

# *College Justice* **WALKING** | *Just-FAITH*

*A Discipleship Journey with College Students*

## ***Getting Started*** ***2009-2010***

*This manual is intended for people interested in coordinating College JusticeWalking programs. Although JustFaith materials are copyrighted, this document may be copied and forwarded without permission.*

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***JustFaith Ministries works in partnership with:***



***Catholic Campaign for Human Development***



***Catholic Charities USA***



***Catholic Relief Services***

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# Getting Started 2009-2010

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## Make Space for Prayer

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because God has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”*

Luke 4:18-19

All faithful endeavors begin in prayer. ***The way we pray informs the way we live and the way we live shapes the way we pray.*** Before examining the challenges of coordinating this discipleship journey into Gospel-adjusted living, clear some space for a moment of prayer.

Allow the compassionate Spirit of Jesus to guide your hopes and shape your expectations.

*Come Spirit of justice overwhelm us.  
Fill our hungry hearts.  
Ignite in us the fire of compassion.  
Reshape our lives and send us out,  
To restore and renew the beauty of the earth.  
(Pause and repeat)*

## General Information

*Interactive and inter-generational, J-Walking offers people the opportunity to broaden their circles of awareness; and invites them into the compassionate stance we call Gospel justice.*

Welcome to College JusticeWalking (J-Walking), an initiation into a different kind of living. J-Walkers become a small community of college students and their mentors, seeking connections with people who live at society’s margins. The life-affirming relationships that develop encourage participants to explore the spiritual and social message of the Gospel, and its expression in Catholic social teaching.

This step-by-step guide is intended for seasoned college students and adults (college campus ministers, professors, diocesan staff, etc.) who plan to work as “coordinators” of the process, hoping to launch J-Walking on their campus. You should already be familiar with the *JusticeWalking General Overview* document, which outlines the themes and components of the process.

*J-Walking expands your capacity for both empathy and joy.*

Jacob Williams

*Please read through the whole document and follow the steps outlined below to launch J-Walking on your campus.*

## Step One: Coordinators

*College J-Walking builds covenant community with all participants – younger and older.  
The process is founded on the support and guidance of two **Coordinators**.*

### Coordinators

Ideally at least one of the College J-Walking Coordinators is over 21 years of age. Both Coordinators should demonstrate a mature faith and strong commitment to Gospel living.

CJW coordinators encourage participation, inspire prophetic insight, and set the tone for the process. Through their faithful presence and participation, they model commitment for the group. Coordinating a J-Walking group is a demanding and life-giving commitment.

CJW coordinators are people who are already struggling to implement the demands of the Gospel message and Catholic social teachings in their own lives. The most important qualities of a CJW coordinator include the ability to listen, affirm and challenge a group.

The recommended model for a College JusticeWalking group involves two coordinators: one motivated and capable older college student (junior or senior), and one adult companion, such as a campus minister, professor, diocesan minister. JustFaith graduates may also be approached as potential adult companions. In rare cases, two highly organized and highly motivated college juniors or seniors could serve as co-coordinators. At the very least, one of the coordinators should have experience in ministry with college-aged persons. If you are reading this document alone, your first task is to connect with another person who shares your passion for Gospel justice and affinity for ministry, and who would fill the other position in the co-coordination model.

J-Walkers form a small, mobile community (ideally 6-12 people), so no more than two J-Walking coordinators are needed.

*Coordinators are expected to be present at every J-Walking gathering.*

***CJW coordinators are expected to fully participate in every aspect of the process:***

- *Seven two-hour weekly sessions*
- *An overnight opening retreat and an overnight commissioning retreat*
- *A one-day justice pilgrimage*
- *Reading and reflecting on two shared texts*
- *Journal keeping and prayer*
- *One public dialogue session*
- *Co-facilitating sessions with other J-Walkers*
- *Creating and maintaining connections with a social service agency*
- *Assuming overall responsibility for the process*

*It is important for young people to be J-Walkers because we need to know what's going on in the world and we need to what we can do to make things better. Justin Zoeller*

*CJW Coordinators always co-facilitate the sessions with at least one other J-Walker (not the other coordinator).*

CJW Coordinators are also responsible for securing a meeting space, recruiting participants, registering the group with JustFaith Ministries, and following the guidelines provided in J-Walking materials.

*Do NOT invite others to participate before J-Walking coordinators are solidly committed to the process.*

## *Step Two: A Sponsoring Agency*

*J-Walking builds community with the support of a campus ministry office or diocesan agency.*

J-Walking is designed to complement existing diocesan or campus ministry, and many of the gatherings should be located at church or on campus. Each group will need a sponsoring agency. A sponsoring agency is a supportive campus or diocesan office that provides a gathering place and a broader community with whom J-Walkers can share the journey. This organization also guarantees oversight and support, especially in screening adults and providing insurance coverage.

Use the promotional materials below (Attachments 1 and 2) to explain the J-Walking process to interested campus staff or faculty. Make the following points:

- College J-Walking creates a small community of people who try to integrate the Gospel message and the challenges of Catholic social teaching into their lives.
- College J-Walking is a JustFaith Ministries process in partnership with Catholic Charities USA, Catholic Relief Services and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.
- College J-Walking does not replace religious studies or campus ministry, but is a discipleship process that will deepen and broaden existing spiritual formation efforts.
- College J-Walking communities are self-sustaining, requiring minimal oversight from the faculty or campus ministry office.

*In J-Walking you meet other motivated young people and discuss how to make a change in our world, knowing that a small group of motivated people is the only way to make a change.*

Ryan Duncan

## Step Three: A Meeting Space

*J-Walkers need a gathering space, such as a campus ministry meeting room or classroom, for regular two-hour sessions.*

J-Walkers meet for seven sessions. These meetings will likely be scheduled on a weekly basis in order to fit into a university semester. Only THREE of the seven sessions are located on campus since every other meeting takes place at a social service agency “adopted” by the group.

Any multipurpose room small enough to foster a sense of intimacy for prayer and dialogue will work well as a meeting site. The Public Session following the Commissioning Retreat will require more space. The setting for J-Walking gatherings is a small circle of people, seated on chairs or directly on the floor. Avoid sitting at tables. If you are using a classroom, request permission to rearrange the room for the gatherings.

*The ideal location for J-Walking sessions is a place that feels inviting, like a ministry gathering room or school chapel.*

*J-Walking has opened my eyes to injustices that I didn't even know I wasn't aware of.*

Evan Fowler

## Step Four: A Safe Environment

*J-Walking coordinators observe safe environment protocols and e maintain healthy boundaries.*

In campus settings, most students will be 18 years or older, and permission or liability issues do not apply. However, College J-Walking coordinators should be aware of the ages of all participants and attentive to consult with campus ministry staff in the event that a participant is not yet 18 years old. In every case, it is important to set and maintain healthy and respectful boundaries among participants and between participants and coordinators. Likewise, it is important to observe established policies for ensuring a safe environment for all participants.

## Step Five: A Timeline

*College students live busy lives and deal with conflicting school, work and social commitments. Not all of these commitments bear equal weight or merit.*

Scheduling the J-Walking calendar will present some challenges. Participants should be aware of the demands and benefits of this semester-long commitment **before** entering into the process.

### Meeting Dates

J-Walking coordinators should determine the timeline BEFORE inviting prospective participants into the process.

Be attentive to school calendars, and seek advice to avoid conflicts. Planning sessions around a regular pattern enables J-Walking to become a natural part of the rhythm of campus life.

Meetings should take place on the same day and time weekly. *For example: J-Walkers might meet every other Wednesday at 7:00 PM. Alternative meetings (Meetings at the Margins) might meet on Saturdays at noon at a local soup kitchen.* The first J-Walking event is an informational meeting (see Step Eight, as well as Attachment 6) and the opening retreat follows shortly thereafter.

*J-Walking teaches the true value of relationships. It makes you realize how intertwined the human family is and how responsible each one of us is for all its members. David George*

### Committing to a Schedule

Committing to a process requires personal sacrifice for the benefit of others. Participants will need to make space for J-Walking. This is a counter-cultural message. As with commitments to studies, sports and extracurricular activities, participants remain faithful when teachers, mentors, and ministers support and affirm their efforts.

*J-Walking coordinators should agree upon the session dates before the informational meeting.*

## Step Six: A J-Walking Group

*The size of a J-Walking group varies between six and twelve people.*

In contrast to our cultural bias for activities “en masse,” College J-Walking imitates Jesus’ invitational model of a small, hand-chosen band of companions. The task now turns to recruiting a small group of mature and committed students. Resist the temptation to enlarge the group beyond twelve members. If a large number of people apply, look for additional persons to coordinate a second College J-Walking group.

Introduce J-Walking by making general and personal invitations. Use the information in Attachments 1 and 2 to make announcements for campus newsletter or bulletin.

*Announcements are most effective when followed by a personal invitation.*

### Personal Invitations

People – young and old – respond more readily to a personal connection and a fuller explanation. Pattern your invitation after Jesus’ example - calling people by name and challenging them to put aside life’s entanglements to walk together as disciples.

Promotional materials are most engaging when delivered in person. Meet personally with a campus minister, or teacher to introduce the process to these leaders (See Step 2). If possible,

ask people who have already experienced J-Walking to make a presentation at an appropriate event or class. Distribute copies of the application form (Attachment 5) **only** to those who express obvious interest. Keep these points in mind:

- Be direct about the limited size of the J-Walking group
- Be clear that this process is not for everyone.
- Be attentive to signs of interest expressed.
- Be honest about the challenges of the process and the level of commitment expected.

Make sure that the application deadline is clear and allow everyone two weeks to respond.

### *Selecting Candidates*

After the deadline, J-Walking coordinators meet to review applications and select the candidates. Discern whether to form two small groups when there are more than ten solid applicants. The choice for a second group depends upon the availability of a second team of committed coordinators. If there are too few applicants, reopen the process and enlist the help of a campus minister or diocesan director to widen the scope of the invitations.

*J-Walking wakes us up from the “fantasy life” so we can address the world as it really is.*

Sarah Cox

Keep these points in mind when reviewing applications:

- J-Walking is counter-cultural. It is not for those who are mildly interested.
- Participants must choose willingly to enter into the process.
- Applicants should demonstrate a serious interest in Gospel justice.
- Motivated people tend to over-commit and spread their lives thinly.
- Avoid accepting nominations to bolster the number of participants – better six committed people than twelve who are willing to “give it a try.”

## *Step Seven: Connect with JustFaith Ministries*

The final step in starting College JusticeWalking is to register the group with JustFaith Ministries, after the team of coordinators is in place, the sponsoring agency and meeting space have been identified, and the J-Walkers have been selected.

*J-Walking registration forms are available online ([www.justfaith.org](http://www.justfaith.org)) or by contacting the JustFaith office at [justicewalking@justfaith.org](mailto:justicewalking@justfaith.org).*

J-Walking coordinators receive materials (via email) after their registration form has been received by JustFaith Ministries.

### *Costs and Connections with JustFaith*

College J-Walking materials are distributed exclusively through JustFaith Ministries. *A single fee of \$200 provides access to the College J-Walking materials for the 2009-10 program year.*

This covers all of the necessary facilitation materials including: guidelines, session and retreat outlines. It also includes direct consultation, as needed, with the JustFaith Ministries staff.

College J-Walking coordinators should assess all costs associated with the full JusticeWalking process and decide on an appropriate fee to be paid by all participants. The following expenses will be consistent for every group: the registration fee, the reading materials and supplementary items. However, some expenses will vary depending upon the group such as public transportation, retreat expenses (food and lodging), and so on. Also, the campus ministry office or local diocese may have funds available to subsidize (in part or in full) the cost of College J-Walking. For information on assistance with registration fees through JustFaith Ministries, contact [justicewalking@justfaith.org](mailto:justicewalking@justfaith.org).

Before the informational meeting, the coordinators should calculate all projected expenses so that they may inform prospective J-Walkers of the cost of participating in the process. J-Walkers may be required to pay the entire fee upon registering for J-Walking, or a payment plan of two or three installments may be utilized.

**Reading Materials**

Participants read two texts and keep a journal that guides them throughout the process.

<u>A Monk in the Inner City</u>	<i>Mary Lou Kownacki Orbis Books, 2008</i>	\$18.00
<u>With Open Hands</u>	<i>Henri Nouwen Ave Maria Press, 2005</i>	\$10.00
<u>J-Walker Journal</u>	<i>JFM Publication</i>	not yet priced


Unless the college or diocese offers to subsidize the process, participants should pay for their own books.

**Additional Resource Costs**

Additional resources (one copy per group) include:

<u>Cloud of Witnesses</u>	edited by Jim Wallis & Joyce Hollyday <i>Orbis Books, 2005</i>	\$15.00
<u>Songs for JusticeWalkers</u>	CD by Bryan Sirchio	\$14.00
<u>When Did I see You Hungry?</u>	DVD by Gerard Straub	\$25.00

You can purchase these books and resources through *Sowers Books & Videos* ([sowersbooks@bellsouth.net](mailto:sowersbooks@bellsouth.net) or 502-425-6228).

 At the Commissioning Retreat, J-Walkers receive a small J-Walking pendant. These pendants can be purchased through JustFaith Ministries for a price of \$2.00 each ([debbie@justfaith.org](mailto:debbie@justfaith.org) or 502-429-0865).

*Being surrounded by a group of people with a similar desire to change the world really gave me the inspiration to live out my beliefs. J-Walking allowed me to do that. Sarah McGeeney*

**Step Eight: Informational Meeting**

*Schedule an informational meeting in advance of the time you intend to begin the College J-Walking process, and invite people to bring their calendars.*

*This hour-long information session should be a prayerful time, offering prospective participants a taste of what lies ahead.*

See Attachment 6 for an outline of the informational meeting.

Request the use of a room on campus for this meeting, ideally in what will become the regular J-Walking gathering space. CJW coordinators should have a copy of the J-Walking books and other resources to display at this meeting.

## *Walking in the Reign*

*J-Walkers join a wider group of seekers, walking confidently against the flow into a world where God's compassionate justice reigns.*

These eight steps provide the sequence to launch College J-Walking on campus. You will be directed to materials on our website to guide your journey after you register with JustFaith Ministries.

It is the Spirit, and the passion of our convictions, that draws people into community and inspires us to choose uncommon paths toward abundant life. May you be guided through prayer to committed disciples and led into life-affirming relationships along the margins of society.

*If you have further questions about College J-Walking contact the JustFaith Office at (502) 429-0865 or [justicewalking@justfaith.org](mailto:justicewalking@justfaith.org).*

## *JusticeWalking Planner's Guide 2009-2010*

Task	Responsible	Target Date	Done
<b><i>Identify and Select J-Walking Coordinators</i></b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ List and contact potential coordinators (ideally one student, one adult)</li> <li>○ Provide “General Overview” document for potential coordinators.</li> <li>○ Select coordinators.</li> </ul>			
<b><i>Facilitate Coordinator Meeting</i></b>			
○ Review process and coordinator tasks			
○ Assign tasks			
○ Identify start/end date for the process			
○ Select ideal meeting dates and times			
○ Connect with campus ministry			
○ Reserve meeting space based on developed calendar			
<b><i>Promote JusticeWalking</i></b>			
○ Adapt the flyer, bulletin inserts, etc...			
○ Contact campus ministry groups and other student organizations.			
○ Make personal invitations			
<b><i>Determine J-Walking schedule</i></b>			
○ Fix dates for Opening Retreat, seven weekly sessions, Justice Pilgrimage, Commissioning Retreat, and Public Dialogue Session.			
<b><i>Organize Informational Meeting</i></b>			
○ Establish meeting date/location			
○ Invite applicants			
○ Delegate facilitation of the meeting			
<b><i>Notify Applicants</i></b>			
<b><i>Register with JustFaith Ministries</i></b>			
○ Mail registration and payment			
<b><i>Review Materials</i></b>			
○ Review “Coordinator Guidelines” document			
<b><i>Order Resources</i></b>			
○ Send order form and check for books, the journals, DVD and CD*			

\*In some cases the campus ministry office, local diocese, and/or JustFaith graduates may be willing to subsidize these costs.

# College Justice WALKING | Just-FAITH

## *A Discipleship Journey with College Students*

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor... sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim a year of God's favor.*

*Luke 4: 18-19*

*Imagine what would happen to us if we really tried to live the Gospel!*

College JusticeWalking is a unique “prophet-raising” process that brings college students into a small, committed community. Over the course of one university semester, J-Walkers dialogue, reflect and experiment with Gospel-living and practicing Catholic social teaching.

### ***College J-Walkers are pilgrims in pursuit of justice.***

J-Walkers look *at* current realities and their life experiences, look *into* their interior life, and look *through* the witness of prophetic people who show us the possibilities of life lived with integrity and compassion.

*J-Walking (“jaywalking”) means . . . going against the flow . . . choosing unconventional paths . . . crossing social and cultural boundaries . . . entering into “unlikely” relationships . . . and gaining insightful perspectives through personal encounters, reflection and dialogue.*

- ***College JusticeWalking will be offered to students at (campus/diocese) beginning (day/month).***
- ***Those interested in participating should contact (name/phone/email).***
- ***The deadline for applications is (day/month).***

***For more information on College JusticeWalking contact:***

***(Name and contact information of CJW coordinator/s)***

*In J-Walking we are helped to take the focus off ourselves and encouraged to use our gifts to reach out to others.*

Lauren Hayes

**[www.justfaith.org](http://www.justfaith.org)**

Attachment 2

***Bulletin Insert or Newspaper Announcement***

***College JusticeWalking: A Discipleship Journey with College Students***

*When has your faith challenged you to cross a line,  
to move out of your comfort zone and engage the world?*

College JusticeWalking is a unique approach to living out our Catholic faith that brings together a small group of college students with at least one older mentor in order to practice “*J-Walking the Gospel.*”

Created by JustFaith Ministries, this semester-long process includes: dialogue, prayer, pilgrimage, a public presentation, and hands-on experiments with living justly.

College JusticeWalking will be offered on our campus starting this *(date)*.  
Participation is limited to 6-12 people.

The application deadline for College J-Walking is *(date)*.

For information on how you may apply to become a College JusticeWalker, contact *(name, phone, email)*.

*JustFaith Ministries works in partnership with Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Relief Services and Catholic Charities USA.*

[www.justfaith.org](http://www.justfaith.org)

## Attachment 3

**JusticeWalking Schedule 2009-2010**

Use this outline to schedule J-Walking events.

Event/Theme	Co-Facilitators	Date	Time	Place
<b>Informational Meeting</b>				
Blessing the Process				
<b>Opening Retreat (Overnight)</b>				
Sacred and Significant*				
Image and Likeness				
Right and Responsible Living*				
<b>Justice Pilgrimage</b>				
Embracing Poverty				
Table Space*				
Justifiable Peace				
For the Good of All*				
<b>Commissioning Retreat (Overnight)</b>				

\* These sessions take place at the social service agency adopted by the group.

**Flexible Scheduling**

The J-Walking process is made up of three main components: 1) the weekly sessions, 2) the Opening and Commissioning Retreats (including the public dialogue session), and 3) the Justice Pilgrimage. These sessions will most likely be scheduled at weekly interviews, so as to fit into the schedule of a typical university semester. However, you are encouraged to use your discretion to arrive at the arrangement best suited to your group's needs. J-Walkers are expected to read, reflect and journal between meetings. Encourage J-Walkers to organize occasional social gatherings to deepen community and enjoy the blessing of each other's company.

Attachment 4 (Page 1)

Application Form

College Justice WALKING | Just FAITH

Sponsored by

(Name of college/university/sponsoring agency)

Application Form 2009-2010

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement of Commitment**

*College JusticeWalking requires a significant commitment of time and energy to a challenging experience involving, regular meetings (over several weeks), reading, dialogue, reflection, spiritual practices, and visits to a social service agency. Participants must commit to full presence and participation from beginning to end to make this a life-giving experience for everyone.*

*Attempts will be made to schedule the process around study expectations and other demands. Please sign below to indicate that you are aware of the commitment and are willing to comply.*

**Participant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Respond to these questions in the space below:

○ *I am interested in trying to live out Gospel and church teachings about justice because...*

○ *When I think about Gospel justice or social teachings, the following places, people, and experiences come to mind...*

Attachment 4 (Page 2)

**RETURNING THE APPLICATION**

The deadline for this application is \_\_\_\_\_  
Please return this form with a \$[INSERT APPROPRIATE FEE HERE] deposit.

Make checks payable to: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NOTES:

Visit [www.justfaith.org](http://www.justfaith.org) for more information about JusticeWalking.

## Attachment 5(Page 1)

**Informational Meeting**

**You will need:** a copy of the General Overview and Getting Started documents; promotional fliers; markers; newsprint or white board; a piece of light-colored cotton fabric (4 ft-by-4 ft); a Bible marked at Luke 4:18-19 and 6:12-26; a small bowl of water; a candle and matches; a recent newspaper; a cross or crucifix; refreshments (optional).

**Setup**

- Have copies of the promotional (flier and application) materials and the resources (books, DVD and CD) available.
- If there is a white board or poster, make a general outline of the main components of the College J-Walking process (sessions, social service agency, dialogues, pilgrimage, and spiritual practices).
- Place the candle, Bible, small bowl of water, newspaper, and cross on the prayer cloth in the center of the room. Set a circle of chairs around the cloth. (This prayer cloth will be written on and decorated with colored markers during the College J-Walking process.)
- Select a newspaper story that cries out for a compassionate response to share during the opening prayer.
- Identify two people to read from Scripture.
- Welcome people as they arrive, making sure everyone feels included, and have refreshments available.

**Outline**

Greeting and welcome	10 minutes
Opening Prayer	15 minutes
Presentation of J-Walking process	15 minutes
Calendar, Dates and Scheduling	15 minutes
Closing Blessing	5 minutes

**Opening Prayer**

- CJW coordinators introduce themselves, and invite prospective participants to introduce each other to the rest of the group.
- Light the candle, calling people into mindfulness of the presence of the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of compassionate justice.
- Listen to the first reading from Luke 4:18-19 (Jesus' prophetic mission to bring release, sight, and good news to a broken world).
- Invite people to hold in prayer a person or a situation (local or global) in need of insight, release, healing or good news.
- Prayerfully outline a current story from the newspaper that cries out for a compassionate response. Close this reflection with a short refrain like "Lamb of God..." or "Lord Have mercy..."
- Offer these words:
 

***Let us renew the commitment of our baptism - to walk the way of the cross in this broken world as prophetic people.***
- Take up the bowl of water, walk around the circle, and ask people to dip their fingers and make the sign of the cross.

