

# Young Christian Workers



Free time  
Free time

LIFE

Faith

Faith in Action!  
A Gospel Enquiry Programme  
based on St. Luke's  
Gospel.

Study

Work?



Friendship

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## The Year of **EVANGELISATION**:

### **INTRODUCTION**



A Year of Evangelisation has commenced in the Archdiocese of Dublin. Running from June 29<sup>th</sup> 2009 until November 27<sup>th</sup> 2010, this time has been identified as a Year of Mission in the Archdiocese of Dublin where Evangelisation will be a Diocesan wide priority.

Christianity understands Evangelisation in terms of how the Good News is both announced and conveyed. By its very nature, Christianity is all about sharing and telling others about Jesus Christ and living out His message. From its very beginning, the Church has existed to evangelise. However, Evangelisation is directed towards one simple goal, namely personal conversion through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin has invited every parish in the Dublin diocese to "commit all their energies" towards participation during the Year.

As part of the year a special edition of St. Luke's Gospel will be made available to everyone throughout the diocese.

In light of this initiative, YCW have prepared this series of **Gospel Enquiries** based on the Gospel of St. Luke for use by young adults. Using the method of See, Judge, Act, you will be provided with an opportunity to reflect on Luke's Gospel and how it applies to your everyday life, thus bringing the Gospel message right up to date and making it relevant for today's young adults.

We invite you to explore the Gospel of Luke with us and to live out the Gospel message and values in your everyday life.

## **YCW**

## LUKE'S Gospel

The Gospel of Luke is part of the New Testament and tells the story of Jesus' miraculous birth, his ministry of healing, his parables, death, resurrection and ascension into heaven. It was written about 1,950 years ago by Luke, who was a doctor and came from a place called Antioch (now in Turkey).

This Gospel shows Jesus' compassion and forgiveness for outcasts and sinners and is characteristically concerned with social ethics, the poor, women and oppressed groups. For this reason Luke's Gospel is sometimes referred to as the 'Gospel of the Poor'. However, with a special emphasis on prayer, the activity of the Holy Spirit and joyfulness the Gospel of Luke is also referred to as the 'Gospel of Reconciliation' because of its images of a Jesus who reaches out continually to sinners.

## WELCOME

The sessions in this programme are laid out in a particular way. First we present a passage from **St. Luke's Gospel**. Then we provide some background information to help put it in context, this is followed by a series of questions for reflection using the method of **See, Judge, Act**, devised by Joseph Cardijn, founder of the Young Christian Workers Movement (YCW). Over the coming weeks this method will help us look at a particular passage from Luke's Gospel, **reflect on it and take action to bring about change in our own lives**.

The programme consists of six sessions/Gospel Enquiries devised around a particular passage from St. Luke's Gospel.

- **Jesus calls the first disciples**
- **The Good Samaritan**
- **Jesus visits Martha and Mary**
- **The Prodigal Son**
- **Jesus calls Levi**
- **Jesus' Mission**

## Getting **STARTED**

If the group is coming together for the first time, it may be best for the person responsible for calling the group together to lead the first session, after this do try to encourage someone from within the group to take the lead for the following week. This person should be given a copy of the session beforehand in order to familiarise themselves with the passage and the questions that will follow.

We call this person the **Enquiry Leader**.

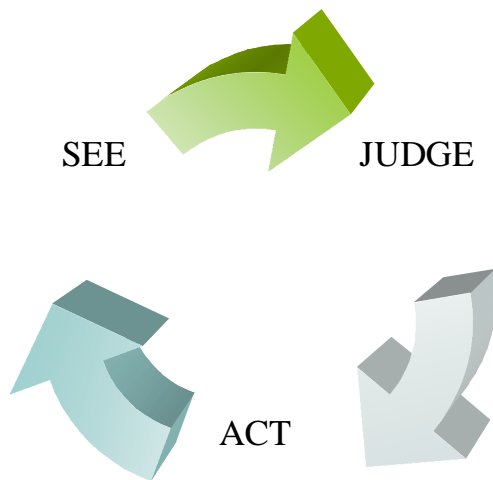
During the session the enquiry leader should begin by welcoming each person.

*If you wish an opening prayer of choice could be said for the intentions of those present or for a specific intention. Perhaps a prayer to assist the group in their actions as a result of the enquiry could be said to close the session.*

The Enquiry Leader should then introduce the Gospel passage for the evening, read it aloud and then, if necessary or helpful, have another person read it aloud. This will assist the group in getting to know the story and a feel for the characters involved. Once this is done the enquiry leader should put the passage in context for the group by reading the background information provided.

The sessions/Enquiries themselves are laid out in a particular way to help encourage the group to discuss a specific passage from the Gospel of St. Luke, to reflect on it in terms of their everyday lives and to come up with a specific action/(s).

We call this the See, Judge, Act method.



The See, Judge, Act method is a continuous process of reflection and action which encourages us to reflect on our own lives in the light of the Gospel values and to take action to bring about change in our everyday lives.

As well as the Enquiry Leader it is a good idea to appoint someone take notes of each session in order to keep account of any suggested actions or ideas which may arise from session to session. These minutes should note the decisions made and the suggested actions to be taken by individuals or by the group as a whole.

The minutes (from the previous session) should be read at the beginning of each session in order to follow up on how people got on with their chosen action/s.

Like the Enquiry Leader, the role of **minute/note taker** should be shared amongst the group with a different person taking the minutes for each session.

### **Tips for SUCCESS:**

Each Enquiry lasts about one hour finishing with a cup of tea or coffee and an opportunity to chat informally. With this in mind it is important that when we do come together, that some preparation has taken place. Here are some points to remember:

- Keep the size of the group between 5-12 people of a similar age group, this way everyone gets an opportunity to get involved and share their experiences.
- Keep in mind that you are organising a meeting not an activity. Meet in a comfortable place perhaps with a table, chairs and facilities for making tea or coffee after each session.
- Always have someone take responsibility for chairing / leading each session and have a start and finishing time.
- Make sure each person is given the opportunity to participate. Try avoid one person dominating the discussion.
- Always aim to have some practical actions from each session.
- At the end of each session make sure that there is someone organised to lead the following session. This person should meet with the animator/Chaplain/Facilitator beforehand in order to prepare.
- Ensure that there are notes / minutes taken of each session, in this way we can review our progress as a group.
- Remember there are no right or wrong answers when it comes to Gospel Enquiries, what's important are people's experiences and reflections. The Gospel speaks to us all in different ways.
- Enjoy the experience!

## Session 1:

### JESUS calls THE first DISCIPLES

**Note:** The first session should start with a basic introduction. The Enquiry Leader or person responsible for leading the session should take this opportunity to welcome everybody and introduce the programme. *(This can be done using the general introduction at the beginning of this programme)*

Ask each person to introduce themselves by telling their name and giving a little information about themselves.

They could also say why/how they came to take part in this programme and what they hope to get out of it.

*(Depending on the size of the group, this could be done by getting the group to chat in pairs, with each person reporting back to the group information about their partner).*

Once everyone has been introduced, the Enquiry Leader introduces the first session.

They should read the passage aloud then allow for someone else to read it. The Enquiry Leader should then put the passage in context by reading the background information provided. Once this is done the questions should be asked, allowing for people to answer and give their opinion.

***Be sure to get someone to take notes/minutes.***

## LET'S BEGIN.....

### Luke 5: 1-11

Now it happened that he was standing one day by the Lake Gennesaret, with the crowd pressing around him listening to the word of God, when he caught sight of two boats at the waters edge. The fishermen had got out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats – it was Simon's – and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

When he finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into deep water and pay out your nets for a catch.' Simon replied, 'Master, we worked hard all night long and caught nothing, but if you say so, I will pay out the nets.' And when they had done this they netted such a huge number of fish that their nets began to tear so they signalled to their companions in the other boat to come and help them; when these came, they filled both boats to sinking point.

When Simon saw this he fell at the knees of Jesus saying, 'Leave me, Lord I am a sinful man.' For he and all his companions were completely awestruck at the catch they had made; so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were Simon's partners. But Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is people you will be catching.' Then, bringing their boats back to land they left everything and followed him.

**Background:** Jesus was by now a very popular Preacher, hence the large crowd that had gathered to listen to him. Due to the large crowd that had gathered, he could not preach effectively and so got into Simon's boat where he asked him to put out a little further. Simon is the disciple whom Jesus called Peter, meaning Rock. It is interesting to note that Peter was not part of the crowd who had gathered to listen to Jesus but was in fact, busy with his own work.

It is clear from what he says to Jesus that there was a drought of fish, yet as a result of what Jesus has to say he agrees to put out his nets again and nets a huge catch. Feeling unworthy in the presence of Jesus, Peter then falls to his knees.

### See

- Why did Peter feel so unworthy in the presence of Jesus?
- What does Jesus mean when he says, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is people you will be catching?'

### Judge

- Would you choose Peter? Why / Why not?
- What does it mean to be a fisher of people today?
- Who are today's Fishers of people?
- How do they carry out the task?
- Do you have a role to play in the task amongst your family/friends/in your community/parish/workplace/school or college?

### Act

- How can we as a group or as individuals become Fishers of people?
- What can we as individuals do to become more worthy of the challenge?
- How can our Parish meet this challenge today? Can we influence how it responds or can we be part of that response?
- Is there something that we as a group can do to live out the values of this Gospel passage?
- What action/(s) are we going to take?

### Before we conclude.....

Enquiry Leader for our next session?

Note / Minute taker?

## Session 2:

## The Good SAMARITAN

**Enquiry Leader:** Welcome and introduction of session.

### Review of Life

Minutes/Notes from our last session.

Does anyone have any comments to make?

- Our first session concentrated on the calling of the first disciples; did this enquiry have any influence on our lives since our last session?
- What Action/s or changes did we make as a result? How did they go?
- Did it make a difference? For whom? How?

### Luke 10: 29 – 37

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, ‘And who is my neighbour?’ In answer Jesus said, ‘A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of bandits; they stripped him, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came on him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him onto his own mount and took him to an inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper and said, “Look after him, and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have.” Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into the bandits’ hands?’ He replied, ‘The one who showed pity towards him.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go, and do the same yourself.’

**Background Notes:** Jews and Samaritans had a deep hatred for one another. Jewish law stated that if a Jew touched a dead body they were spiritually unclean and would have to wash before taking part in any religious services. The teachers of the Jewish law were Priests and Levites.

### See

- What, in your opinion, was the reaction of the listeners to this story told by Jesus?
- What do you think Jesus was trying to say when he gave his answer to the question “Who is my neighbour?”

- How do you feel the different people in the story acted? (The Priest, the Levite and the Samaritan).

### **Judge**

- Have you ever acted like any of the people in the story, in your work place, at home or on the street? What happened? Why did you act this way?
- Can you give examples of similar situations in our society today? How did we / those involved react?
- What caused us / them to react the way they did?
- Is it difficult to stand up for people who are unpopular or weak or to offer assistance or compassion to those whom some may see as less deserving of our help?

### **Act**

- Having listened to the story of the Good Samaritan and our own experiences, are there any actions that we can take as individuals or as a group?
- What actions will we take in the coming days/weeks?
- How can you be more “neighbourly” in the communities in which you are involved; your Parish/Workplace/Family/Home life/School/College or amongst your friends?

### **Before we conclude.....**

Enquiry Leader for our next session?

Note / Minute taker?

### Session 3:

## JESUS visits MARTHA & MARY

**Enquiry Leader:** Welcome and introduction of session.

### Review of Life

Minutes/Notes from our last session.

Does anyone have any comments to make?

- Our previous session concentrated on the Parable of the Good Samaritan; did it influence how we reacted to others or impact on our lives in any way during the week?
- What actions did we take based on last weeks' session? How did they go?
- What changes did we make?
- Did it make a difference? For whom? How?

### Luke 10:38-42

In the course of their journey he came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha, who was distracted with all the service, came to him and said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered, 'Martha, Martha,' he said, 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part, and it is not to be taken from her.'

**Background:** At the time the role of women in society was one of service, to cook and clean and generally take care of the household. Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to what he had to say, in so doing she was going against the norm. Sitting at the feet of Jesus and listening to his preaching was usually done by men while the women continued on with their daily chores.

### See

- Why did Mary sit at the feet of Jesus listening to his teaching?
- Why was Martha so upset? What do you think she hoped to gain from complaining about the situation to Jesus?
- What did Jesus mean when he said that Mary has chosen the right thing?

**Judge**

- Have you ever felt like Martha, feeling that you'd been left to do all the work? When and where did this happen?
- Like Mary have you ever had to go against what society or others expected from you in order to pursue what you believed to be right? If so can you explain what happened?
- Do you think she made the right choice?
- Both Mary and Martha were followers of Jesus. In order to be followers we must be able hear Jesus' message. When do you get a chance to sit at the feet of Jesus and hear his message?

**Act**

- Over the coming week take note of how you spend your time at work/school/college and at home. Do you feel like you're the one left doing all the work or are you the one leaving it to others? Do you need to redress the balance?
- What action/s will you take as a result of hearing this story and the experiences of the group?
- How can you make time in your day to listen to Jesus?

**Before we conclude.....**

Enquiry Leader for our next session?

Note / Minute taker?

## Session 4:

### The **PRODIGAL** Son

**Enquiry Leader:** Welcome and introduction of session.

#### **Review of Life**

Minutes/Notes from our last session.

Does anyone have any comments to make?

- Our previous Enquiry looked at Jesus' visit to Martha and Mary; what influence did this enquiry have on how we reacted to others since our last session?
- Did the Enquiry impact on our lives in any way since we last met? Did it influence how we behaved at home/in Work/college or amongst our friends?
- What action or changes did we make based on the enquiry? How did they go?
- Did it make a difference? For whom? How?

#### **Luke 15:11-31**

Then he said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that will come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant county where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. "When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch; so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled himself with the husks the pigs were eating but no one would let him have them. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's hired men have all the food they want and more, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired men. So he left the place and went back to his father.

"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we will celebrate by having a feast, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found" And they began to celebrate.

"Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. The servant told him, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the calf we had been fattening because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out and began to urge him to come in; but he retorted to his father, "All these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed

any order of yours, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his loose women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found”.

**Background:** Parables were stories told by Jesus to convey a message. The custom of the time was that the eldest son would inherit the father’s wealth, but only after the father had died. In this parable Jesus shows us the forgiving nature of the father and contrasts that with the righteous, upright nature of the eldest son who cannot understand why, having stayed by his father all these years, he must now stand by and watch his brother welcomed home with open arms.

### See

- What do you think of the younger son asking his father for his share of the property then squandering it as he did?
- How do you think his father would have felt being asked such a question?
- Was the younger son right to return home as he did?
- What could he have done differently?
- What do you think of his older brother’s reaction to his return? Would you have reacted in the same way?

### Judge

- What in your opinion is the message behind this story?
- Is it applicable to our lives today? How? / How not?
- In your own life, amongst your friends/colleagues and family, have you ever been shocked at how people “squander” money?
- How in your opinion should money be handled?
- In the parable the father showed great forgiveness towards his young son. Have we ever witnessed someone show forgiveness even when it’s difficult to do so? Who? What were the circumstances? Can we give examples?
- Is it easy to forgive?
- Have you ever been the recipient of someone’s forgiveness? If so, can you explain the situation?
- How did being forgiven make you feel?

### Act

- The young son’s greed got the better of him. Over the coming days/week can we take a look at our attitude to money/possessions?
- Are you selfish? Materialistic? Is it time for you to make a change?
- Looking at your own relationships, are there people that you need to forgive or from whom you should seek forgiveness or at least offer an apology? Can you make an effort to do this during the coming days/week?

**Before we conclude.....**

Enquiry Leader for our next session?

Note / Minute taker?

## Session 5:

### Jesus CALLS Levi

**Enquiry Leader:** Welcome and introduction of session.

#### Review of Life

Minutes/Notes from our last session.

Does anyone have any comments to make?

- Our previous session concentrated on the parable of the Prodigal Son; did it influence how we reacted to or treated others?
- Did the story impact on our lives in any way?
- What actions or changes did we make based on our enquiry? How did they go?
- Did it make a difference? For whom? How?

#### Luke 5:27-32

When he went out after this, he noticed a tax collector, Levi by name, sitting at the tax office, and said to him, 'Follow me.' And leaving everything Levi got up and followed him.

In his honour Levi held a great reception in his house and with them at table was a large gathering of tax collectors and others. The Pharisees and their scribes complained to his disciples and said, 'Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?' Jesus said to them in reply, 'It is not those that are well who need the doctor, but the sick. I have come to call not the upright but the sinners to repentance.'

**Background:** Tax collectors were seen as corrupt and collaborators with the Romans. They would collect the taxes that were due but would also pocket some of the money themselves. No one could complain about this as tax collectors were under the protection of the Romans and once they got their share they didn't care how the taxes were collected.

As a result tax collectors were hated and shunned in their own community which is why the leaders of the Jewish faith (Pharisees) were so shocked by Jesus' actions towards Levi and the other tax collectors. He obviously saw something in Levi that no one else could see.

#### See

- Levi got up and left everything when Jesus called him. Why do you think he was so happy to leave his old way of life?
- Tax collectors were shunned by all in the community, why then did Jesus specifically call Levi?
- If you were a Pharisee how would you feel about Jesus choosing a tax collector?

**Judge**

- If Jesus were to do the same today, who are the shunned people he would target?
- Are there people you shun or avoid? Who are they? Where are they? Why do you do it?
- What can you learn from the way Jesus treated those who were marginalised and discriminated against?
- Does it take courage to reach out to those that are marginalised and discriminated against in some way?

**Act**

- Is there anyway you can change your attitude towards others?
- What actions can we as a group or individually take to assist those who are discriminated against or marginalised in our own community/Parish/workplace?
- Levi responded to a call to change, are there changes that you can make in your own life?

**Before we conclude.....**

Enquiry Leader for our next session?

Note / Minute taker?

## Session 6:

## Jesus' MISSION

**Enquiry Leader:** Welcome and introduction of session.

### Review of Life

Minutes/Notes from our last session.

Does anyone have any comments to make?

- In our previous Enquiry Jesus called Levi; what influence did this enquiry have on us since our last session?
- Did the Enquiry impact on our lives in any way since we last met? Did it influence or change our attitudes or how we behaved towards those that are shunned by society or those we interact with at home/in Work/college/School or our Parish?
- What actions did we take based on last weeks' session? How did they go?
- What action or changes did we make based on the enquiry?
- Did it make a difference? For whom? How?

### Luke 4: 14-30

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone glorified him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord is on me, for he has anointed me  
to bring the good news to the afflicted.  
He sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
Sight to the blind,  
To let the oppressed go free,  
To proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even while you are listening.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?'

But he replied, 'No doubt you will quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself," and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own

country.” And he went on, ‘In truth I tell you, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

‘There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah’s day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a town in Sidonia. And in the prophet Elisha’s time there were many suffering from virulent skin-diseases in Israel, but none of these was cured – only Naaman the Syrian.’ When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him off the cliff, but he passed straight through the crowd and walked away.

**Background:** This episode occurs very early on in Jesus’ public ministry. By this stage however he had achieved some notoriety and had been praised for his preaching elsewhere.

At the time it was customary to invite any male to read the scripture, with his “celebrity” there was great expectation and all present were eager to hear Jesus speak. While the passage reads as one visit, scripture scholars feel it is really a summary of two or more visits made by Jesus to his hometown. It is an important passage as he tells us clearly that the moment of salvation was being achieved through the person of Jesus.

#### See

- How do you think those present in the Synagogue felt prior to Jesus speaking? How would they have felt by the time he’d finished?
- Jesus summarises his mission as, to bring the good news to the afflicted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, to bring Sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free and to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. How did he fulfil his mission in his Ministry?
- What did he mean when he said, ‘no prophet is ever accepted in his own country’?

#### Judge

- Have you ever felt like Jesus, not being accepted because of prejudice or bias in your home, workplace, College, Parish Community or amongst your friends? How did it make you feel?
- Is Jesus’ mission still being carried out today? If so by whom?
- What is your role in his mission?

## **Act**

- As a group what will we do to continue Jesus' mission?  
Can we organise for example:
  - ⇒ A volunteering Sunday for our parish community where we facilitate the opportunity for everyone to make a contribution to the life of the parish.
  - ⇒ Do a fundraiser to assist a local charity.
  - ⇒ Set up a Bible study group to help us and others become more familiar with the word of God.
  - ⇒ Continue to meet using the method of See, Judge, Act as a means to assisting us in deepening our faith.
  - ⇒ Contact the office of Evangelisation for further suggestions / resources.
  
- What are we going to do?

## **Before we conclude.....**

Enquiry Leader for our next session?

Note / Minute taker?



## Young CHRISTIAN Workers

### Who ARE WE?

#### ⇒ *Mission Statement*

The YCW is an international youth movement, which values the dignity and worth of each young person. It enables its members to challenge social exclusion and take action to bring about change in their home, workplace and society.

The YCW is a movement of young adults who, by reflection and action, attempt to change and improve their lives and society.

#### ⇒ *Who runs YCW?*

YCW is organised and run at every level (local, regional, national and international) by young adults (YCW members are aged 18+ while IMPACT! members are 16-18 years old). They decide the programme of action after reflecting on their reality and the conditions of those around them.

#### ⇒ *What does YCW do?*

YCW brings people together in local groups and helps them answer their own needs and the needs of those around them through taking action. This action is decided in the group through discussions called enquiries. Using the YCW method of analysis See, Judge, Act, Review the group reflects on issues of concern and takes appropriate action in response either individually or as a group. Actions are often taken in the local community, organising events or activities at local level.

In this way YCW can help to develop the individual and the local community.

#### ⇒ *What is so good about YCW?*

In addition to the fact that YCW is organised by the members themselves there are three other good reasons for being involved:

- It is a chance to take action to improve local communities and our society, affecting real change.
- YCW helps to develop the confidence, social skills, faith and social awareness of the young people it touches.
- YCW helps young people meet new friends from all over the country and even world-wide through its actions, meetings, training events, holidays and social occasions. YCW is an enjoyable worthwhile experience.

⇒ ***How did it start?***

YCW was founded in Belgium by a young priest called Joseph Cardijn in 1925. He believed that each young person had a unique and special contribution to make to society. However he knew that the experience of young people was somewhat different, they were often treated unfairly and denied the opportunity to participate and bring about change. If this situation was to change the only way was to organise young people to take actions for themselves. And so the YCW was born.

⇒ ***How important is the Movement today?***

YCW is presently active in over 100 countries, and in every continent with more than 3 million members. The Movement has been a dynamic force for change as it has expanded throughout the world. The YCW has contributed to the lives of many young people in Ireland and has enabled them to bring about positive change by empowering them to make informed judgements and choices, enabling them to influence the decision making bodies which control and dictate the quality of their lives.

⇒ ***How do I get involved?***

There are small groups at local level all over the country. These meet regularly to plan actions and activities together in order to serve, educate and represent young people.

If no group exists in your area why not start one yourself. You can contact the YCW National Office, 11 Talbot St., Dublin 1, Tel: 01-878 0291, email: info@ycw.ie they will be happy to assist you. Alternatively you could inquire at your local parish or youth information service.

YCW has many programmes which your group can use to help it get going. We also organise regular campaigns and actions as well as Youth Retreats.

⇒ ***How is it organised as a movement?***

YCW exists at several levels of organisation. The most immediate and important is the local group called a section. Each section is organised around a parish or local estate/community/school or college and consists of young people who meet together, elect their leaders, finance themselves through a small subscription and decide their action in accordance with their own needs and those of the local community.

YCW members meet regularly for training and social events nationally and internationally to support and develop the work, local groups and the Movement as a whole.

⇒ ***How is YCW a Christian Movement?***

YCW recognises the dignity and worth of each young person, which is the basis of the Christian message. It vigorously affirms that dignity in the working, social and community experiences of its members. YCW welcomes all young people as members irrespective of whether they are members of a faith community or not. In this way it is truly an ecumenical Movement.

⇒ ***What is the role of the Animator/Chaplain/Adult Collaborator?***

In addition to the elected officials in a section there is also a Chaplain/Animator/Adult collaborator. The role of this person is important for the formation and support of the members, it is therefore a role of support not leadership. The movement has its own structure of support and training for Animators/Chaplains/Adult Collaborators.

⇒ ***IMPACT! - What's that all about?***

IMPACT! is the section of the Movement for young adults 16-18 years. The “**Change Through Action**” programme consists of 10 exciting sessions, each one designed to enable young people to explore an issue of concern in a fun way, debate it and plan actions to bring about change.

All YCW programmes, campaigns and actions have been developed using the method of See, Judge, Act.

**Want to know more?**

Then contact us today at our National Office, 11 Talbot St. Dublin 1. Tel: 01-878 0291.

Email: [info@ycw.ie](mailto:info@ycw.ie)

Check out our web site to see what we're up to. Web: [www.ycw.ie](http://www.ycw.ie)

For further details on the Year of Evangelisation contact the

**Office of Evangelisation**

**Holy Cross Diocesan Centre**

**Clonliffe Road**

**Dublin 3**

**01 8379253**

Web: [www.dublindiocese.ie](http://www.dublindiocese.ie)

Email: [evangelisation@dublindiocese.ie](mailto:evangelisation@dublindiocese.ie)

## **SEE, JUDGE, ACT Cards**

### **Social Enquiry – SITUATIONS FROM EVERYDAY LIFE**

The YCW method can be used not only in relation to Gospel Enquiries but can assist how we deal with everyday situations, at home, in our workplace, school, college and Parish community, whether we are unemployed, young or old. It is a simple method which helps us to stop, stand back from a situation and reflect on it before we jump in and take action.

The cards below will assist you in getting to grips with the method.

#### **SEE**

1. What is happening?
2. Who are the people involved?
3. What is the situation doing to people?  
(Consequences)
4. Why is it happening?  
(Causes)

#### **JUDGE**

1. How do you feel about this situation?
2. What do you think should be happening/  
What would the ideal be?
3. What does your faith say about it?

#### **ACT**

1. What can we do to bridge the gap  
between what is happening and what s  
should be happening?
2. What action are we going to take?
3. Who can we involve in our action?

## GOSPEL ENQUIRY – **Reflecting On The Word Of God**

### **SEE**

(look at the passage)

1. What is happening in the passage?
2. Who are the people involved?
3. What is the situation doing to people?  
(Consequences)
4. Why is it happening?  
(Causes)

### **JUDGE**

(look at our lives)

1. How do you feel about this situation?
2. Have you ever behaved or acted like anyone in the passage?
3. If so, what happened? Why?
4. How did you and/or those involved feel?  
(consequences)
5. What would the ideal be?

### **ACT**

(act in light of faith)

1. What can we do to bridge the gap between what is happening (the reality) and what should be happening?(the ideal/what our faith says)
2. How can we apply the values/message from the Gospel to our everyday lives?
3. What action are we going to take?
4. Who can we involve in our action?

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