

# MASTERCLASS

NEWCASTLE

THURSDAY  
9 AUGUST  
2018

Are you invested in training up the next generation of public Christians?

Is it your passion to give young Christians confidence in their faith?

Masterclass, run by Bible Society Australia, is a one-day event for Christian students in years 9-12 of high school. The goal of Masterclass is to inspire, stretch and encourage the next generation of believers.

*"that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best..."*  
Philippians 1:9

Three highly engaging speakers present on a variety of topics, with a threefold goal based on Paul's prayer above:

- **Foundational teaching** to build the students' confidence in the bible with evidence for the truths of the Christian faith;
- **Missional teaching** to encourage young Christians to live out their faith in their schools, churches, communities and homes; and
- **Topical teaching** to explore contemporary issues of faith and culture from a biblical perspective.

*"Masterclass aims to challenge students on what they believe, why they believe it, and how this intersects with their world." – Past attendee of Masterclass*

With  
Hot Topics  
Q&A

## Dan Paterson

RZIM Speaker,  
Ravi Zacharias  
International Ministries

Has science buried  
God?



## Mike Hands

Generation Pastor  
at Newlife Uniting,  
Gold Coast

Welcome to the  
revolution



## Patricia Weerakoon

Christian Sexologist  
and Author

Sex: What has  
God got to do  
with it?



## The Grainery Church

11 Murray Dwyer Circuit, Mayfield West  
Starts at 9:15am. Finishes at 2:30pm.

Thursday 9 August

This is a **FREE** event

Register at [www.masterclass.org.au](http://www.masterclass.org.au)

# SPEAKERS AND TOPICS



**Dan Paterson**  
Foundational

Dan Paterson is a speaker with Ravi Zacharias International Ministries (RZIM) based in Brisbane. He has a driving passion to help sceptics and spiritual seekers make sense of the Christian faith.

Dan completed degrees in ministry and theology in Australia, as well as RZIM's Christian apologetics course at Oxford. In 2015 Dan was invited to join RZIM as its national director in Australia and he now speaks regularly on life's biggest questions and popular objections to the Christian faith.

Dan is married to Erin and have two adorable young boys – Josiah and Zachariah. He loves reading, coffee, movies, the outdoors, and Australian Rules Football.

## Has science buried God?

**Abstract:** There is a strong subconscious belief in our culture that science has buried God. Some claim that Christianity has been an anti-scientific force in the world. Strong voices in the scientific community like Richard Dawkins and Stephen Hawking are convinced that science and God simply do not mix.

So are they right? Does science make more sense in a Christian world or in an atheistic world? Do the discoveries of science point towards or away from a Creator? Is science even the right tool to adjudicate on the God question?



**Mike Hands**  
Missional

Michael Hands is the Generation Pastor at Newlife Uniting on the Gold Coast. Having worked as an English and History teacher for two years prior to becoming a pastor, Michael is deeply passionate about education and young people.

Graduating from Emmanuel College in 2006 Michael went on to study at University of Queensland, gaining a dual degree in Arts and Education majoring in History and Religion, followed by a Diploma in Ministry and Leadership and is currently two-thirds the way through Masters in Ministry.

Mike is married to Sarah and loves reading, learning and leading others as he continually learns how to follow Jesus.

## Welcome to the revolution

**Abstract:** Faith was never meant to be boring, it was never meant to be sterile. When Jesus spoke of the kingdom of God he had more in mind than a Church service on a Sunday. Jesus came to begin a movement, a revolution that would upend power-structures through radical humility and love, but what does this revolution and movement look like today, and how do we become a part of it?



**Patricia Weerakoon**  
Topical

Trained in Medicine (Sri Lanka) and Sexology (Hawaii), Patricia is an honorary senior lecturer with Sydney University. She has more than 30 years of experience as a sex educator, researcher and therapist in the US, Sri Lanka and Australia.

After a career as Director of a graduate programme in sexual health at the University of Sydney, she retired in 2012 to pursue her passion for writing and public speaking. These bring together her enthusiasm for sex and her love for the glory of God. Patricia regularly holds seminars at schools, churches and conferences, sharing her passion for sexual health.

## Sex: What has God got to do with it?

**Abstract:** The world challenges you to consume and do whatever feels good to you. Sex is a commodity to be shared at the swipe on your iPhone and viewed on explicit porn sites. What makes you vulnerable to the peer pressure of your generation? Does God have anything to say about sex? Is it possible to live a countercultural lifestyle and be happy? Explore the challenges of living in a super-sexualised cyber world. Come and be challenged as Patricia explores God's plan for sex and relationships.

If you are a principal, teacher, chaplain, youth leader or parent, Bible Society is asking you to invite students who would benefit from a day to invest in their spiritual development. Masterclass will better prepare them to be public Christians who have confidence within their schools and community.

There is no limit to the size of your group. Book this date with your school and register your student and teacher numbers at [www.masterclass.org.au](http://www.masterclass.org.au).

Contact Gayle Baikie for any enquiries at [masterclass@biblesociety.org.au](mailto:masterclass@biblesociety.org.au) or 02 9870 5636

*"My students loved it, found every talk helpful and relevant for their Christian faith and expression of it in their lives and at school. Encouraging to see so many other Christian students!"*  
— Past attendee of Masterclass

## Masterclass Partners

[thebridge.smbc.edu.au](http://thebridge.smbc.edu.au)



[crusaders.edu.au](http://crusaders.edu.au)