What is a Sycamore “pathway”?

A Sycamore “Pathway” is a selection of Sycamore sessions put together to form a coherent course. This page will help you decide which pathway is best for your community.



Each Sycamore session is self-contained, and you may wish to run a single session as part of a wider teaching or evangelisation programme that you have organised within your community.

A Sycamore “Pathway” is simply a selection of Sycamore sessions put together to form a coherent course. You need to decide which Pathway you are going to follow.

Sycamore is a modular course that can be adapted for the needs of your group. There are ten sessions in Series 1 and another ten sessions coming soon in Series 2. You can choose which sessions to run and create your own course depending on the time you have and the needs of your group.

It’s better, of course, if there is some kind of continuity, and the later sessions build on the earlier ones. But each session is self-contained and tries not to assume too much previous knowledge.

Each session is presented as if the group is beginning a new topic, and at no point does the presenter say “as we learnt in a previous session” or something similar. This allows you to create different combinations using common sense and with an eye to the logic of how the course unfolds.

Here are some suggested pathways. *Further pathways will be added when Sessions 11 to 20 are completed – hopefully around January 2020.*

**TEN-WEEK ENQUIRY COURSE**

Aimed at non-Christian/non-churchgoing guests. Also useful as a programme of renewal or enrichment for practising Christians.

This includes all of the first ten films (Sessions 1 to 10). It forms the most coherent way of presenting the Christian faith to non-believers, because each session builds on the one that precedes it, and it gives plenty of time for the participants to get to know each other and to become comfortable in the sessions.

1. **The Search for Happiness (Film 1)**
2. **The Existence of God (Film 2)**
3. **A God Who Speaks (Film 3)**
4. **Who is Jesus? (Film 4)**
5. **The Holy Spirit and the Church (Film 5)**
6. **The Bible (Film 6)**
7. **The Gift of Faith (Film 7)**
8. **The Power of Prayer (Film 8)**
9. **Finding True Freedom (Film 9)**
10. **The Meaning of Love (Film 10)**

**EIGHT-WEEK ENQUIRY COURSE, WITH A TWO SESSION RETREAT DAY**

Aimed at non-Christian/non-churchgoing guests. Also useful as a programme of renewal or enrichment for practising Christians.

This includes eight of the first ten films, with the two remaining sessions “taken out” and run during a retreat day.

1. **The Search for Happiness (Film 1)**
2. **The Existence of God (Film 2)**
3. **A God Who Speaks (Film 3)**
4. **Who is Jesus? (Film 4)**
5. **The Holy Spirit and the Church (Film 5)**
6. **The Bible (Film 6)**
7. **Finding True Freedom (Film 9)**
8. **The Meaning of Love (Film 10)**

**RETREAT DAY: The Gift of Faith (Film 7) + The Power of Prayer (Film 8)**

It’s recommended to run the retreat day if possible after week 5 or 6, so that the topics of Faith and Prayer are treated after the sessions on Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

**SEVEN-WEEK ENQUIRY COURSE**

Aimed at non-Christian/non-churchgoing guests. Also useful as a programme of renewal or enrichment for practising Christians.

This includes the first seven films from Series 1, and therefore covers the main doctrinal/creedal elements of Series 1, but excludes the more personal/existential topics around Prayer, Freedom and Love. These extra three sessions could be run as a short series of follow-up sessions as a way of re-connecting with those guests who wanted to meet again and be involved.

1. **The Search for Happiness (Film 1)**
2. **The Existence of God (Film 2)**
3. **A God Who Speaks (Film 3)**
4. **Who is Jesus? (Film 4)**
5. **The Holy Spirit and the Church (Film 5)**
6. **The Bible (Film 6)**
7. **The Gift of Faith (Film 7)**

**FOUR-WEEK ADVENT COURSE**

For practicing Christians, or for people with some Christian background, who wish to renew their faith in the Season of Advent. For use in churches, parishes, school staff rooms, school parent groups, etc.

The focus of these sessions is on our search for God in life (Film 1) and in prayer (Film 8), and how God reaches out to us in history (Film 3) and through the Bible (Film 6)

1. **The Search for Happiness (Film 1)**
2. **A God Who Speaks (Film 3)**
3. **The Bible (Film 6)**
4. **The Power of Prayer (Film 8)**

**SIX-WEEK LENT COURSE**

For practicing Christians, or for people with some Christian background, who wish to renew their faith in the Season of Lent. For use in churches, parishes, school staff rooms, school parent groups, etc.

The focus of these sessions is on knowing God and the salvation he offers in Jesus Christ (Film 2, 4 and 5), and on our response to this offer of salvation in faith, freedom and love (Films, 7, 9 and 10).

As you can see, the six Lent films do not repeat any of the four Advent films, so if the Advent course goes well you can invite people back without any repetition, and in this way the participants have experienced all ten sessions from Series 1.

1. **The Existence of God (Film 2)**
2. **Who is Jesus? (Film 4)**
3. **The Holy Spirit and the Church (Film 5)**
4. **The Gift of Faith (Film 7)**
5. **Finding True Freedom (Film 9)**
6. **The Meaning of Love (Film 10)**