

Christian Union Planning Sheet

Theme / Topic

Where is God when my plans go wrong? - *Part 5 of the 'Hope has a name' 6-part series*

Bible Passage

Daniel 1: Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the King's food

Time Allocation

30 minutes

Aim

The young people will have opportunity to ask the question - 'where is God when my plans go wrong?'

Introduction

In your group, or in smaller groups depending on the size of the group, spend some time discussing future plans in the following categories;-

Places I would like to visit
Fun things I'd like to do
My dream for the future
What job I'd like to do
What job I'd definitely not want to do
Plans I use to have that have changed

We have so many plans for the future, some are just pipe dreams that would be fun if it happened, while some are firm plans that we can work long and hard to achieve.

But what happens when our plans have to change unexpectedly and all time and effort to achieve them seems to be wasted. This has happened for many people recently due to the pandemic, and the effect it has had on exams, university, finances and health alongside others. It can cause us to question why God has let our plans go wrong, rather than help us achieve those dreams.

Teaching

Watch the Vitalise Devotional video 'Where is God when my plans go wrong' together, to hear some thoughts on how Daniel dealt with unexpected changes in his life and what we can learn that can help us when our plans go wrong

You can find the video here: <https://youtu.be/54SZGcluPPU>

Application, Reflection and/or Activity

Take a moment to think of other Bible Characters, other than Daniel, who have had their plans change and reflect on how God was with them, and used them despite these setbacks and disappointments.

In the same way, God uses our circumstances and often we end up in a place that is better for us and a place where we can be used by God to help others and share the Good News of Jesus with them.

Why not use some of the more serious answers to the questions about people's futures to pray for them, especially those whose plans have had to change due to the pandemic or other difficult reasons. Pray that God will continue to help and guide people into the future that God wants for them; where they can be satisfied and where God can use them.

Memory Verse

'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who[a] have been called according to his purpose.'- Romans 8v28 (NIV)

Resources

Vitalise Video

Bibles available in case young people would like to look up Bible references