

EVANGELISTIC COURSES

TOM HEASMAN | 22.06.22



COME & SEE / GO & TELL

We seem to have an insatiable hunger for programs to accomplish evangelism. Why? Programs are like sugar. It's tasty, even addictive... [But] a strict diet of evangelistic programs produces malnourished evangelism... Programs can often make us feel as if we've done evangelism when we haven't. So...we should use them strategically but in moderation.

J MACK STILES - 'EVANGELISM'

A (RECENT) HISTORY OF COURSES AT DUNDONALD

2017-18

2018-19

2019-20

2020-21
***COVID**

2021-22



No central courses
Focus on 1:1s
CE material available

Tried Life Explored
Lessons learned
Understanding context

Wrote Something Better
CE as 'next-step'
Focus on *one* course

Online lessons:
Increased reach
Harder relationally

Tried Hope Explored
Lessons learned
Build rhythm (SB > CE)

SOMETHING BETTER

(4 WEEKS)



~60%

(CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED)

(6 WEEKS)

A (VERY SUBJECTIVE) OVERVIEW

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Strengths

- ✚ great for those further on trusted content
- ✚ good on sin/need for salvation

Weaknesses

- too long (6/7 weeks)
- dated videos/format
- content heavy
- wrong questions *unless* actively seeking



CHRISTIANITY|EXPLORE

WHAT'S THE BEST NEWS
YOU'VE EVER HEARD?

HANDBOOK

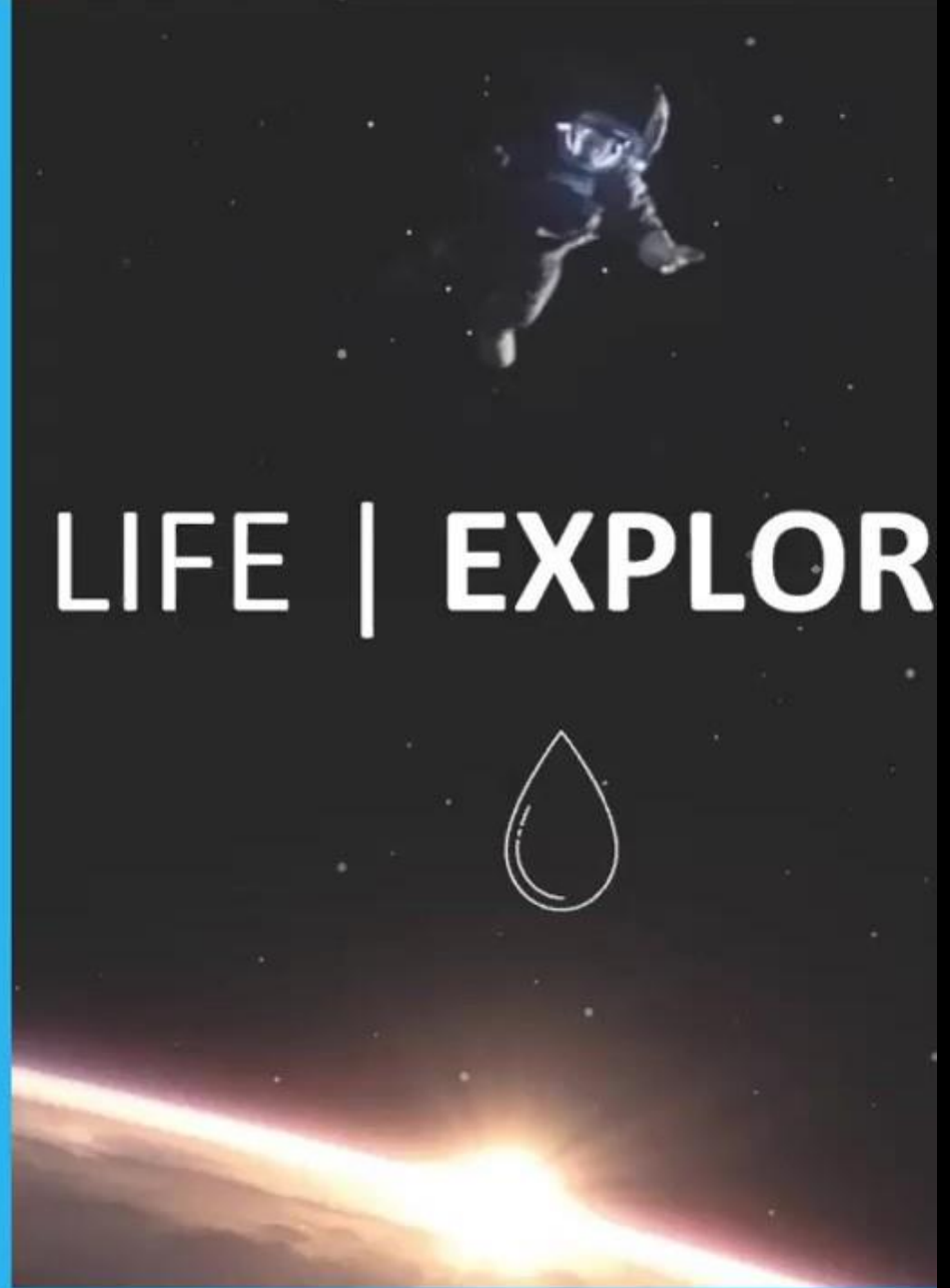
LIFE EXPLORED

Strengths

- ✚ visually impressive
- ✚ asking right *sort* of questions

Weaknesses

- impossible to understand
- too much bible content for entry level
- still too long (x7 sessions)



HOPE EXPLORED

Strengths

- ✚ short! (x3 sessions)
addressing on-point themes (Hope | Purpose | Peace)

Weaknesses

- only one session on hope
- confusing/distracting videos
- *still* trying to do too much?



HOPE | EXPLORED

WHAT'S THE BEST LIFE
YOU COULD EVER EXPECT

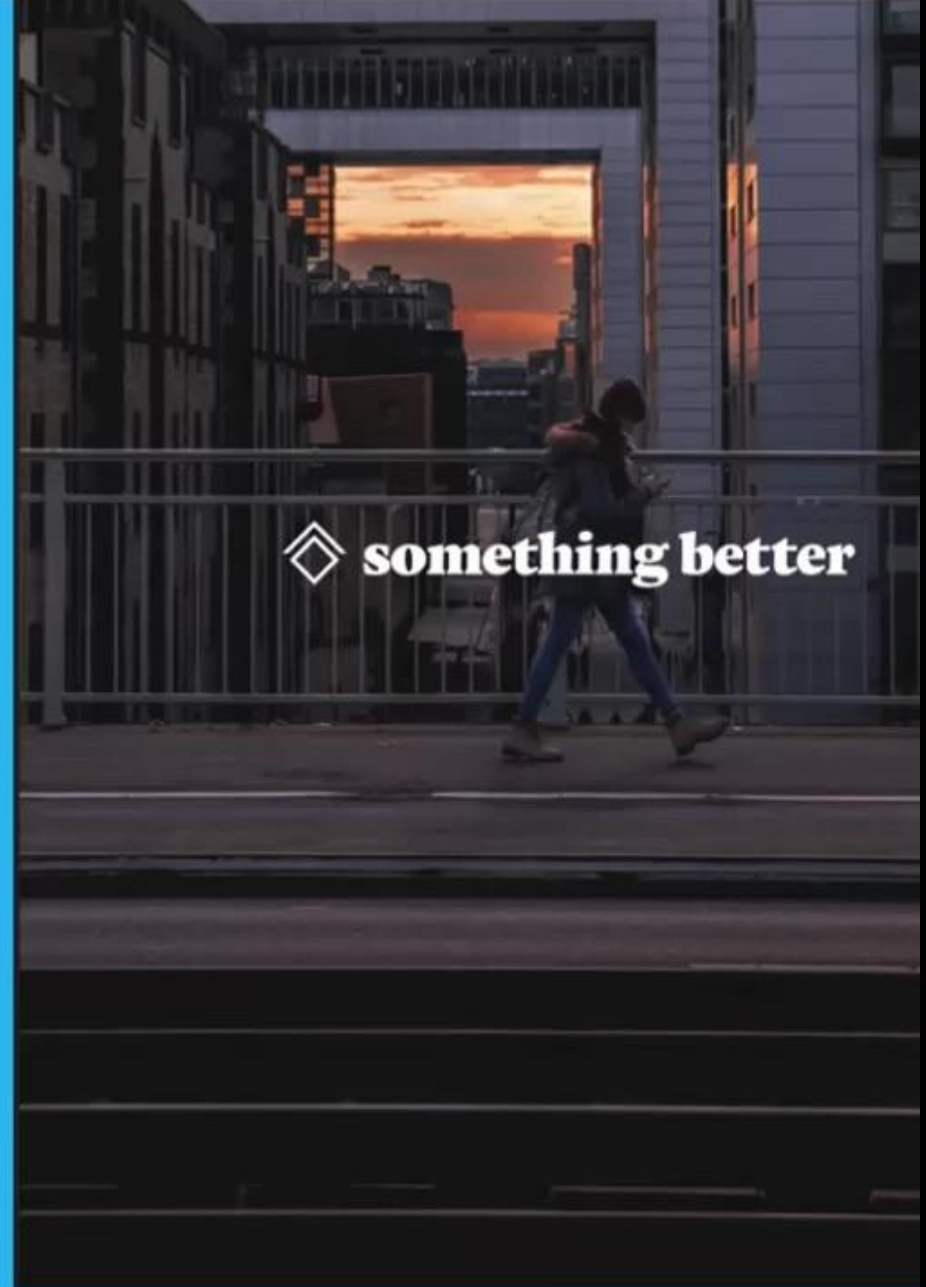
SOMETHING BETTER

Strengths

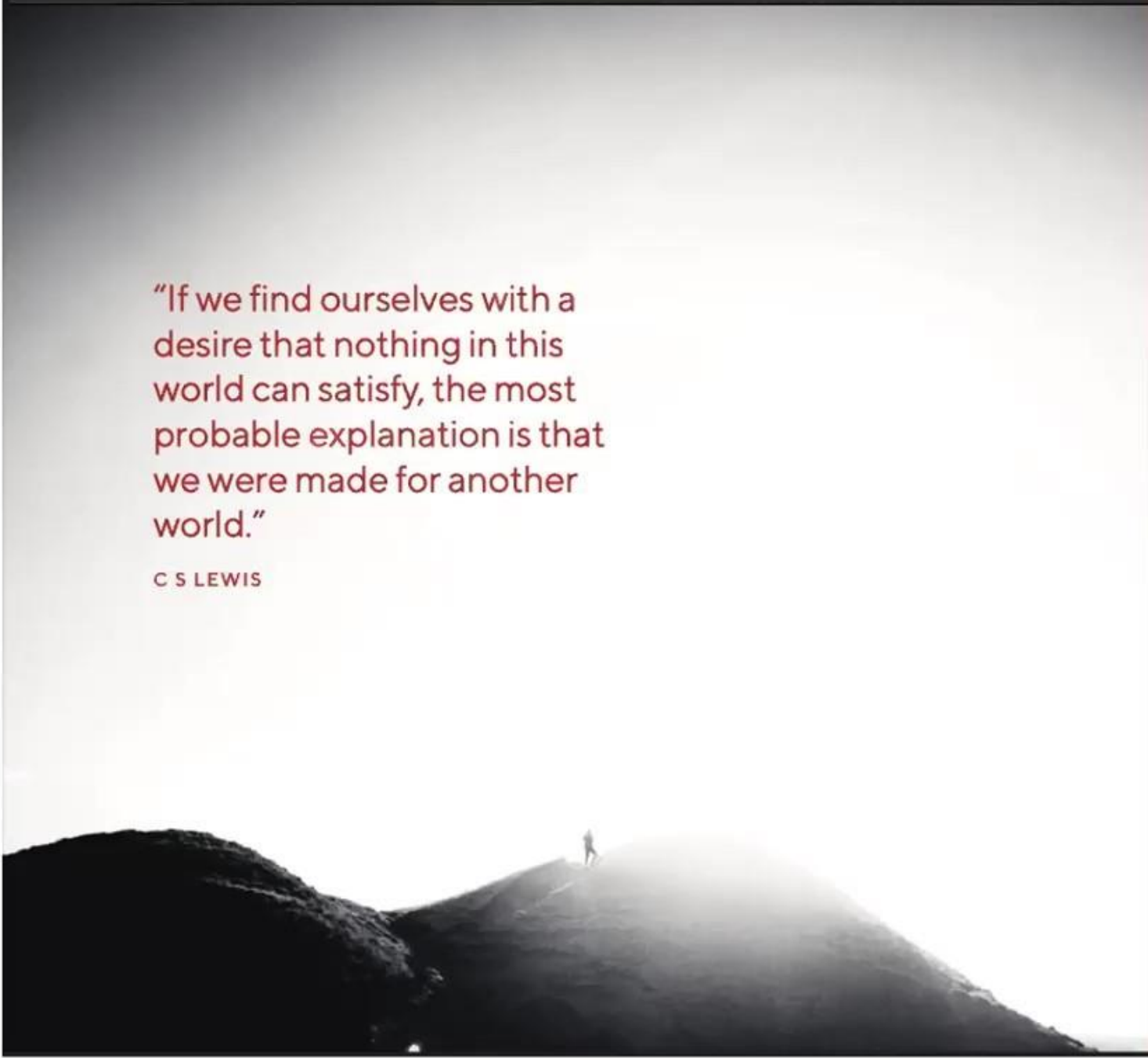
- + simple format / no training req
- + asking relevant questions
- + assumes biblical illiteracy

Weaknesses

- not the full package
- same talk (idolatry) from four angles?
- no call to response (follow-up required)



 **something better**



“If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.”

C S LEWIS

Satisfac

Meanin

Identity

Hope. 2

What n

SATISFACTION

Short Talk 

Discuss

What are some of the sorts of things we look to, to make us satisfied in life?

Film

"I remember thinking – that sitcom is coming, it's coming. And when I got it, I wouldn't say it's a depression, but you kind of go through a disappointment because...that fame, or that thing, didn't satisfy in the way you thought it would satisfy"

Tony Hale, actor

Discuss

We all want to be content. why do you think lasting contentment is so hard to find?

"We never found the a thing: we all have a hun Florence + The Machine, "

"Most people, if they re into their own hearts, w want, and want acutely be had in this world. Th in this world that offer t they never keep their p which arise in us when first think of some forei up some subject that e which no marriage, no really satisfy. I am not s ordinarily be called uns or trips and so on; I am possible ones. There is grasped at, in that first that just fades away in may be a good spouse, excellent, it has turned but 'it' has evaded us."

C S Lewis

"The day comes when t and you notice you are you are living bears sca to what you thought ye yet, you realise you got choices..."

Francis Spufford

"My people have com have forsaken me, the and have dug their ow cisterns that cannot ho Jeremiah, The Bible

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Teacher, when did you get here?"

²⁶Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. **Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.**"

²⁷Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

²⁸Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: **to believe in the one he has sent.**"

²⁹So they asked him, "What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³⁰Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

³¹Jesus said to them, "Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³²For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³³"Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

³⁴Then Jesus declared, "**I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.**"

What does Jesus say is the motive for the crowd in looking for him? (25-26)

Rather than chasing after 'food that spoils', what does Jesus encourage them to go after instead? what's the difference? (27)

How does this push against our culture and usual way of thinking?

What's surprising about how to get this 'food'? (28-29)

All it takes to get this eternally satisfying food is by believing in Jesus. The crowd aren't convinced - and so they ask for proof that Jesus is the real deal (30). They remind Jesus that God gave their ancestors bread to eat when they were wandering in the wilderness, years back.

Jesus says: Yes, I know. But I've got better bread to give you.

And so they say, v34, "Let's be having some of this bread, please!"

But they still don't understand.

What does Jesus say about himself in v35? why is this a staggering claim?

Short Talk

Notes

Story

How do you feel about what Jesus is saying here?

Have you got any questions?

Email them to questions@dundonald.org





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And I d

And

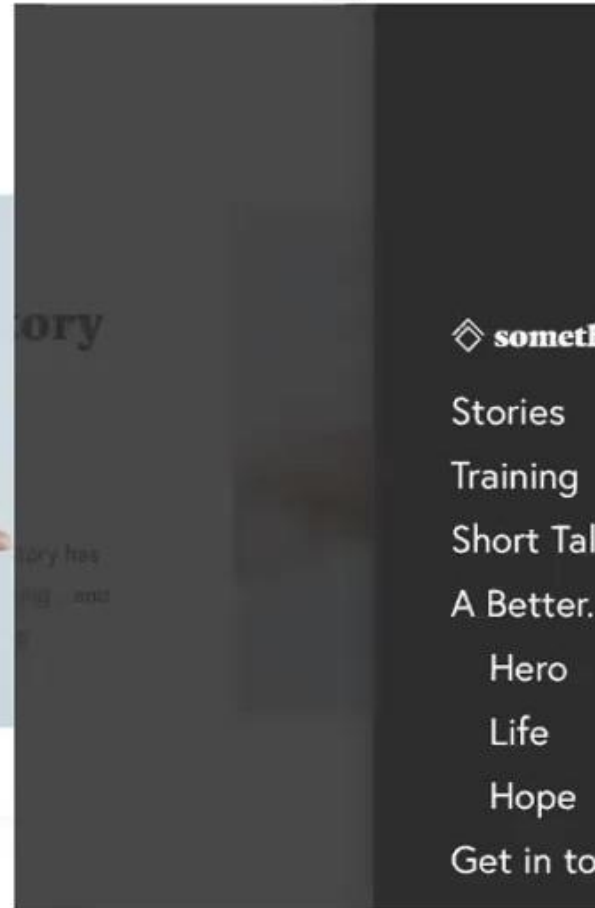


SHORT TALKS

Where Is History Headed?

Exploring where the Bible says history has been headed, since the very beginning...and how this changes everything.

WATCH →



WRITE YOUR OWN COURSE?

SUGGESTIONS

Neutral venue

1:1s rather than large groups

No leaders prep - *lower the bar!*

Session: 1hr max (^^ time for relationship building)

Aim: get people to Sunday church

Richard Per

Barry Schut

DISCUSS / QUESTIONS