



## **WHAT IS FACE TO FACE**

The goal of Face to Face is to resource a group within the Christian community to provide leadership for a spiritual formation experience for individuals and customised to meet the needs and requirements of retired persons. Face to Face is portable and co-ed. It can be presented in retirement villages, old age homes and churches. The overarching theme is Living in Grace.

Face to Face is designed for people aged sixty and older who may have experienced the loss of a spouse or other loss, and for those facing end of life issues. Because of their health and energy levels, they require a longer schedule than three days and shorter sessions than is typical of an Emmaus Walk.

Major adjustments have thus been made to the authorised Emmaus manuals. This adapted model presents the basic theological and biblical content of Emmaus without the typical Emmaus format. This model will function under the sponsorship and guidance of and accountability to current local Emmaus Boards that choose to sponsor it. Local Emmaus communities and Conference Team members will use this material in the formation and goals of leadership.

The Face to Face model is tailored to meet senior men and women on their own terms. There are some notable differences:

- Pilgrims will not be asked to remove their watches.
- The talks are abbreviated versions of those that the pilgrims hear in an Emmaus Walk.
- There are 14 talks not 15 with a new talk entitled Living Fully and Dying well being given by an outside speaker who does not have to be an Emmaus member.
- It can take place over a period of either 2, 3, 4 or 8 weeks
- The fees for Face to Face are much lower
- There are no assistant table leaders

The sessions will offer exciting and hospitable opportunities for Christian learning. The pilgrims will be exposed to systematic theology, tasty refreshments, lots of laughs and several surprising personal encounters and memorable spiritual breakthroughs. They will also worship, sing, joke with one another, experience an avalanche of God's grace, and talk about no one but Jesus and ourselves – together! Most seniors will fare better in this model that is tailor-made for them, by other seniors.

We anticipate that this simpler, amended model will offer multiple surprises, strengths and delights to older adults like us.

Features that are unique to Face to Face are:

- Face to Face has Encounters; Emmaus has Walks
- Face to Face has Next Days; Emmaus has Fourth Days
- Participants are pilgrims in both Face to Face and Emmaus
- Face to Face is a complete spiritual experience in the spirit of the Walk to Emmaus.
- Face to Face is not to be compared to an Emmaus Walk. It is not a second-rate experience. Pilgrims on a Face to Face Encounter will experience a spiritually enriching experience.

The model has been authorised by the International Office of the Walk to Emmaus at Upper Room Ministries.