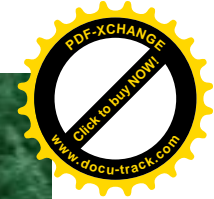


# Reaching a New Generation.

*Mission and Evangelism with Young People*



Ian Macdonald  
Diocesan Youth Adviser



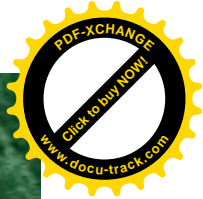
# *Young People Today?*



**What are the  
questions  
you bring?**

*What do you want out of  
this evening?*





*“Escape the Circus and live beyond the limits of the imaginary lid”*

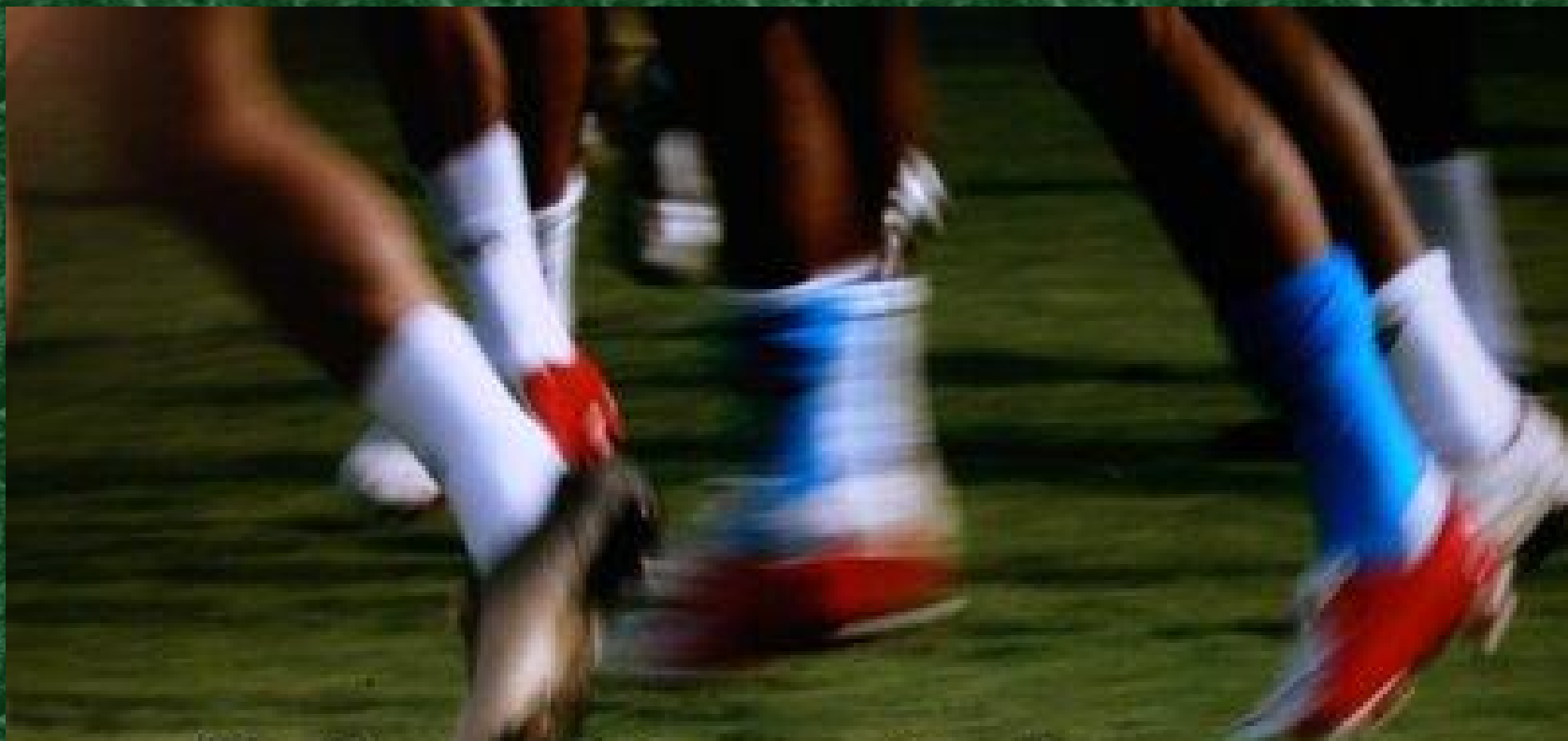
**Jesus said,** “I have come that they may have life and have it to the FULL!”



# What's wrong with what we are doing at the moment?

- *Words*
- *Dualistic*
- *Programme Orientated*
- *Black and White*
- *Hierarchical*
- *Material*
- *Dull*
- *Set ecclesiology*
- *Conformist*
- *Wedded to modernity*





'In times of change the learners will inherit the earth, while the knowers will find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists'

Eric Hoffer

# Mugger set free by the Bad Samaritan

Daily Mail Reporter

WHEN a group of schoolboys saw a mugger snatch their teacher's handbag, they immediately turned crime-fighters.

Without a thought for their own safety, they chased him down an alleyway and grabbed him.

But unfortunately a passer-by saw the melee and decided to get involved in the action.

Thinking the robber was a victim of a gang attack, the misguided Good Samaritan ignored the boys' protests as he freed the grateful thief from their grasp.

The six Year-11 pupils, aged around 16, could only look on in disbelief as the culprit showed them a clean pair of heels. However, at least they had managed to get their teacher's bag back.

The drama happened as Sheila O'Keeffe was escorting pupils on the half-mile walk

from Canon Palmer Roman Catholic School to Seven Kings railway station in Redbridge, East London.

A police spokesman said: 'Mrs O'Keeffe was responsible for getting the children on the train in an orderly fashion after lessons - but her bag was grabbed on the way to the station.'

'The offender approached her from behind and then ran down an alley.

'Several students gave chase and then managed to apprehend him.

'The boys recovered the handbag and gave it back to their teacher - but then this do-gooder thought they were beating the man up and made them let him go.

'The passer-by acted with the best of intentions because he thought this chap was being set upon by a gang of youths. But he didn't know

the full circumstances. We presume he must have been very apologetic - but he went on his way before we arrived.'

He added: 'We would definitely commend the actions of the boys for intervening in the way they did. It is just unfortunate that the offender got away.'

Mrs O'Keeffe, the deputy headteacher of the 1,200-pupil school, said: 'Normally it is very pleasant seeing the children off home at the end of the day.'

'I never expected something like this to happen to me. Indeed it was very frightening, but the pupils were very supportive and acted quickly in order to get my property back.'

'At the time I urged them to release the robber because I didn't want them to get injured.'

She added: 'It was all over in a matter of minutes. The police arrived quickly but unfortunately the robber escaped. While I commended

the boys for their public spirited actions, I also warned them not to put themselves in personal danger in the future.'

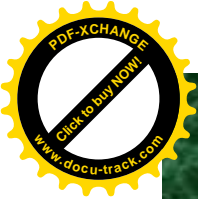
The would-be bag thief, who is still being hunted by the police, is described as black, aged about 20, and around 5ft 8in.

The police spokesman added: 'The deputy head attended our station here to have a look through pictures of our known criminals, but she was not able to identify the man who took her bag.'

'We will certainly







# This Generation

Spiritual	Stressed
Live for the Moment	Poor self image
Cynical	Consumers
Hurting	Visual
Media Savvy	Act on their Values
Image Orientated	Crave Belonging
Seek the Authentic	Value Relationships





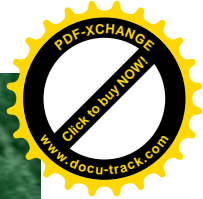
"The young, with their strong loathing for the unauthentic, quickly detect any dichotomy between the church and its founder" *John Stott*



**What do we  
teach teens  
when we are not  
teaching them?**



<http://go.funpic.hu>



# A Theological Underpinning

1. There is a creator God who is on the move to find those who are lost (Luke 15)
2. God's heart is decisively compassionate towards children and young people (Mark 10:13ff)
3. God loves people enough to invade human history via the incarnation (Phil. 2:5-11)
4. Followers of Jesus Christ are likewise called to love and pursue those whom God loves, and therefore called to "go" into the world of the young (John 17:8)
5. The message of the Gospel, focused on the Incarnate Word brings hope and healing to every person regardless of race, culture, ethnicity or age (Romans 10:12-13)

*Chap Clark*

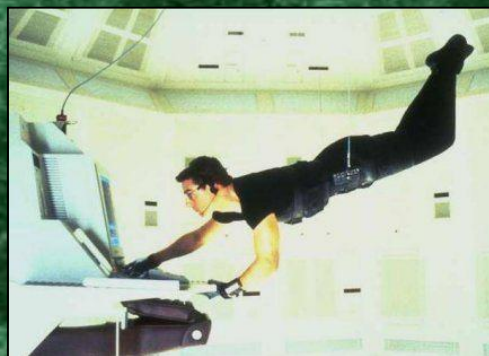


# What's right with what we are doing at the moment?

- ***Community***
- ***All age***
- ***The possibility of spirituality***
- ***A concern for young people***
- ***Relationally based***



# What do we need to explore?





- Spirituality is the apologetics of post-modernity

# Spirituality



Faith needs to be Authentic. It's 24/7 or 0



It's about experiencing and knowing God  
That fuels a wanting to know about



It's about How it works for you and for me,  
not abstract ideas of truth



It's about all of us learning, not just being  
taught at! Listening, sharing, doing, reflecting



Spirituality isn't just words, it's all senses  
and action.



# Youth Ministry .....

- is relational
- is incarnational
- recognizes the priority of Worship?
- relies on the transforming power of God
- Recognises that mission is holistic
- Is a long-term process
- Recognizes the importance of discipleship

*Mission Shaped Youth*



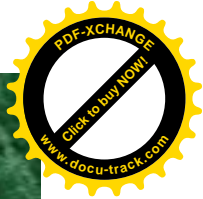
*Faith*

*Development*



Level	~Ages	Name	Characteristics
Stage 1	3-7	Intuitive-predictive	<i>Egocentric, becoming aware of time. Forming images that will affect their later life.</i>
Stage 2	6-12	Mythical-literal	<i>Aware of the stories and beliefs of the local community. Using these to give sense to their experiences.</i>
Stage 3	12-	Synthetic-conventional	<i>Extending faith beyond the family and using this as a vehicle for creating a sense of identity and values</i>
Stage 4	early adult	Individuative-reflective	<i>The sense of identity and outlook on the world are differentiated and the person develops explicit systems of meaning.</i>
Stage 5	adult	Conjunctive	<i>The person faces up to the paradoxes of experience and begins to develop universal ideas and becomes more oriented towards other people.</i>
Stage 6	adult	Universalizing	<i>The person becomes totally altruistic and they feel an integral part of an all-inclusive sense of being. This stage is rarely achieved.</i>

**Fowler**



**OWNING FAITH**

*faith identity expressed in word & deed*

**SEARCHING FAITH**

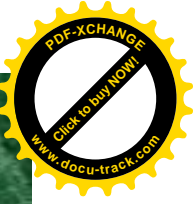
*accepted things now questioned*

**JOINING FAITH**

*being part of a faith community*

**EXPERIENCING  
FAITH**

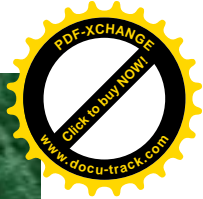
*being loved, seeing  
faith modelled*



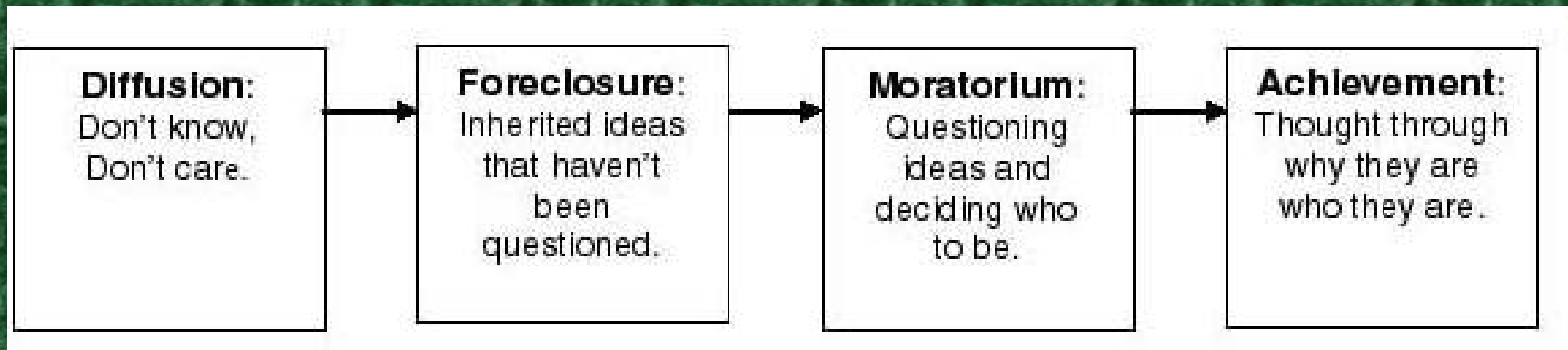
Models work more effectively in a stable cultural environment.

In the variety of cultures and changes we find ourselves in we should be looking at how we develop faith and identity

Shepherd



# James Marcia, Identity







What's needed?

*Growing,  
learning,  
open. questioning and  
listening  
Human Beings*



So  
what?



# Notes

Young people and mission, booker

Work with flow by Passmore

Post christendom notes