The following group activities were developed by Jornadistas at one of the formation classes. Feel free to use them for your group meetings.

**Developed by Jornadistas for Jornada Groups**

**Name of Activity:** Spark

**Materials needed:**

* + Vase
  + 40 Paper balls two different colors

**Activity:**

1. Group of participants are split into two teams
2. Each will have paper balls to throw into the vase
3. Balls are thrown continuously until time is up

**Questions for discussion following activity:**

* What are ways you block God’s message?
* Name a time you received God’s message?

**The aim** of this activity is to help participants remain open to God’s message:

**Biblical reading** for reflection- 2 Peter 3:9

**Reflection:**

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

**Activity name:** Light Run

**Duration:** 10 – 15 minutes

**Materials:**

* Tea lights
* Items for obstacles – garbage can, cones, chairs, tables- whatever is accessible

**Activity:**

1. Prepare the obstacle course
2. Line up participants to place one tea light on their head
3. Begin obstacle course walk, one at a time

**Questions following the activity:**

* What do you think the light represents?
* What do the obstacles represent?
* Was it hard to maintain the light? How many times did you drop the light?

**Scriptural reading for reflection**: John 8:12

**Reflection:**

The obstacles represent life and the tea lights represent the light within us. Sometimes it is hard to maintain the light within us as we struggle with life issues and obstacles. How important is it to keep the light?

**Activity name:** Don’t Lose Your Marbles!

**Duration:** 10 -15 minutes

**Materials:**

* Marbles

**Activity:**

1. Group will pick a handful of marbles
2. Once everyone has marbles they go around and if they have a white marble they are closer to God; a dark blue marble pulls you away; light blue improve your relationship

**Questions following the activity:**

* What brings you closer to God?
* What pulls you away from God?
* What can you do to improve your relationship with God?

**Scriptural reading for reflection**: Matthew 11:19

**Reflection:**

“The son of man came eating and drinking; and they say, “Behold, a man who eats varaciously and drinks wine, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.” But wisdom is justified by her sons.” God eats with everyone.

**Activity name:** Flowing Faith

**Duration:** 10 -15 minutes

**Materials:**

* Cardboard
* Construction paper
* Popsicle sticks
* Glue
* Tape
* Art supplies
* Pens
* Bowl of water
* Small objects that will sink in water

**Activity:**

1. Pick an object that you think would withstand the waters of faith
2. Once you pick an object write your name and gently place on water
3. After 2 minutes notice where your object is in the water

**Questions following the activity:**

* How does this measure your faith? (Now shake the bowl)
* Where is your faith now?
* Can your faith withstand temptations of life?

**Scriptural reading for reflection:** Matthew 14: 27-33

**Activity name:** In the Potter’s Hand!

**Duration:** 15 minutes

**Materials:**

* Clay

**Activity:**

1. Mold clay into pots
2. Display clay pots (all different sizes)
3. Take a good look at imperfections

**Questions following the activity:**

* What makes you vulnerable?
* How comfortable are you allowing the Lord to mold you?

**Scriptural reading for reflection:** Jeremiah 18:2-6

**Reflection:**

No pot is perfect., all have flaws. Even though we’re all imperfect. We need to know that God doesn’t make mistakes like we do. In retrospect we all need to be filled with God’s love through the Holy Spirit. In order for us to be filled and molded by God’s loving grace we need to be soft. Let us accept our flaws, become soft and let God fill our lives.