

MASTERCLASS

GOLD COAST

TUESDAY
21 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?

Simon Smart

Executive Director,
Centre for Public
Christianity (CPX)

It's a girl! Is the Christian gospel good news for women?



Mike Hands

Generation Pastor
at Newlife Uniting,
Gold Coast

Welcome to the revolution



Justine Toh

Senior Research Fellow,
Centre for Public
Christianity (CPX)

**My story, our story,
God's story**



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 prospective.

"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**

Southport Church of Christ

Cnr Olsen Avenue & Griffith Way, Southport
Starts at 9:15am. Finishes at 2:30pm.

Tuesday 21 August

This is a **FREE** event

Register at www.masterclass.org.au



BIBLE SOCIETY
Live light



Eternity

KOORONG

SPEAKERS AND TOPICS



Simon Smart
Foundational

Simon is Executive Director of the Centre for Public Christianity. A former English and history teacher, Simon has a Masters in Christian Studies from Regent College, Canada. He has years of experience in writing and editing, both academic curricula and popular books. He is the author of *For God's Sake: An Atheist, a Jew, a Christian and a Muslim Debate Religion*, and editor of *A Spectator's Guide to Worldviews*. Simon is co-host of the documentary *For the Love of God: How the Church is Better and Worse Than You Ever Imagined*.

Simon lives on Sydney's Northern Beaches. He is a sports tragic and an enthusiastic but inept surfer. He has two teenaged children who still don't mind being seen with him in public!

It's a girl! Is the Christian gospel good news for women?

Abstract: Early Christianity was mocked as a religion of women and slaves—that is to say, not to be taken seriously. But Christianity is much more likely to be condemned today, not for being a religion for women, but a religion against women. If gender equality mattered to the early church, what happened to it? What does Christianity's chequered treatment of women mean for its credibility today? And is the Christian faith a force for the oppression of women, or for their flourishing?



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?



Justine Toh
Topical

Justine is Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Public Christianity where she speaks and writes about the Christian faith in a secular age, with a particular interest in freedom and individualism, and trends in contemporary culture. She has a doctorate in Cultural Studies from Macquarie University and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications (Journalism) from UTS. After getting her start in the Sydney Reuters bureau, she worked as a presenter at Fairfax Digital. Justine is co-host of the documentary *For the Love of God: How the Church is Better and Worse Than You Ever Imagined*.

Justine lives in Sydney with her husband Vaughan and her two little boys who she still adores, even though they've broken her brain.

My story, our story, God's story

Abstract: In a world that encourages us to be the author of our own stories, collecting experiences as part of the great 'project of self', we discuss what it means to take up our role in the greatest story ever told: the cosmic drama of God's redemption. We then consider how this can inspire us to live countercultural lives—particularly in areas like sex and relationships, power, purpose and freedom.

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**.

Contact Gayle Baikie for any enquiries at **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

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