



CPX YOUTH & SCHOOLS TEACHER'S RESOURCE GUIDE

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Teachers are answering questions about life and meaning every single day. For many students, teachers are the go-to resource for answers about ethics, faith, and morality. But with the media – and the world – increasingly polarised on key issues, it can be challenging for teachers to know how best to respond to questions of belief and religion.

The Centre for Public Christianity (CPX) is an Australian media company aiming to influence the public conversation about religion and spiritual life. We promote the truth, beauty, and goodness of the Christian faith, seeking to enrich the public understanding of Christianity. We have a deep sense that, properly understood, the person of Jesus, and all he entails, is immensely attractive and clearly life-giving. In an environment that is increasingly fractured and divided, CPX aims to speak with empathy, respect, and understanding. Our hope is to adopt and encourage a considered, and generous tone in public debate.

The CPX team writes and gives interviews for mainstream media; curates a public library of articles, videos, and podcasts; runs public events, as well as a speakers bureau; and produces books and documentaries. We collate and package many of these resources for youth and schools as a resource for teachers to use in the classroom.

It is our hope that we can support teachers with engaging, high-quality resources that assist them in the classroom. Whether you're teaching, leading a service, or responding to students' questions, our work will help you help students to listen well, thoughtfully consider, and respond constructively to issues in the world around them.

Simon Smart
Executive Director

Centre for Public Christianity





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HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

Maybe you're teaching religion, history, or ethics. You might have just graduated, or perhaps you've been teaching for decades. Either way, you know how valuable good resources are in the classroom!

If only there were free, accessible, and high-quality resources that really engage students, and help them explore deep topics!

CPX's Youth & Schools Resources are designed to meet that need. With accessible language, high production-value video content, and writing by some of Australia's most respected deep thinkers, these resources help teachers support student thinking, creativity, and empathy.

The resources are designed to use in whichever way suits you best. Some are arranged into convenient lesson plans. Others are a collation of activities you can pick and choose from. Some are

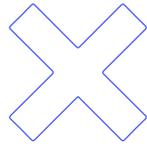
low-energy, with longer video viewing times. Others invite deep, challenging thought. All of them are engaging, relevant, and easy for teachers to draw upon. They are created to assist you in what you are already doing.

This guide takes you through each resource series we've created. Use the contents page to find each series. Our hope is that you will feel equipped with everything you need to support and empower students to engage, think, create, and live life well.

If you have ideas, feedback, or thoughts around what you would like us to develop next, let us know! We love to hear your ideas, and often share stories about how different teachers are using our resources in our Youth & Schools Newsletter.

TO GET IN TOUCH, EMAIL
youth@publicchristianity.org





HUMAN DIGNITY

Issues relating to the value of human life are all around us, and young people are often required to navigate them alone.

These classroom resources will help students thoughtfully engage with the idea of Human Dignity as it relates to the world around them. With eight key topics ranging from birth, death, disability, poverty, gender equality, and more, they allow students to think critically and respond sensitively to real issues impacting us today. The resources encourage students to consider various voices and perspectives, including the immense contribution of Christianity to our understanding of human value.

Drawing on **Harvard's Thinking Routines**, the activities draw on high-quality written, video, and audio content from the team at CPX and the wider media, and can be used as a set or as individual activities to complement your own lesson plans.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

What are Harvard Thinking Routines?

At CPX, our aim is to help students think deeply about topics that matter. Our resources draw on the 'Harvard Thinking Routines' – a research-based sequence of questions to help us form thoughtful, considered responses.



1/ THE FOUNDATION



2/ THE PRESENT AND FUTURE



3/ RACIAL EQUALITY



4/ GENDER EQUALITY



5/ THE MARGINALISED



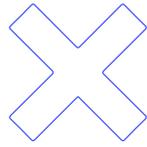
6/ DISABILITY



7/ BEGINNING OF LIFE



8/ END OF LIFE



FOR THE LOVE OF GOD

Would the world be better off without religion?

In 2008, CPX was involved behind-the-scenes in a debate on this topic. The affirmative won by an overwhelming majority, which got us thinking: truly, what contributions have religion and religious people made to the world? Are they good or bad? Where does Christianity sit in the mix? And why are the bad stories so much better-known than the good ones?

For the Love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined is the result of these questions: a documentary that confronts the worst that Christians have done, and traces the origins of Western values like human rights, charity, and non-violence back to the influence of Jesus.

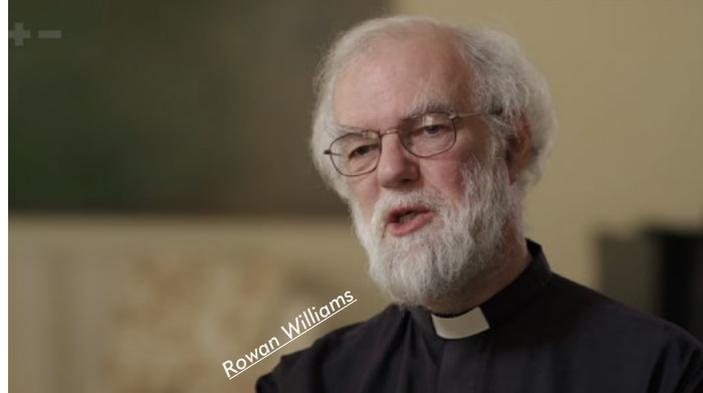
These accompanying resources, produced in partnership with Australian teachers, contain suggested activities for use in high-school classrooms, based on one or more of the documentary's segments. Click on any topic below to see these segments, which range from one to fifteen minutes in length.



Justine Toh



Joel Edwards



Rowan Williams



John Dickson



10 WEEK LESSON PLAN

A ten-week lesson plan from *For the Love of God* is also available, which you can access here.

WEEK ONE

HOLY WAR: THE CRUSADES

WEEK TWO

MLK: POWER & NON VIOLENCE

WEEK THREE

THE IMAGE OF GOD (PARTS 1-3)

WEEK FOUR

SLAVERY IN "CHRISTIAN" AMERICA

WEEK FIVE

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

WEEK SIX

TREASURES ON EARTH

WEEK SEVEN

WHY YOU NEED CHRISTIAN NEIGHBOURS

WEEK EIGHT

THE CHURCH UNDER NAZI RULE

WEEK NINE

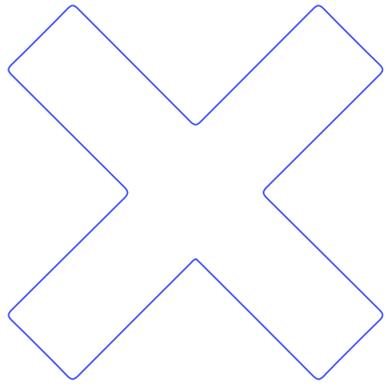
HOW MISSIONARIES CHANGED THE WORLD

WEEK TEN

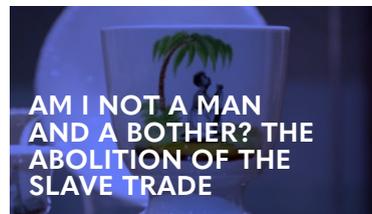
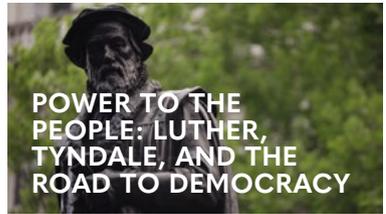
HOW TO JUDGE THE CHURCH

[MORE INFO](#)

Education licenses for the full documentary can be purchased [here](#).



**CLICK ON
ANY VIDEO
TO WATCH**





BITES ON THE BIBLE

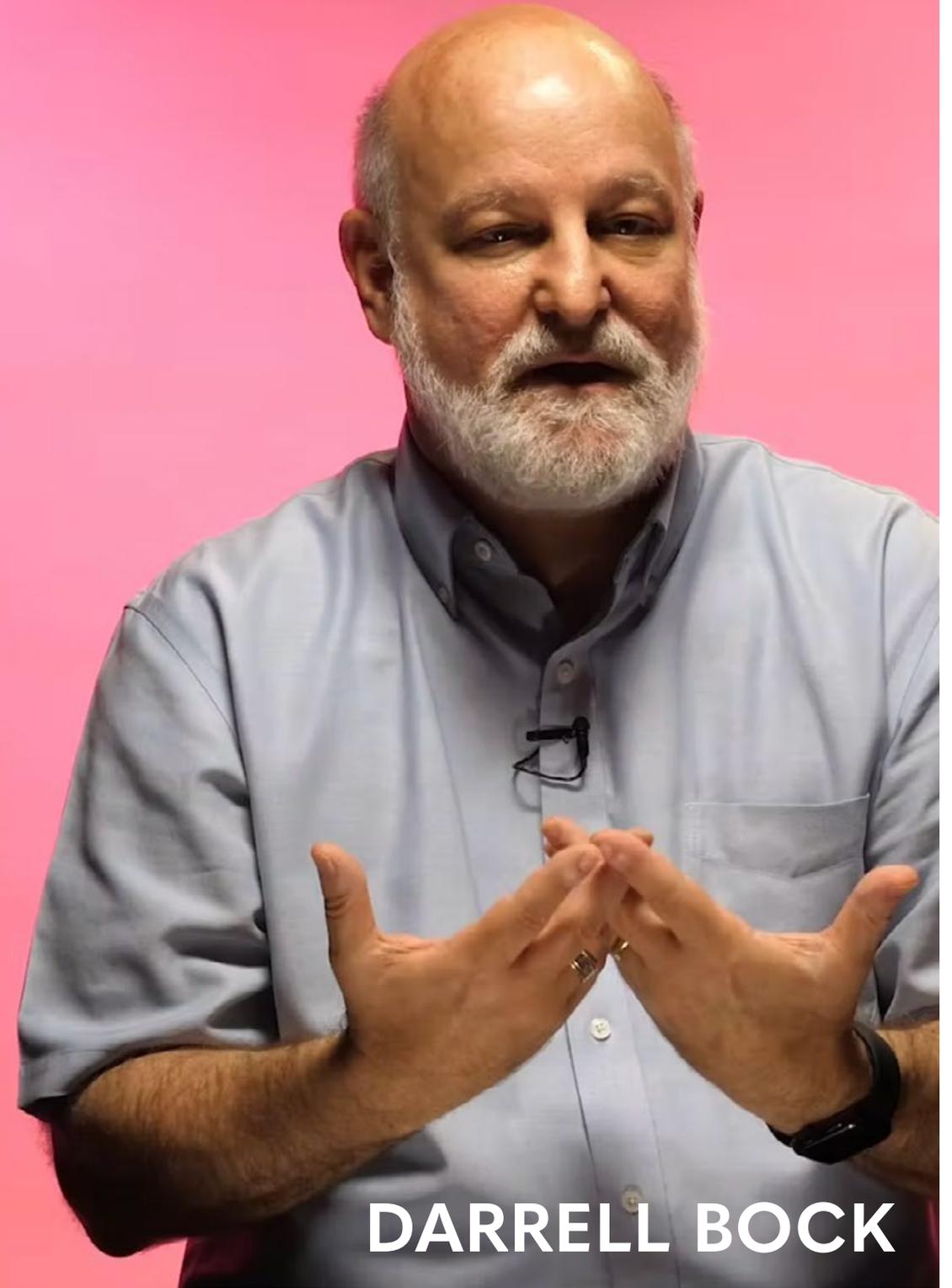
The Bible is the most popular book on earth. But despite its popularity, it remains incredibly misunderstood. This series of short videos answers seven commonly-asked questions about the book we *think* we know.

The speaker, **Dr Darrell Bock**, is Executive Director of Cultural Engagement and Senior Research Professor of New Testament Studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. He is the author of over 40 books, including notable commentaries on the biblical books of Luke and Acts, and several works looking at the historical Jesus. He often speaks in the media on topics related to the New Testament and Christianity in contemporary society.

[MORE INFO](#)

- ▶ WHAT IS THE BIBLE?
- ▶ WHAT GENRES DO WE FIND IN THE BIBLE?
- ▶ HOW WAS THE BIBLE PUT TOGETHER?
- ▶ HOW DO WE KNOW THAT THE BIBLE HASN'T CHANGED OVER TIME?
- ▶ WHAT ABOUT THE DIFFERENT COPIES OF THE BIBLE?
- ▶ ISN'T THE BIBLE FULL OF CONTRADICTIONS?
- ▶ IS THE BIBLE RELEVANT TODAY?

[WATCH VIDEOS](#)



DARRELL BOCK

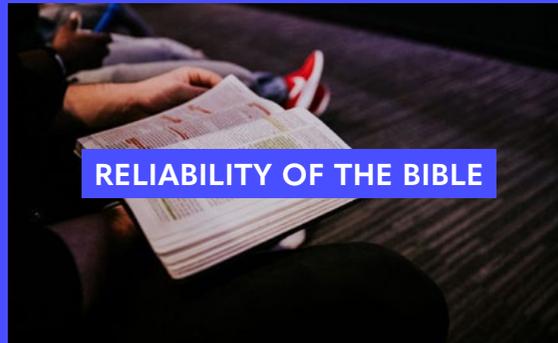


BIG QUESTIONS

These resources contain suggested activities for use in high-school classrooms, based on videos and articles from the CPX online library. The resources aim to help students explore important questions to do with the Christian faith, such as whether the Bible is reliable, the relationship between science and Christianity, and how the human experience of suffering fits in with the Christian notion of a good God.



RESOURCES



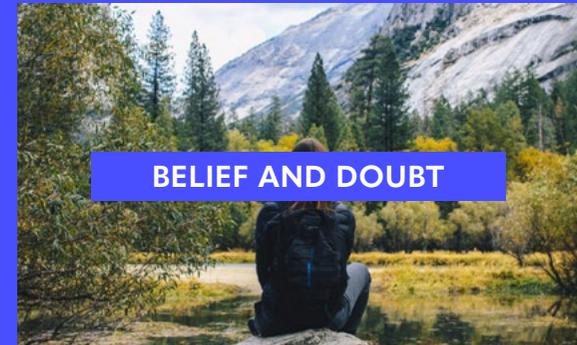
RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE



SCIENCE AND FAITH



SUFFERING AND EVIL



BELIEF AND DOUBT

RESOURCES



CPX SPEAKERS IN SCHOOLS

Did you know CPX has a range of engaging, experienced speakers who can support your staff or students? For everything from staff Professional Development days, student assemblies or chapel services, our team can help students dig deeper into life's big questions.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



human flourishing

Christians in public

story culture

literature

SIMON SMART

Simon is Executive Director of the Centre for Public Christianity. He holds a Master of Christian Studies from Regent College, Vancouver, and has years of experience writing and editing both academic curricula and popular books.

A History/English teacher for many years, Simon has a particular interest in Christian public engagement, the impact of Christianity on the world, "God-haunted" literature, education for human flourishing, and the "stories that we live by."

[BOOK SIMON](#)



achievement culture

individualism

comtemporary trends

freedom

JUSTINE TOH

Justine is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity, and the author of *Achievement Addiction*, the fourth book of the Re:Considering series.

She worked at Fairfax Digital before completing her PhD in Cultural Studies at Macquarie University.

She speaks and writes about freedom and individualism, the body as a project, our obsession with achievement, and other trends in contemporary culture.

[BOOK JUSTINE](#)



CPX SPEAKERS IN SCHOOLS



NATASHA MOORE

Natasha is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity. She is an avid reader and award-winning author, and holds a PhD in Victorian poetry from the University of Cambridge.

She is the author of *For the Love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined* and *The Pleasures of Pessimism*, and speaks on such topics as Christian public engagement, the influence of Christianity on the world, freedom of speech and disagreeing well, education and Christian formation, and cultural pessimism.

Christian influence

freedom of speech

Christians in public

cultural pessimism

BOOK NATASHA



human rights

social justice

poverty

freedom

Christians in public

TIM COSTELLO

Tim is a Senior Fellow with the Centre for Public Christianity, as well as Executive Director of Micah Australia.

He is one of Australia's leading voices on social justice and global poverty and has been instrumental in ensuring these issues are placed on the national and international agenda.

Tim is an ordained Baptist minister, and was CEO of World Vision Australia for 13 years.

BOOK TIM



CPX SPEAKERS IN SCHOOLS



ANNA GRUMMITT

Anna is Youth & Schools Coordinator at the Centre for Public Christianity. She has many years of experience working with young people, through leading youth ministry at her local church, teaching high-school SRE, and working with university students in Peru. She is currently completing a Graduate Diploma in Divinity at Sydney Missionary & Bible College (SMBC).

Anna speaks on topics such as Christian public engagement, doubt and faith, identity, and leadership. She also runs workshops on how to use CPX resources in the classroom.

Christianity in public

leadership

doubt and faith

identity

[BOOK ANNA](#)