

Why Not Do Two Walk 4 Jesus Events in a Year?

Some people expected we would do the event in June and then in August 2023 as was requested. Below are some of the reasons we did not and believe it is not suitable to have it done multiple times in a year:

1. **One**, if done by two separate organisers, it is divisive to the Body of Christ. Each organiser will be pulling the church leaders and Christians in two different directions. A case in point was what happened the previous year 2022 when a preacher from another city did the event in the month of March and combined it with another secular event. He first began by approaching one of our supporters for the event asking them to do it with him instead of with us. They told him it was divisive and that it was not right. And given he knew us, they asked him to connect with us. He did. We told him we had it planned for June. We told him we moved it from July to June in later years so that our team and other participants at the Walk event will be free to attend summer events in July and August to share the gospel, which is the ultimate purpose of the Walk 4 Jesus event as described above. He insisted he wanted the event in Edmonton done in March because he has the same event planned in his city for June. So, it was for his own scheduling convenience as he said he could not have the same event in two different cities same month. Then we wondered why would he still want to do it in Edmonton having learned, that as usual, there was a plan for it in June by us. We learned from those who attended the march event that it was a protest. But this also negatively impacted our Walk 4 Jesus event in June as we were not motivated to go to church leaders to request for the same event. And there was some sort of division.
2. **Two**, even if done by the same organiser, it would lead to participant fatigue. Pastors and other church leaders have their own assignments and responsibility towards their flock. They also need to respond in obedience for whatever Beautiful Holy Spirit is asking them to do. Many of them are generally supportive of the Walk 4 Jesus idea in which believers of different churches and denominations are united in worshipping and proclaiming Jesus publicly. Calling them again for the same event twice within the year would lead to participation fatigue. That was why we cancelled the event scheduled for June last year when we decided to hold the event in August on request by the guest evangelist and given what happened the previous year when it was held twice. We were given the impression it was a one-off request to accommodate the evangelist's schedule.
3. **Three**, if done by the same organiser or two separate organisers, it would lead to organiser fatigue. Volunteers spend time in supporting the execution of the event. They also have their own personal or ministry or church activities they need to attend to. More importantly, many of those who volunteer are active or potential street evangelists who should not be tied up because of an event. But they would be fatigued with organizing events upon events like what is done in the church walls and eventually be isolated from the people we are trying to reach.
4. **Four, negative public perception and public fatigue.** The event is held with some form of road rolling closure by the city police. Public safety concern is factored in. And some upset to traffic is experienced by the public. Also, with the use of loud speakers, often times the members of the public complain about noise from street activities. But this would be considered arguably reasonable if it's only once in a year. If it is done multiple times, even though it would be within our right to do so, it would further the negative perception of Christians that the devil has put out in the minds of people and we would gradually be seen as causing public nuisance instead of presenting Jesus to the community who desperately need Him.

Why is it called "Walk 4 Jesus" as opposed to the more popular term "March 4 Jesus"?

We try to keep to the patterns prescribed by Holy Spirit who gave us the vision for the event seven years ago. We pay attention and are sensitive to details of His leading even up to the choice of worship songs used at the event, the message displayed on event t-shirts, the chanting of "Jesus is Lord, Jesus is King" for multiple times and other things. While we do not know precisely why Holy Spirit called it "WALK 4 JESUS EDMONTON", we understand that the Spirit of God is aware that events of similar nature are called March

4 Jesus elsewhere. Perhaps He chose to use the word “walk” to set a more invitational, non-combative, non-agitative or non-fighting tone for the campaign as the word “march” is often associated with some form of protest. Whatever the case is, we stick to the script He prescribed for the event in Edmonton. We do not remove His ancient landmarks. It is the same need for us to stay in obedience to Holy Spirit that kept us going with this event even after some two pastors asked us to step down for their favorite person. Thankfully, many believers don’t have a problem with the choice of words as they mean one and the same thing. We cannot pretend not to understand the Lord’s instruction to us when He said “they did not call you. I called you!” He even gave us a song for his instruction so we don’t pretend that we don’t know that He would have us continue what He called us to do. We thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to work in complete obedience to His leading.