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| **Strands** | Christian Ethics and Ethical Theory; Faith in Action, Actions leading to Faith | | | |
| **Stage of Development** | Lower Secondary (Years 7-9) | **Created** May 2021 | | **Review** 2025 |
| **Aim** | This unit seeks to expose students to ethical ideas embedded in Christian faith that might be considered radical in a secular culture. The unit achieves this by analysing some of the ideas from the Bible about how to live well in God’s world. The last 4 lessons are spent in small groups researching a person whose faith led to them have a radical impact on their culture. | | | |
| **Content Descriptions** | **Knowledge and Understanding**   * Jesus radical ideas about love, humility and happiness * The impact of Jesus’ radical ideas on our culture | | **Religious Studies Skills & virtues**   * Concept Cracking * Critical thinking * Social justice | |
| **Additional Resources** | Centre for Public Christianity <https://www.publicchristianity.org/> | | Great videos and resources that consider the impact of Christianity on society. | | |
| Bible.com [www.bible.com](http://www.bible.com) | | Has videos of the New Testament passages used in this unit. | | |
| The Bible Project [www.bibleproject.com](http://www.bibleproject.com) | | Has videos of word studies as well as videos on particular topics. | | |
|  | Anglican Agencies | | e.g. Street Connect, Anglicare Ecocare etc | | |

| **Lesson** | | **Key Questions** | **Lesson Activity Ideas** | | **Resources** |
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| **1** | The Sermon on the Mount | What is radical about the Sermon on the Mount?  What impact have these teachings had on our society?  What does it mean to love your enemies? | 5min  20min  5min  10min  5min | Brainstorm: What are some of Jesus’ most influential moral teachings?  Watch: Matthew Ch 5-7 (approx. 20 min). <https://www.bible.com/videos/2005/series>. Discuss if people accurately predicated what Jesus said in the previous brainstorm.  Discuss: which teachings are important to us today? Which ones seem radical?  Watch: For the Love of God (Love your enemies) <https://www.publicchristianity.org/love-your-enemies/?_sf_s=love+enemies> (5min 35sec). Discuss why this command is so radical.  Discuss: What impact has Christ’s call to love our enemies had on society? To focus the discussion, you could consider where this idea seen in the Harry Potter story e.g. Harry does not use his powerful wand to kill Voldemort but instead to protect his friends or the grace Harry shows to Wormtail and Draco. | Watch: Lumo Matthew 5-7 (<https://www.bible.com/videos/2005/series>)  Watch: <https://www.publicchristianity.org/love-your-enemies/?_sf_s=love+enemies> |
| **2** | Humility | What is humility?  How did Jesus demonstrate humility?  What impact has Jesus’ example had on our society?  Why could Jesus’ teaching about humility be considered radical? | 5min  5min  10min  15min  10min | Brainstorm: What is humility? Where do we see humility in our culture?  Discuss “whereas the ancients draw a straight line between greatness and honour, the West draws a line between greatness and humility”. Discuss the quote with students. Do they think it’s true? (source: <https://www.publicchristianity.org/how-christian-humility-upended-the-world/?_sf_s=humility>).  Watch: Mark 10:32-45 (<https://www.bible.com/videos/3188-mark-10-32-52-from-lumoproject-dot-com>). Here, Jesus as good as says that true greatness consists in self-sacrifice – his impending martyrdom being the prime example. Ask the students to re-tell the story in their own words.  Watch: The Humility Revolution from For the Love of God <https://www.publicchristianity.org/the-humility-revolution/?_sf_s=humility> 10min. Discuss.  Activity: Break the students into small groups to answer the question ‘What is true greatness?’ Discuss group responses as a class. | Teacher resource: Considers the meaning of the word humility <https://www.publicchristianity.org/how-christian-humility-upended-the-world/?_sf_s=humility>  Watch: Lumo Mark 10:32-45 (<https://www.bible.com/videos/3188-mark-10-32-52-from-lumoproject-dot-com>). |
| 3 | The source of true happiness | What is happiness?  Where does happiness come from?  What does Jesus say about happiness?  Why could Jesus’ teaching about happiness be considered radical? | 5min  10min  10min  5min  15min | Activity: Provide each student with a Post-It note. Ask the students to write something that makes them happy on their Post-It note. Get students to place their Post-It Notes in a central place and discuss where happiness comes from.  Review: The most recent Mission Australia Youth Survey. Discuss if 15-19 year olds are happy based on the survey results. (<https://www.missionaustralia.com.au/publications/youth-survey>)  Watch: Matthew 6:19-34 <https://www.bible.com/videos/3142-matthew-6-19-34-from-lumoproject-dot-com> (3:04min) Discuss what the passage is seeking to communicate.  Watch: The Bible Project video on Joy (<https://bibleproject.com/all-videos/word-studies/>)  Activity: Break the students into groups. Ask them to draw two columns. In one column the students are to record things the Bible teaches about happiness and in the other column they are to list opposite idea e.g. the opposite of the idea money will make you happy is money will not make you happy. Discuss the group work as a class and consider the possible implications of the teachings on a student’s world view. The students may need to watch the video a second time to complete this task. | Post-It notes  Most recent Mission Australia Youth Survey  Watch: Lumo Matthew 6:19-34. <https://www.bible.com/videos/3142-matthew-6-19-34-from-lumoproject-dot-com>  Watch: The Bible Project clip on Joy (<https://bibleproject.com/all-videos/word-studies/>) |
| 4-7 | Research Assignment | How do we see these radical ideas impact people and society? |  | Research Assignment: The assignment requires students to work in small groups to research the life of a person of faith. The students are required to prepare a 3min video about the person to share with the class. The assignment seeks to help students make connections between Jesus’ radical teachings, people and their actions. | Worksheet: Research Assignment |