

Frequently Asked Questions

Samuel Clear answers questions on Walk4One

Why are you doing this walk? To pray for the unity of Christians and invite the world to pray for unity.

What made you decide to walk around the world? Why walk? Quite simply, to draw *attention* to unity. The Church is the Body of Christ and it is broken. To peacefully travel the world praying and inviting prayer I hope, will encourage all Christians to embrace a desire to be united - completely. One love, One in Christ, One World. And spreading a message via email just doesn't cut it anymore.

How are you funding the journey? Personally. I sold my Land Rover and saved any money I could for the year leading up to leaving Australia.

How long did it take you to organise a journey like this? 12 Months of intense map reading and emailing. I have planned each day for 18months of walking (on an excel spreadsheet) so it took a long time to piece the route together, town by town. I also spent a good 5 months preparing the right gear to accompany me on the journey.

You are passing through a lot of countries. Did you try to learn any of the languages? I travel through 9 different languages on the trip. I tried to learn some Spanish before I left but didn't get past, "I don't speak Spanish". I was working full-time and planning the trip plus doing intense fitness work, so it got pushed aside. I'm learning as I go!

How far are you walking each day? I walk between 30 and 50km each day with a rest day every 7 to 10 days. My longest day thus far was 66km.

Have you had any injuries so far? Only one of significance. I have a badly injured big toe. It bleeds regularly and needs attention every few hours. It has been this way for 6 weeks or so. It is healing slowly. I also tore a butt muscle getting into my hammock, but that doesn't really count. Does it?

Where are you sleeping as you walk? I don't sleep walk as far as I know. When I stop walking I sleep wherever I can. I've slept in Hotels, Ministers, Priests and Bishops houses, slept on farms, in random peoples houses, I've slept under a semi-trailer, on the side of the road and in guard houses. Anywhere.

What kind of unity are you talking about? What does this mean for Christianity? To be honest, I've often wondered what true unity does look like. As I've walked I've prayed and thought about this a lot. True unity certainly isn't conformity. Unity is being able to embrace with God's love, the God given variety that makes each person so uniquely beautiful, yet at the same time holding onto a common truth of who God is, who we are in God, what the church is and how God has shown his

love to us. In all honesty, true unity is difficult to imagine. I think we just make excuses. We know what unity is, and we don't have it.

What do you think will make unity possible? A desire for it, love and above all, prayer. A lot of humility wouldn't go astray either.

I can't walk around the world. What can I do to help bring unity between Christians? Yes you can, I'll teach you! Though, if you can't get the time off work... The most important thing to do is to pray, pray and pray some more! To pray for unity, to pray for humility and to pray for each other. We can also seek to understand other churches. It can be daunting and counter-productive to seek to understand those who are at the opposite end of the spectrum to our own church, so perhaps begin with those churches with whom you have a lot in common. Piece by piece the body can be reformed by the grace of God!