



# (UN) FAITHFUL

A FAITHFUL GOD  
AND HIS UNFAITHFUL PEOPLE.

A 4 SESSION RESOURCE FOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE LEARNING THE  
LESSONS OF COVENANT FOR  
LIFE TODAY.

# (UN) FAITHFUL

**Welcome to (UN)faithful, a brand new resource written with Presbyterian youth groups in mind.** The Council for Congregational Life and Witness wants to support leaders in their crucial task of making disciples of teenagers and this **4 session** resource is designed to be used flexibly in any youth group. Each session includes **video** material, **activities** and small group **questions** which can be adapted according to the needs of each group.

Based on the **Youth Night 2017** material, **(UN)faithful** starts with the book of **Hosea** and uses a **covenant theology framework**. 4 sessions will help young people understand the blessings and responsibilities of being **part of God's covenant people**, but will also help them address from that biblical viewpoint the 3 key tasks of growing up – establishing Belonging, Identity and Significance as God intended.

**EACH TALK IS IN 2 PARTS, TOTALLING AROUND 15 MINUTES, FROM MEL LACY, MARK HAWTHORNE, PETE WRIGHT AND LAURA HUTCHESON-MAGEE, EACH OF WHOM HAS GREAT EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN IRELAND.**

While this material is easy to use with the minimum of preparation, it is also flexible for different settings. Please see each session like a menu from which you can choose different items from each “course”, spend more or less time on a “dish”, or even add in some of your own special “ingredients”! You can adapt it for your setting to help young people understand important lessons from the Bible, reflect on what they mean for their lives and take steps to apply them. Each session has a **KEY** learning point so you can be clear what the point is and how each session links together.

If your congregation has been using the “How to be a Close to Home Congregation” resource, you may find some aspects of “(UN)faithful” familiar as it addresses covenant theology from a youth-friendly perspective, and also follows 3 key elements of the sessions from the adult resource:

- **Understand** (what do I need to learn?)
- **Reflect** (what does this mean in practice?)
- **Apply** (what do I need to do?)

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The (Un)faithful resource is a free download only,  
from **[www.presbyterianireland.org/youthnight](http://www.presbyterianireland.org/youthnight)**  
but leaders are required to register their group first.

# SUMMARY OF SESSIONS

## Session 1: (UN)FAITHFUL

*In the midst of a messy world, God is faithful. In contrast to our unfaithfulness, God is faithful. What does the book of Hosea teach us about our relationship with God?*

This first session features material from Youth Night with additional activities which means it works as follow-up for those who were there or stand-alone for new audiences.

- **Key:** God is faithful to His promises despite our disobedience, and can be trusted despite the messiness of our world. This is the basis for how we understand everything in our life and identity.
- **Understand:**
  - Videos of “Jeremy Bile” drama about Hosea & on Covenant (from Close to Home resource).
  - Video of Mel Lacy’s talk (edited part 1) & discussion questions.
- **Reflect:**
  - Video of Jill’s story with video of interview & discussion questions.
- **Apply:** How does God’s covenant love shape how I approach my own sin, my messy world, and my life?
  - Mel’s talk (edited part 2) & discussion questions.

**Sessions 2-4 will look at issues through the framework of covenant theology.**

## Session 2: BELONGING

*God is faithful to us and gives us a covenant community to guide, help and encourage us to be faithful to him. What part does active belonging to local church play in God's plan for our faithful walk with him?*

- **Key:** Our need for community is best met as part of God's people.
- **Understand:**
  - Introductory activity, video talk part 1 (Mark Hawthorne) & discussion questions.
- **Reflect:**
  - Video story (a young person on the value of church community) & discussion questions.
- **Apply:**

How much does church feel like home to me? How can I invest myself more in this church family?

  - Video talk part 2 (Mark) & discussion questions.

## Session 3: IDENTITY

*Who am I? We live in a confused and broken world. What if the answers to our identity crisis lie in understanding what it means to be part of God's covenant people?*

- **Key:** Our unique identity is only understood when we know we are part of God's people.
- **Understand:**
  - Introductory activity, video talk part 1 (Pete Wright) & discussion questions.
- **Reflect:**
  - Video story (young person on how they find their identity in Christ) & discussion questions.
- **Apply:** Am I trying to be an individual or embracing my identity as part of God's family? What can I do?
  - Video talk part 2 (Pete) & discussion questions.

## Session 4: LIVING & SERVING

*When we live in covenant with God, we flourish, and pour blessing into those around us; we become who He really created us to be, an active part of His restoration of everyone, and everything, around us.*

- **Key:** Only when we know we are one of God's richly blessed people, can we be adequately fulfilled by discovering our significance in our purpose of being a blessing to others.
- **Understand:**
  - Introductory activity, video talk part 1 (Laura Hutcheson-Magee) & discussion questions.
- **Reflect:**
  - Video story (a young person on how they serve and bless others as part of their church) & discussion questions.
- **Apply:** What opportunities do I have to serve and bless others in my church and community?
  - Video talk part 2 (Laura) & discussion questions.

## DOWNLOADS

The following are all available from [www.presbyterianireland.org/youthnight](http://www.presbyterianireland.org/youthnight)

### **PDF documents:**

Introduction sheet (this sheet)  
Session 1: (UN)faithful  
Session 2: Belonging  
Session 3: Identity  
Session 4: Living & serving  
Resource sheet  
Scripture card with extracts from Hosea

### **Video clips:**

Youth Night “Unfaithful” video  
“Jeremy Bile” drama about Hosea  
Covenant video from The Bible Project  
C2H interview material about covenant

Jill’s story  
Interview with Jill  
Mel’s talk “Unfaithful” – part 1  
Mel’s talk “Unfaithful” – part 2  
Mel’s talk “Unfaithful” – full version

Jonny’s story  
Mark’s talk “Belonging” – part 1  
Mark’s talk “Belonging” – part 2

Megan’s story  
Pete’s talk “Identity” – part 1  
Pete’s talk “Identity” – part 2

Tori’s story  
Laura’s talk “Living & serving” – part 1  
Laura’s talk “Living & serving” – part 2

Songs from Youth Night 2017.

