240.0205

Orient Chinese Restaurant: 1025 NE Broadway St. Portland 503.282.5811

Taste of Asia Chinese Buffet: 2605 E. Forth Plain Blvd Vancouver 360.696.3622

Liturgy to read

O Lord Jesus Christ,

We confess that we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We have had anxieties about the future, even though we proclaim you as Lord. We have failed to love our neighbors, and we have disobeyed your commands. Have mercy upon us, Lord Jesus. Forgive us our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness that we may walk in your ways and serve you in grace and love. This we ask in your holy Name. Amen.

The Lord Jesus Christ is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us of all unrighteousness; therefore you are forgiven! You are cleansed of all unrighteousness, and you are worthy to partake of this holy meal.

It is a right, good, proper, and joyful thing, at all times, and in all Places, to give you thanks, Lord God. We join our voices with the angels and archangels and all the company of heaven who forever sing this song: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

In the beginning, O Lord, you created us for yourself. But even though we have fallen through our disobedience to sin and death you in your infinite mercy, grace, and love sent your only begotten Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to live among us as a man, bor of a virgin. He suffered every hardship and adversity, every trial, trouble, tribulation, and temptation that we face—except without sin. Finally, He stretched out His arms upon the cross in perfect obedience to your will and offered Himself as a sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

On the night on which our Lord Jesus was given over to suffering and death through the betrayal of a friend, He took bread, and after He had blessed it and given thanks to you for it, O Lord, He gave it to His disciples and said, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you." After the supper, he took the cup, and after He had blessed it and given thanks to you for it, O Lord, He said, "Drink of this, all of you. This is my

Blood of the new covenant, which is shed for the remission of your sins and the sins of the whole world.”

Therefore, as often as we eat this bread and drink of this cup, we eat the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. We proclaim His death until He comes again. Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is coming again!

Lord Holy Spirit, you are the giver of life in whom we live and move and have our being; consecrate this bread and wine to be, for us, the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and consecrate us, O Lord, to partake of this holy meal. All this we ask, Lord Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the glory of His Father, Amen.

We thank you, Lord God, that you have fed us with these holy mysteries of the Body and Blood of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. In eating His Body, we are your agents in this world. Help us to be the distributors of your blessings, the agents of your providence, the instruments of your grace, and the ambassadors of your love to all the people we meet in our everyday lives. In drinking His Blood, we have taken on His life, which was not finally pierced by the cross nor smothered in the tomb, but lasts for evermore. All this we pray in the most holy and precious name of Jesus Christ, because He is alive, and He reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. You are one God, now and forever, Amen.