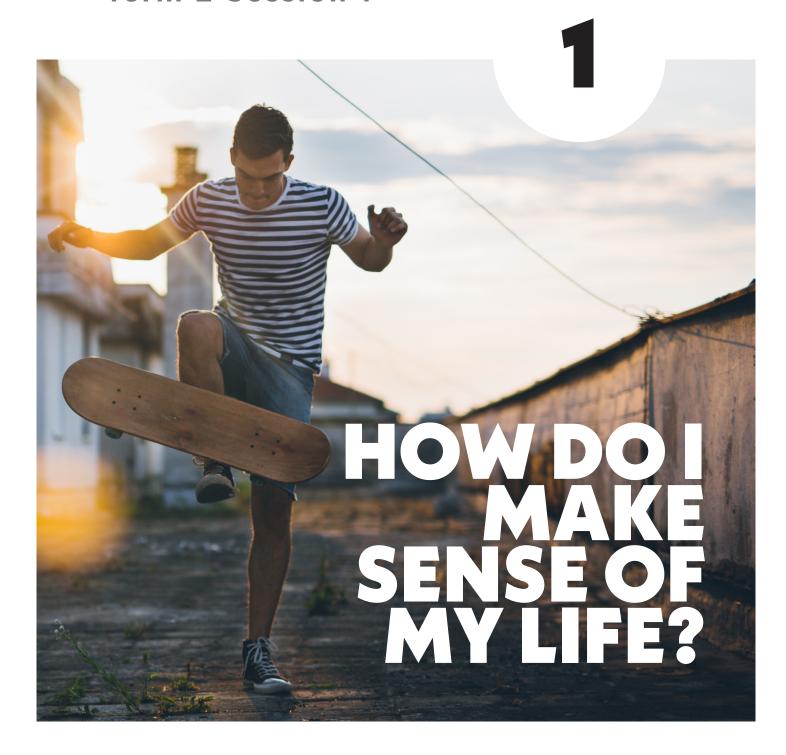
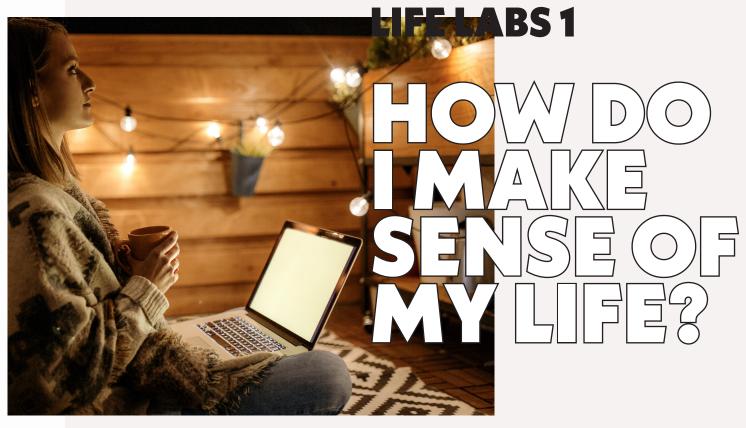




## **GROUP MATERIAL Term 2 Session 1**



#### **INTRODUCTION**



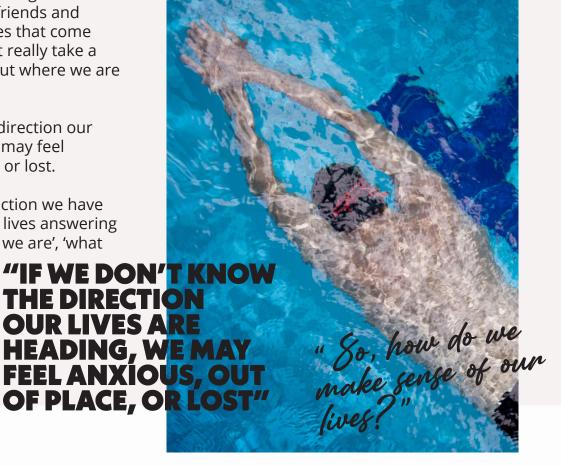
Life can be busy. We can get so caught up in school, friends and different opportunities that come our way that we don't really take a moment to think about where we are going.

If we don't know the direction our lives are heading, we may feel anxious, out of place, or lost.

To figure out our direction we have to make sense of our lives answering questions like 'where we are', 'what

we want', and 'how we get the-re'.

So, how do we make sense of our lives?



### PLAY THE DICE FRENZY GAME

HOW DID YOU GO WITH THE CAME? WAS IT EASY TO MAKE DECISIONS QUICKLY? DID YOU EVER COTHE WRONG DIRECTION?

## DO THE EXAMEN ACTIVITY

The Examen is an activity you can do every day to reflect on your day. You can also do it in many ways.

You might like to use the questions as headings in journal and write down your thoughts or take the questions with you as you go for a walk, or even find somewhere quiet and sit reflecting on the questions.

Whatever works best for you!

#### Examen questions:

- What were some highs? What were the times you felt most happy, excited, or alive?
- What were some lows? What were the moments you disliked, struggled, or felt down?
- What are you thankful for today?
- What would you do differently tomorrow?
- When you look back at your day, where have you seen God? It may have been moments of joy, friendship, peace or comfort.
- What are you looking forward to? What do you hope for tomorrow?



<sup>16</sup>Always be joyful.

<sup>17</sup>Never stop praying.

<sup>18</sup>Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

<sup>19</sup>Do not stifle the Holy Spirit.

<sup>20</sup>Do not scoff at prophecies,

<sup>21</sup>but test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good.



<sup>22</sup>Stay away from every kind of evil.



#### CONCLUSION



"WHEN WE FEEL OUT OF PLACE OR LOST, THERE ARE WAYS WE CAN PAUSE AND REFLECT WITH JESUS"

Life can be busy.

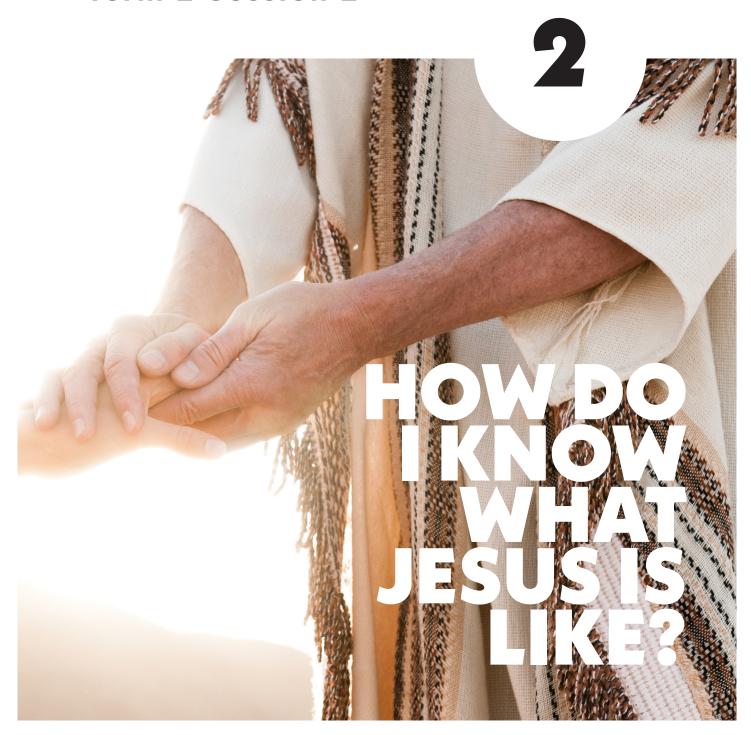
We can get so caught up that we don't take a moment to think about where we are going or make sense of our lives. The Good News is that even when we feel out of place or lost, there are ways we can pause and reflect with Jesus.

When we take time to reflect, we can make sense of our lives.





## **GROUP MATERIAL Term 2 Session 2**



#### INTRODUCTION



There are a lot of voices in society that we can choose to listen to.

When we are looking for guidance, it can be hard to know which voice will be helpful.

Some people look to Jesus for guidance, but what does that mean?

There's lots of different ideas about what Jesus is like.

Some of them are facts and some of them are opinions.

How do we know what Jesus is really like?

"THERE'S LOT DIFFERENT IN ABOUT WHA



### PLAY THE WHO AM I? GAME

Celebrity name:_	 
Fact 1:	
Fact 2:	
Fact 3:	
Fact 4:	
Fact 5:	

HOW DID YOU CO WITH THE CAME! HOW DID YOU DECIDE WHAT FACTS TO WRITE DOWN! SETEASTED WOULD WOULD

# DO THE JESUS QUIZ ACTIVITY

1. Jesus was a real person in his tory. True or false? A:
2. Before Jesus started his ministry what was his job? A:
3. Jesus was an only child. True or false. A:
4. Who was the Roman Emperor at the time of Jesus' birth?

5. Which was Jesus' hometown: a) Bethlehem b) Jerusalem c) Nazareth A:
6. Jesus' last name was Christ. True or false. A:
7. Jesus was: a. a Christian b. a Jew c. a Roman. A:
8. We know what Jesus looked like based off descriptions and the time that he lived. True or false. A:
9. Where did Jesus live during his ministry? A:
10. Jesus didn't let women follow him. True or false. A:

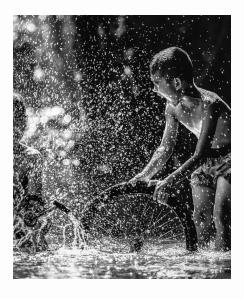
Luke 1:1-4

<sup>1</sup>Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us.

<sup>2</sup>They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples.

<sup>3</sup>Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honourable Theophilus,

4so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught.







## How was the pible made?

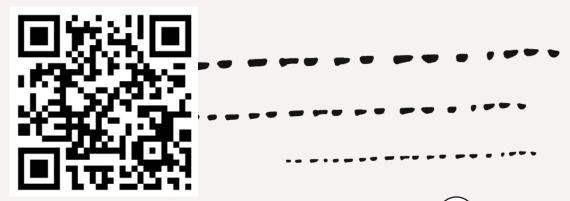
The Bible is a huge book made up of a collection of smaller books that God has given his people. These books were written over a long period of time, but they all come together to tell one unified story that ultimately points to Jesus.

The Old Testament was fully established by the time Jesus was born, and the New Testament was written by the apostles or people closely connected to an apostle and established by the 4th Century.

The books included in the New Testament were decided by three factors: what they said about Jesus, if they were being used by the churches already, and a connection to an apostle. The Bible is structured by groups of themes.

These themes point to the overall message of the Bible, which is God's love for his people, and the redemption and life that Jesus brings. If you're interested in finding out more, check out the bibleproject.com or check out the video below via the QR code.

https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/what-is-bible/



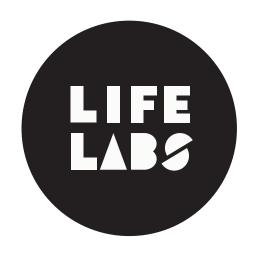
#### CONCLUSION



There are a lot of voices in society that we can choose to listen to for guidance, but it can be hard to know which are helpful.

If we choose to look to Jesus for guidance, we can find different opinions about what he is like. The Good News is we can know who Jesus is through what is written in the Bible.

When we know what Jesus is like we can look to him for guidance.





### **GROUP MATERIAL Term 2 Session 3**



#### INTRODUCTION



There are moments in our lives when we aren't sure which way to go.

It could be when making decisions about the future or when facing troubles.

In those moments some people look to God for guidance, encouragement, and hope, but hearing from God can be different for each person.

So how do we hear God's voice?

"WHEN MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OR WHEN FACING TROUBLES"

"So how do we hear God's voice?"

### PLAY CAPTAIN CONFUSION GAME

HOW DID YOU GO WITH THE CAME? WAS IT DIFFICULT TO HEAR THE RIGHT VOICE?

## DO THE PRAYER STATIONS ACTIVITY

Letter from	God:
Dear	
Love God	
9000	

Draw your path activity

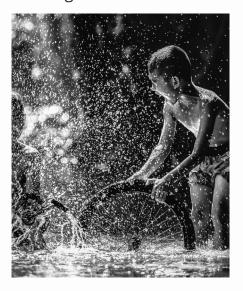
Mathew 3:13-1

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John

<sup>14</sup>But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

<sup>15</sup>But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires." So John agreed to baptize him.

<sup>16</sup>After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him.





<sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy."

## What do I do if it feels like God isn't speaking to me?

The Bible is full of stories of God speaking to his people. God spoke to Moses through the burning bush (Exodus 3), to the Prophets, and one time, through a donkey (Numbers 22).

We can look at stories like this and think that God speaks like this all the time to people. Yet in the Psalms we see the poets asking "where is God? Why is he hiding?" (Psalms 44:23-26).

Sometimes it seems like God is not speaking or moving at all. This is a very real experience for the people of God throughout history. However, we see from the scriptures that though it may take some time for us to hear God or to see him move, ultimately, he does.

Even if we don't hear directly from God for a period, we can still trust that He is speaking to us in other ways. Here are some different ways we can hear from God:

- Read the bible
- Spend time with other believers Do something nice for others
- Listen to worship music
- Spend time quietly alone
- Spend time in nature
- Read a book about your faith
- Volunteer at your church or a non-profit organisation.

You might hear from God doing something you have not tried before. Give it a go!

#### CONCLUSION

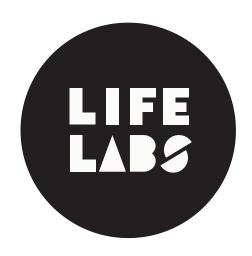


There are moments in our lives when we aren't sure which way to go, like making decisions or facing troubles.

In those moments some people look to God for guidance, but hearing from God can be different for each person.

The Good News is that God loves us and speaks to us.

There are many ways that we can learn to pray and listen to him.





## **GROUP MATERIAL**Term 2 Session 4



#### **INTRODUCTION**



LIFE LABS 4

We're all making our way in life but that doesn't mean we have to do it on our own.

If we go off on our own, we might get lost or get in trouble and there won't be anyone there to support us.

While others might not be able to tell us exactly which way to go, they can encourage us, and we can learn from them.

People who follow Jesus can learn

from the experiences and wisdom of other Christians.

How can others help us find God's guidance?

"PEOPLE WHO
FOLLOW JESUS
CAN LEARN FROM
THE EXPERIENCES
AND WISDOM
OF OTHE
CHRISTIANS"

"How can others help us find God's guidance?"

# PLAY THE SAFETY IN NUMBERS GAME

HOW DID YOU GO WITH THE GAME? DID
YOU GO ON YOUR OWN OR GONNEGT WITH
OTHERS? DO YOU FIND IT EASY TO GONNEGT
WITH OTHERS IN LIFE?

## DO THE PHOTO HUNT ACTIVITY

When we are looking for guidance we can learn from other people's perspectives. Below think of people in your life you connect with and what you have learnt from them.

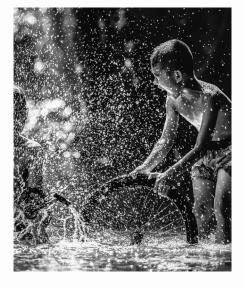
People in my life	What I have learnt form them

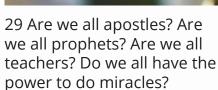
1 Coninthiours
12:27-31

27 All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.

28 Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church:

first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in unknown languages.





30 Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not!

31 So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts.

#### CONCLUSION



We're all making our way in life but that doesn't mean we have to do it on our own.

While others might not be able to tell us exactly which way to go, we can learn from them.

The Good News is that we have others to help support us and connect with God's guidance.

We can make our way in life with others by our side.





## **GROUP MATERIAL**Term 2 Session 5



#### **INTRODUCTION**



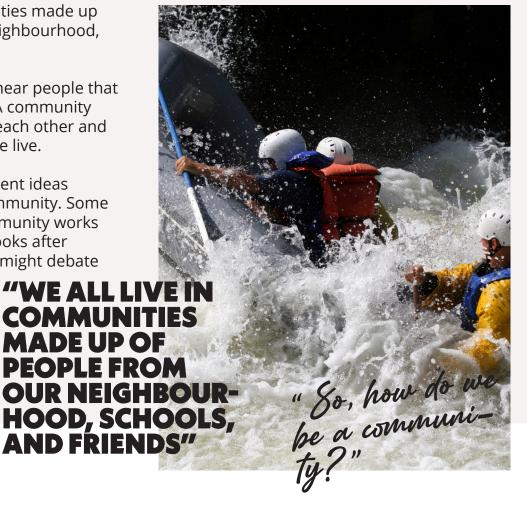
We all live in communities made up of people from our neighbourhood, schools, and friends.

But it's not just being near people that makes a community. A community is how we connect to each other and belong in the places we live.

There are lots of different ideas about how to be a community. Some people think that community works best when everyone looks after themselves, or others might debate who belongs.

If we don't know how to be a community there might be conflict, or we may feel isolated and alone.

So, how do we be a community?



# PLAY THE PARTY INVITATION GAME

UOY DID YOU GO WITH THE GAMES DID YOU SELL COT IN WITHOUTHERS WHEN SOME PEOPLE COT IN WITHOUTHERS OF IN WITHOUTHERS OF IN WITHOUTH SOME PEOPLE COT IN WITHOUTH SOME PEOPLE

## DO THE PERFECT PARTY ACTIVITY

Spend some time planning your perfect party. Who would you invite if you could invite anyone? Where would it be? What would you do? You can write down or draw a representation below for each category and then draw what your party would look like.

o would you invite?		What would you do?
	Where would it be?	
	MY PERFECT PARTY	
	WITERIECTIARTI	
How do you contribu	te to the party to make	it a good time?

Luke 14:12-24

<sup>12</sup>Then he turned to his host. "When you put on a luncheon or a banquet," he said, "don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbours. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward.

<sup>13</sup>Instead, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

14Then at the resurrection of the righteous, God will reward you for inviting those who could not repay you."

<sup>15</sup>Hearing this, a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, "What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!"



<sup>16</sup>Jesus replied with this story: "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations.

<sup>17</sup>When the banquet was to tell the guests, 'Come, the banquet is ready.'

<sup>18</sup>But they all began making excuses. One said, 'I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.'

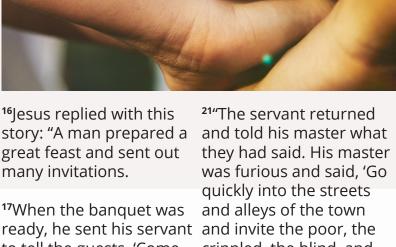
bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.'

<sup>20</sup>Another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.' quickly into the streets and alleys of the town crippled, the blind, and the lame.'

<sup>22</sup>After the servant had done this, he reported, There is still room for more.'

<sup>23</sup>So his master said, 'Go <sup>19</sup>Another said, 'I have just out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full.

> <sup>24</sup>For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet."



#### CONCLUSION



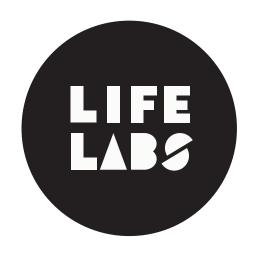
WE CAN
BUILD A
COMMUNITY
WHERE
PEOPLE
BELONG AND
FEEL
INCLUDED BY
SHOWING
HOSPITALITY
TO OTHERS."

We all live in communities, but community is about more than just being near people.

It's also about how we connect to each other and belong in the places we live.

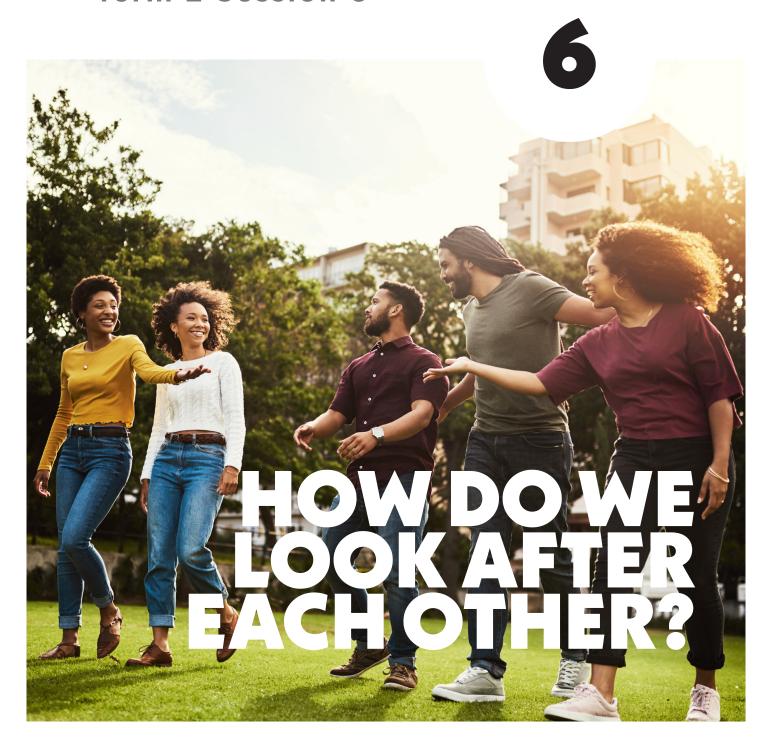
If we don't know how to be a community there might be conflict, or we may feel isolated and alone. The Good News is that we can build a community where people belong and feel included by showing hospitality to others.

When everyone is welcome in our community, we experience what the Kingdom of God is like.

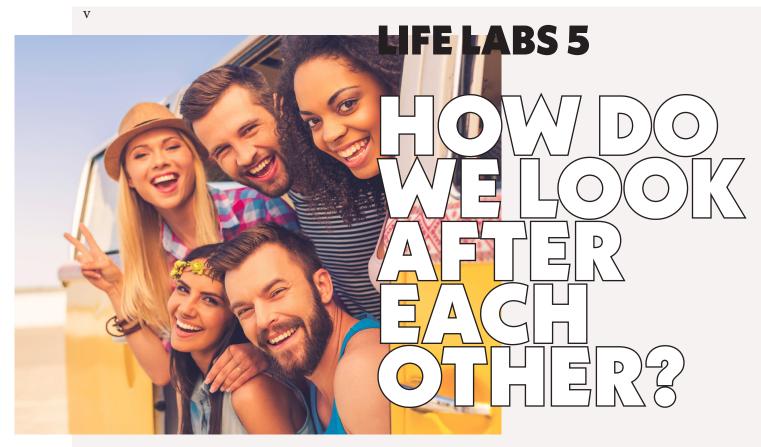




## **GROUP MATERIAL Term 2 Session 6**



#### **INTRODUCTION**



We all try to help others when we can. When we look around our communities, we can see many people struggling with challenges and issues.

When we see people who are struggling it can be difficult to know what to do.

We might not know how to help, have the resources to make a difference or worry that we're interfering in other people's lives.

This can leave us feeling confused, discouraged or overwhelmed and people might not get the help that they need.

So, how do we look after each other?



### PLAY THE LEFT HANGING GAME

TAKW PEKT KRIW OD WOY DID WOH SOMEONE DID OR SUCY QUELY TYXOLO

## DO THE COMPLETE THE SET ACTIVITY

Find a word and Circle 3 ways you like to look after others.

Listen to them

**Bake comfort food** 

Make them laugh

Stand up for them

**Give good advice** 

Help them practically

Send them a message

Spend time with them

Buy them a gift

**Encourage them** 

Luke 10:25-37

<sup>25</sup>One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: "Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup>Jesus replied, "What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?"

<sup>27</sup>The man answered, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbour as your-self."'[c]

<sup>28</sup>"Right!" Jesus told him. "Do this and you will live!"

<sup>29</sup>The man wanted to justify his actions, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?





Parable of the Good Samaritan

<sup>30</sup>Jesus replied with a story: "A Jewish man was traveling from Jerusalem down to Jericho, and he was attacked by bandits. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him up, and left him half dead beside the road.

<sup>31</sup>"By chance a priest came along. But when he saw the man lying there, he crossed to the other side of the road and passed him by.

<sup>32</sup>A Temple assistant[d] walked over and looked at him lying there, but he also passed by on the other side.

33"Then a despised Samaritan came along, and when he saw the man, he felt compassion for him.

<sup>34</sup>Going over to him, the Samaritan soothed his wounds with olive oil and wine and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his own donkey and took him to an inn, where he took care of him.

<sup>35</sup>The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, 'Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I'll pay you the next time I'm here.'

<sup>36</sup>"Now which of these three would you say was a neighbour to the man who was attacked by bandits?" lesus asked.

<sup>37</sup>The man replied, "The one who showed him mercy."

Then Jesus said, "Yes, now go and do the same."

#### CONCLUSION

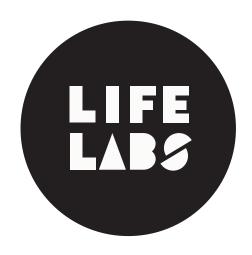


We all try to help others when we can.

When we see people who are struggling it can be difficult to know what to do.

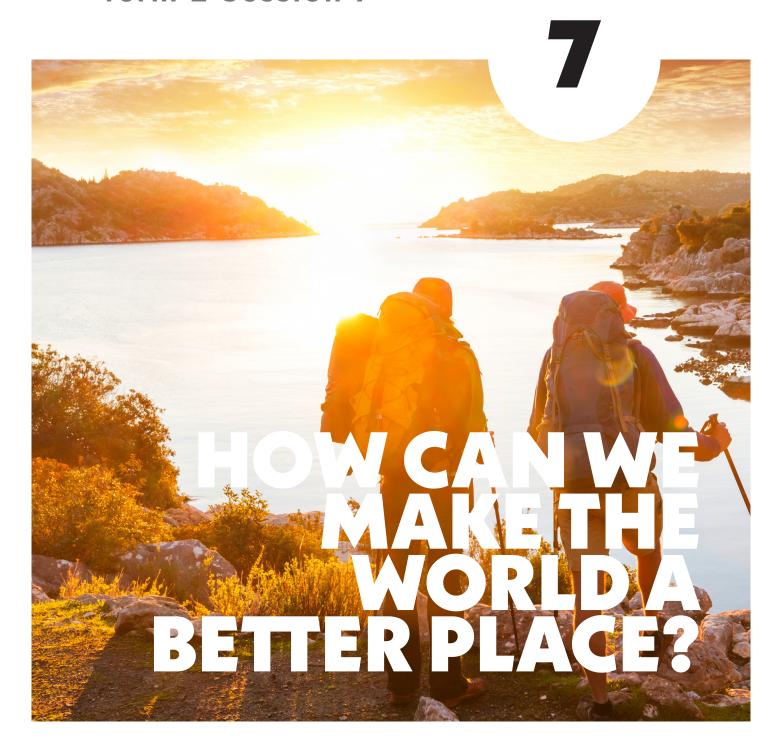
The good news is that even if we don't know what to do to help people, we can acknowledge their situation and show care for them in the process.

Just like the Good Samaritan in Jesus' story, we can be a good neighbour for people in need.

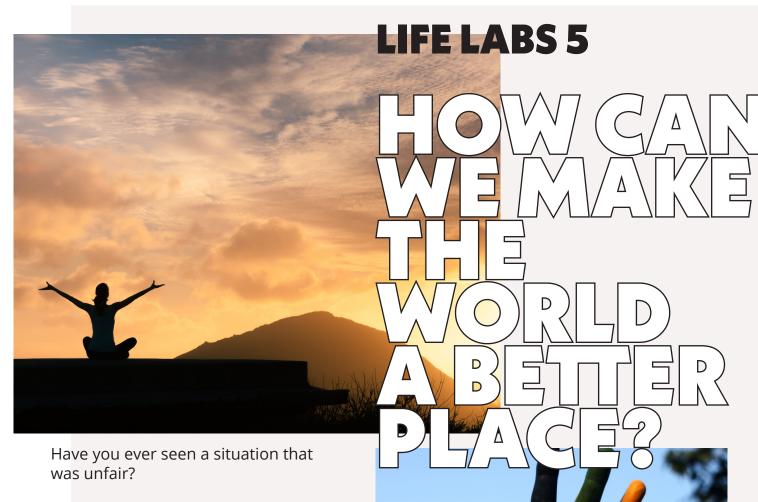




## **GROUP MATERIAL Term 2 Session 7**



#### INTRODUCTION



Maybe you see your friend getting in trouble for something they didn't do, or people who are treated differently because of their background.

We can see the world we live in is unfair, but it doesn't have to be this way. Our society is always changing, and we can act to change it for the better.

But it can be difficult to make positive

changes. Some people don't care, have different ideas of what the world should look like, or benefit from society staying the same.

So, how can we make the world a better place?

the better.

ke positive

"WE CAN SEE
THE WORLD
WE LIVE IN IS
UNFAIR, BUT IT
DOESN'T HAVE
TO BE THIS
WAY"

### PLAY THE FREE PASS GAME

HOW DID YOU GO WITH THE CAME? WAS THE CAME FAIR? HOW DID YOU FEEL SEEING OTHERS CET A FREE PASS?

### DO THE BEHIND THE NEWS ACTIVITY

Take some time reflecting on these quotes about justice and fairness. If there are any that you find inspiring circle them.

"The arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice."

Martin luther King Jr.

"NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS. BUT WE CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE."

**Mother Teresea** 

"If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality."

**Desmond Tutu** 

Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows. "If we are to better the future, we must disturb the present."

#### — Catherine Booth

#### Isaiah 1:17

"I am no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I am changing the things I cannot accept." "If you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else.

#### - Angela Davis

#### - Toni Morrison

"Your vocation can be found where your greatest joy meets the world's greatest need."

#### **Frederick Buechner**

"Without justice there can be no love."

we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest."

"There may be times when

#### - bell hooks

#### — Elie Wiesel

"Justice grows out of recognition of ourselves in each other — that my liberty depends on you being free too."

#### — Barack Obama

"There is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we are brave enough to be it."

#### — Amanda Gorman

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

#### - Jesus

#### A Franciscan Benediction

"If you have two coats, you have stolen one from the poor."

#### **Dorothy Day**

John 8:1-1

Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives,

<sup>2</sup>but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them.

<sup>3</sup>As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

4"Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the act of adultery.

The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?"





They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger.

They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!"

<sup>8</sup>Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust.

When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. ¹ºThen Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?"

11"No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."c

#### CONCLUSION



We can see the world we live in is unfair, but it doesn't have to be this way.

Our society is always changing, and we can act to change it for the better. But sometimes change is difficult.

The Good News is when we stand with others and amplify their voices we can begin to make the world a better place.

Just like Jesus, we can notice when someone is treated unfairly and stand with them.





## **GROUP MATERIAL Term 2 Session 8**



#### INTRODUCTION



When we look around the world we can see natural disasters, war and poverty.

When we see all the things that are wrong, it can be easy to think things won't get better or give up hope. When people lose hope they might experience despair, think nothing matters or give up.

As followers of Jesus we can find hope knowing that God loves the world and is working to make it better.

We all need this hope and we can encourage others when we share it with them.

So, how do we share hope?



# PLAY THE WHAT DO YOU MEAN? GAME

#### **MESSAGE DECODER**

HOW DID YOU GO WITH THE CAME? WAS IT DIFFICULT TO DECIPHER THE MESSAGE? HOW DO YOU SHARE IMPORTANT MESSAGES WITH OTHERS?

### DO THE STORIES OF HOPE ACTIVITY

"Take some time reflecting on these questions by yourself. When you are done, get into a group of 2-3 people and take turns sharing your answers with each other. After someone shares, encourage the person and highlight anything that stands out about their story."

Personal

What are you thankful for in your life? (school, family, friends, hobbies)

What are you proud of yourself for?
What are you thankful for in your life? (school, family, friends, hobbies)
Is there something you're looking forward to?
World
What good have you seen in the world?
What good have you seen in your community?
What good have you seen in your street?

Share with a partner your answers. After a participant shares their answers the other participant can share if they had anything that they saw about their partner.

Matthew 4:15-17

15"In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali, beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River, in Galilee where so many Gentiles live,

16the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light. And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow, a light has shined."

<sup>17</sup>From then on Jesus began to preach, "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."





## Matthew 5:14-16

14"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hill-top that cannot be hidden.

<sup>15</sup>No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.

<sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

#### CONCLUSION



When we look around the world it can be difficult to have hope.

When we see all the things that are wrong, it can be easy to think things won't get better, and give up.

The Good News is that we can find hope knowing that God loves the world and is making it better.

When we share that hope we can be the light of the world like Jesus.