

The “GIFT” of Sponsoring a Pilgrim

Sponsoring a pilgrim can be exciting, scary and create lots of question...LOTS! For you and your potential pilgrim. We all want to share the experience of sponsoring a pilgrim...but, careful prayer will allow God the opportunity to let us be a part of an awesome journey with our pilgrims....even in their 4th days...but, it must be in HIS time...not ours. Some have been turned “off” by well meaning over-zealous friends who want them to GO! Try to remember when you were asked, how you were asked, how it was presented and why it was presented...then, think of the person you will be sharing with...and go to prayer before even bringing it up. God will be in it with you as you share!

Be ready if the answer is “NO”...and do not take it personally. They are not saying “I don’t like YOU!” They are simply not ready to commit to an Emmaus Walk...maybe because they have questions, do not know enough about it...or maybe they have been frightened by someone else’s opinion of the Walk. Be very open and understanding when you receive their answer...whether it is a yes or no. Then, pray again! Our time is certainly not God’s perfect timing...consider your Walk. Was it the perfect time for you?

Be the messenger for Jesus...gently & caring and understanding when sponsoring.

Also, be cautious when registering pilgrims. Carefully read a registration form...both sides, before you register your next pilgrim. The questions are meant for you to ask your pilgrim and share information as you ask. It is inappropriate to give a person a registration form...as it is not explained on the form...but questions them in areas they have no idea about...like, “can you partake in open communion?” and “has Reunion Group &/or Gathering been explained to you?” These are questions that require explanations or that may frighten them and keep them from going on a walk if not properly explained at the time of registration. The 2nd side even asks questions of the sponsor, like will you be in prayer for them and their family? This includes all weekend activities and taking the applicant to their first Reunion Group Meeting? This may confuse your potential pilgrim and cause undue stress & questions for them as you go through the questions. Always set a time to get together and fill in the registration form for them as you go through the questions. This has alleviated many situations of concern for many pilgrims.

Remember, this is their Walk with Jesus...not ours...represent the heart, hands, feet and voice of Jesus as you offer this journey to others...and you will enjoy sponsoring as they see Jesus in His Time!

May God bless you as you pray about your next pilgrim for an Emmaus Walk.

DeColores!

Randi