

Masterclass

Inspiring, challenging and equipping students to think deeply about the Christian faith in today's world

Newcastle

Thursday 22 August, 2019
9.15am-2.30pm

THE GRAINERY CHURCH
11 Murray Dwyer Circuit, Mayfield West

This is a FREE one-day event for Christian students in years 9-11

Find out more or register at masterclass.org.au



John
Dickson



What's with the
evil and suffering in
the world?



Leon
Stead



Why shouldn't I
hide my faith?



Justine
Toh



What stories
do we live by?



The students have come back with unity and vigour to live and speak the gospel with boldness.



Speakers and Topics



John Dickson



Historian, Senior Minister, Author & Media Presenter

John lives in Sydney and is a prolific writer and speaker, with a PhD in Ancient History. John lost his father in a plane crash when he was nine, an event he freely admits shaped his interest in life's ultimate questions.

What's with the evil and suffering in the world?

A child catches a rare brain virus and is affected for life. A dictator murders millions. What sort of God allows things like this to happen? Can we still believe in God in the face of all the suffering and pain in the world?



Leon Stead



Senior Pastor, Narrabeen Baptist

Leon grew up on Sydney's Northern Beaches. He came to faith in Jesus through the influence of his grandmother when he was about 4 years old. He loves cooking, surfing, fishing and finding solitude on the back of a motorbike.

Why shouldn't I hide my faith?

In our culture, there's pressure to pursue prosperity, power and pleasure above all else. Following Jesus is also increasingly out of favour. What to do? The book of Esther has some answers, examining complex characters living in a cultural landscape that mirrors our own.



Justine Toh



Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Public Christianity

Justine lives in Sydney's inner west with her husband Vaughan and their two very noisy boys ... just ask the disgruntled guy downstairs! She worked at Fairfax Digital before completing her doctorate in Cultural Studies at Macquarie University.

What stories do we live by?

In a world that encourages us to be the author of our own stories, what does it mean to take up our role in the greatest story ever told? Finding ourselves in God's story can inspire us to live countercultural lives.

What is Masterclass?

Living out the Christian faith in today's world is not always easy for our young people. In a world of selfies, identity politics and 'fake news', Bible Society's Masterclass will inspire, challenge and equip **Christian students** by tackling the big questions: Does the Christian faith make sense? What does the Bible have to say about issues in our world? And what does it mean to live a bold Christian life that makes a real difference?

Masterclass is a one-day event for students in Years 9-11. Throughout the day, students will hear engaging talks from three leading speakers:

a **foundational talk** that builds confidence in the Bible, a **missional talk** that encourages students to live out their faith, and a **topical talk** that explores contemporary issues from a Biblical perspective.

Masterclass also includes a popular **Q&A session**, giving students the freedom to ask our panel of speakers the searching questions about the Christian faith they've always wanted to ask.

This is a free event, wholly funded by Bible Society supporters.



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