**Ideas for discussion & Bible study**

Part of setting up a faith-based youth group

Create opportunities where young people can discuss issues that matter to them about life, the world, relationships, faith and God using the Bible. Below are a few ideas of resources you may like to use for this session. Some of the options will involve more planning and preparation than others. Feel free to adapt any of the resources you choose to make them age appropriate or relevant to your youth group. Contact your Go Team Adviser for further support.

**Recommended resources**

* The LecDeck - [available on the Diocesan website](https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/ministry/children-young-people/lecdeck/lecdeck.php) as a pack of cards or as an Apple or Android App. This easy-to-use resource takes minimal preparation. Each card has a Bible passage and 3 questions to help explore the verses, a prayer idea and action.
* Issues Bible Chat Mats - [available on the Diocesan website](https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/ministry/children-young-people/bible-chat-mat/bible-chat-mat-series-3/) as free downloadable / printable sheets. This easy-to-use ‘scribble’ resource takes minimal preparation. Each of the 12 issue sheets has a Bible passage, questions to help explore the verses, a prayer idea and an action.
* The Bible Project - an online resource, where scripture has been turned into inspiring videos. Search for their videos online or download their app. Choose a video to show to your group, then read the scripture it relates to in the Bible and discuss. These are some questions you may like to ask:
	+ **Facts**: What is the context? Who is in the reading? What do we know about them? Where is the story taking place? Why is this happening?
	+ **Understand:** What does it means, what speaks to you in this reading? What confuses you? Explore together what the phrases and words mean.
	+ **Application:** What does this mean for me? What actions do I need to take having read this? What do I need to remember? How is this reading going to change me?
* The Children’s Society, Youth for Christ, Youthscape, Urban Saints, WeAreTearfund and Open Doors Youth produce resources to use with young people. Search their websites for more details.
* Youth Alpha offer resources you may like to use with your group.
* Premier NexGen (formerly Premier YCW) is an online hub supporting those invested in the next generation of Christians.
* You may like to consider a book-based resource such as ‘Hanging out with Jesus’ that offers an introduction to faith.

**Structuring a discussion / study session**

The structure of sessions is often shaped by the resources you use. Some resource offers guidance but be prepared to adapt. Allow space for the young people to shape and lead how discussions go and have some way of bringing discussions back to any scriptures you are using or the main point you are focussing on. Where possible ensure sessions are stimulating, engaging, meaningful and have the scope to explore fully explore God in the issues being raised.

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