

Running “Before You Walk Away”

You are not the speaker. You are the person who makes the room safe for arguing.

Before the evening

- Pick a speaker who has read the script twice — out loud, once. The script is at nobeginning.org/talkscript.html (print it from the page).
- Print the poster, write in date, time, place, speaker. Door, notice board, family WhatsApp.
- Chairs facing the speaker, kids in front, parents behind — the talk is aimed at the kids.
- Optional: one phone or projector to show the Night Road for thirty seconds. Test it before.

The run of show

–0:15	Room ready. Water for the speaker. You have read this page.
0:00	Your welcome — one minute, two sentences. Introduce the speaker, then make the promise that sets the whole tone: “ <i>Nobody will tell you what to believe tonight, and the best question wins.</i> ” Then sit down.
0:01	The talk. Twenty minutes. Do not interrupt, do not add, do not stand at the side nodding. Sit with the parents.
0:21	The argument. Ten minutes. Your one job: protect the skeptics. Hand the first question to the most unconvinced-looking kid in the room. If a parent starts lecturing, smile and return the microphone to a kid.
0:31	The one ask. Everyone opens nobeginning.org tonight — the walk-away page, or one night of the Night Road. That is the entire homework.
later	Same evening, send the follow-up message below to the group. Same evening matters — tomorrow it is homework, tonight it is momentum.

When a kid pushes back hard

- That is the point of the evening — say so, out loud, and mean it.
- Never answer with authority (“because our tradition says”). The speaker has the honest answers; the site has the Debate Hall.
- An unanswered question is a win: “Nobody in this room knows. Bring it to nobeginning.org/qa.html and it gets answered with sources.”

Never do

- No attendance sheet, no sign-ups, no emails collected.
- No one is made to speak, recite, or agree.
- No recording the kids' questions.
- No follow-up guilt. One message, then the site does its own arguing.

The follow-up message — send it as it is

“Thanks for coming tonight. The whole argument, the game, and the seventeen objections are here — free, no sign-ups: nobeginning.org/walkaway.html. The kid who argues best gets to pick the next talk.”