



Senior Youth Programme Autumn Term 2016-17

Series	Date	Session Title	Scripture	Notes
Launch	4 Sep 2016	(Launch Session)	-	Starting the new ministry year and settling in.
Divine Humour <i>The Unexpected Jesus</i>	11 Sep 2016	1. 'Punch Lines and Improvisation'	Mark 10:17-31	This light-hearted series to start the year allows our youths to uncover the gift of laughter in their spiritual journeys, based on Jesus' use of improvisation, inside jokes and observational humour which led to some riotous punchlines for our lives.
	18 Sep 2016	2. 'Inside Jokes'	Matt. 15:14; 23:24	
	25 Sep 2016	3. 'Observational Comedy'	Matthew 4:18-22	
Me and the Church <i>Living Out the Four Acts of Love</i>	2 Oct 2016	1. 'Radical Hospitality'	Matthew 28:18-20	During the sermon series 'I Am a Church Member,' our senior youth groups will seek to exercise what God created his church for - [Continued below..]
	9 Oct 2016	2. 'Fearless Conversation'	Luke 2:41-52	
Fellowship Week	16 Oct 2016	(Social Session)	-	Opportunity for intentional relationship building.
Me and the Church <i>Living Out the Four Acts of Love</i>	23 Oct 2016	3. 'Genuine Humility'	Philippians 2:1-11	[continued...] to be a vibrant, Jesus-centred community that seeks people who are spiritually lost and serves as a powerful point of connection to Christ.
	30 Oct 2016	4. 'Divine Anticipation'	Matthew 26:26-29	
CCiL Mission Conference	6 Nov 2016	(Mission Sunday)	-	Youth members to join CCiL Mission Sunday.
Recording the Life of Jesus <i>Encountering Transformation in the Gospels</i>	13 Nov 2016	1. 'Jesus is a Friend'	Matthew 9:9-13	During the sermon series 'Encountering Jesus, Becoming Like Jesus,' our senior youths will also be learning from the powerful accounts of Jesus' life. Young people are constantly learning, but most of all, we want them to learn to follow Jesus, love him, and draw close to him as they build a vibrant relationship with him.
	20 Nov 2016	2. 'Jesus Calms Our Storms'	Mark 4:35-41	
	27 Nov 2016	3. 'Jesus Knows Best'	Luke 5:1-11	
	4 Dec 2016	4. 'Jesus Knows Us by Name'	John 20:1-18	
Focus Week	11 Dec 2016	(Contemporary Issue or Questions Session)	-	Opportunity to engage with any issue or questions.
Christmas	18 Dec 2016	(Christmas Celebration)	-	-
	25 Dec 2016	(Christmas Break)	-	-

Divine Humour - *The Unexpected Jesus*

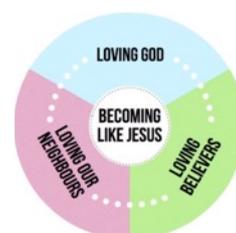
Jesus has a sense of humour. His jokes aren't cruel, but foster life, allowing us to better appreciate peculiar things with fresh perspective. In our effort to present profound aspects of Christianity and the cross, sometimes we overlook Jesus' joy and humour, which make his grace even more amazing.

This light-hearted series to start the year allows our youths to uncover the gift of laughter in their spiritual journeys, based on Jesus' use of improvisation, inside jokes and observational humour which led to some riotous punchlines for our lives.

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| 11 Sep | 1. 'Punch Lines and Improvisation' | Mark 10:17-31 |
| | During Jesus' earthly ministry, he embodied this unique humour. His teaching regularly displayed the impeccable timing, radical irony, and command of a crowd that stand-up comedians use to craft the perfect punch line. | |
| 18 Sep | 2. 'Inside Jokes' | Matthew 15:14; 23:24 |
| | Inside jokes can create community between friends but also be sobering reminders to prideful people of past experiences. Jesus was a master of using inside language for both purposes. | |
| 25 Sep | 3. 'Observational Comedy' | Matthew 4:18-22 |
| | Observational comedy involves pointing out absurd things that might go unnoticed. This can occur spiritually when we don't just respond to God but consider why he presented himself the way he did. | |

Objectives:

- What: Jesus has a greater sense of humour than we tend to give him credit for. Without it, we miss out on a vital part of our spiritual journey.
- Why: Divine humour is present all throughout the Bible, though it's sometimes more subtle than obvious.
- How: Our young people will draw on what they know about humour to uncover fun aspects of Jesus that can turn their world upside down.



Me and the Church - *Living Out the Four Acts of Love*

During the CCiL sermon series 'I Am a Church Member,' our senior youth groups will seek to exercise what God created his church for - to be a vibrant, Jesus-centred community that seeks people who are spiritually lost and serves as a powerful point of connection to Christ.

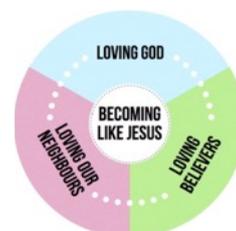
Not all Christian teenagers fully understand or willingly grow into what this means and end up becoming inwardly focused by default. Those looking in at the church can be equally hindered if they feel judged or lectured by church-going peers, yielding a generation that struggles with genuinely experiencing the greatness of Christ and the hope he offers.

This series will unpack a remedy: four acts of love that are rooted in Scripture and can practically root others into a close, growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

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| 2 Oct | 1. 'Radical Hospitality' | Matthew 28:18-20 | |
| | This session gives our young people a foundation for helping others far from Jesus feel welcomed in his love. | | |
| 9 Oct | 2. 'Fearless Conversation' | Luke 2:41-52 | |
| | This session will help our young people understand how church is intended to be a community where we explore tough questions and topics in life. | | |
| | | | (16 Oct: Social Session) |
| 23 Oct | 3. 'Genuine Humility' | Philippians 2:1-11 | |
| | Jesus' ministry wasn't about coming down hard on everyone, nor was it about ignoring the truth of how their sin separated them from God. He walked this tension by drawing people in through genuine humility that leaked out as an act of love. | | |
| 30 Oct | 4. 'Divine Anticipation' | Matthew 26:26-29 | |
| | This is the true nature of divine anticipation: expecting to have a relational encounter with God through the people and situations around us in ways that somehow make the past, present, and future all matter at once. | | |
| | | | (6 Nov: Mission Sunday) |

Objectives:

- What: Four simple acts of love can reclaim and reframe what it means for young people to be the church.
- Why: Jesus embodied these practices and practically loved others into a transformational relationship with him.
- How: Our young people can become Jesus' ambassadors and representatives who find relevant ways to connect his unchanging message within an ever-changing culture.



Recording the Life of Jesus - *Encountering Transformation in the Gospels*

Young people are constantly learning - maths, science, history, life skills, how to grow up... Most of all, we want them to learn to follow Jesus, love him, and draw close to him as they build a vibrant relationship with him.

With countless moments and accounts in Scripture to choose from, we want to give our young people a good look at the life of Jesus. During the CCL sermon series 'Encountering Jesus, Becoming Like Jesus,' our senior youth groups will also be learning from the powerful accounts of Jesus' life from across the gospels.

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| 13 Nov | 1. 'Jesus is a Friend' | Matthew 9:9-13 |
| | Jesus showed the true meaning of friendship. He hung out with and loved all kinds of people - those who were making great choices and those who were considered the lowest of the low. | |
| 20 Nov | 2. 'Jesus Calms Our Storms' | Mark 4:35-41 |
| | Storms will come, and storms will go. This session will help our young people to discover how Jesus wants us to get in the boat with him, to focus on him, and to never underestimate his power. | |
| 27 Nov | 3. 'Jesus Knows Best' | Luke 5:1-11 |
| | This session will help our young people see how Jesus knows and cares about their everyday lives - even the mundane moments. He wants them to discover the joy of living their lives for him. | |
| 4 Dec | 4. 'Jesus Knows Us by Name' | John 20:1-18 |
| | Life, stress, priorities, distractions, and even grief can blind us from recognising Jesus and his vision for us. But Jesus died and rose again for each of us, wants us to recognise him, and wants us to tell others what we've seen. | |

Objectives:

- What: We can learn about Jesus as we're discovering how to build and deepen our personal relationship with him.
- Why: Just learning about Jesus isn't enough - we can only have eternal life and an abundant life by drawing close to him and having a personal relationship with him.
- How: Through exploring Scriptures from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, our young people can have a better understanding of Jesus' life and the transformational impact of a relationship with him.

