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Values

compassion

courage

generosity

gratitude

integrity

kindness

resilience

respect

tolerance

Crossroads Weekly Topics Planner

TOPIC 1	Looking ahead	TOPIC 2	What do you believe?	TOPIC 3	Believe in yourself (B.I.Y.)
TOPIC 4	To fit in or not to fit in? That is the question	TOPIC 5	You are in charge of your attitude	TOPIC 6	Problem solving
TOPIC 7	'I can do it' attitude	TOPIC 8	Grit	TOPIC 9	Grief and loss
TOPIC 10	An attitude of gratitude	TOPIC 11	How do you G.T.S.? (greet, treat & speak)	TOPIC 12	Giving – going the extra mile
TOPIC 13	Humility	TOPIC 14	Opening the G.A.T.E.	TOPIC 15	Good, better, best
TOPIC 16	Heart to heart	TOPIC 17	Kindness	TOPIC 18	What do you value?
TOPIC 19	What does respect look like?	TOPIC 20	Mobile – friend or foe?	TOPIC 21	This is your world
TOPIC 22	"I was there" – Making a difference	TOPIC 23	Social media	TOPIC 24	Mental health
TOPIC 25	Perception	TOPIC 26	Reflective practice	TOPIC 27	One step at a time
TOPIC 28	Mentally-strong people	TOPIC 29	You are not alone	TOPIC 30	Reflection via inspiration

Introduction for teachers

Welcome to *Crossroads: a GPS for life*, inspired by the *Make Jesus Real* (MJR) series. This unique new secondary pastoral care resource includes a student journal plus an online teacher guide with downloadable PDF lesson plans. Originally developed by teacher Marty Ogle, this pastoral care resource has been made to re-engage students, via relevant issues, to think, reflect and then develop a relationship with themselves, their classmates, their teachers and hopefully even their community.

Crossroads has an array of relatable and deep thinking activities for teenagers designed for secondary teachers to use in pastoral care lessons, home room, retreats and even specific curriculum areas such as Health, Physical Education, Religious Education, etc. The 30 units have been developed to:

- i) help you consolidate your relationships with your students
- ii) allow your students to explore, discover and grow as the next generation
- iii) provide opportunities to discover Christian teachings and how it can impact lives today.

This resource has two components: firstly, the journal where students are encouraged to consistently reflect and then write their thoughts, observations and discussions taking place in the class. Secondly, a free, continually updated online e-teacher guide for teachers, which contains the 30 units/lessons with:

- * Christian religious education and MJR learning intentions
- * a direct connection to the ACARA curriculum
- * relevant YouTube videos, articles, scriptures and quotes
- * specially selected virtues and values with a connection to Jesus
- * warm up and main activities, prayers and reflections plus extensions.

These relevant and real units cover the Gospel values of courage, tolerance, resilience, gratitude, generosity, respect and integrity and have been trialed across Australia with extremely positive feedback from both teachers and students.

We all strive to engage, enthuse and hopefully evangelise our students with the message of Jesus.

Crossroads focuses on 'Jesus in the now' and it will help ignite conversations and dialogue that inquisitive young people are crying out for in this crazy, busy world.

Please visit www.mjrcrossroads.com.au for general information, news, and teacher hub with lesson plans.

"Crossroads is an engaging and dynamic resource that would add greatly to a Middle School curriculum. It is a thoughtful text with many activities that will challenge students to think profoundly about their life journey."

Mr Andrew Lawrence
Deputy Head of Middle School
Yarra Valley Grammar

Introduction for students

Are you tired of everyday 'sit-read-answer' style lessons? Do you find yourself thinking in a negative mindset? Or believing that your voice and opinions are not being heard? Are you ready to join in conversations about topics that you really care about?

That's what **Crossroads** is all about!

Crossroads is part of the MJR (Make Jesus Real) series that explores Christian values and opens the conversation about things that really matter. It is a reflective-style journal that contains lots of easy-to-remember acronyms (B.I.Y. – Believe In Yourself), quirky illustrations, wise words and insightful questions that will get you thinking and – hopefully – talking! It's a book that asks you to consider what you think you know, about yourself and the world around you, then asks you to dig deep and think again. Inside these pages there is space for short, short answers, for longer short answers, and even longer journalling space. You may even find it (gasp) fun!

As you work your way through this book, you will have the chance to discuss, collaborate, reflect and debate your opinions on a variety of topics, such as heaven, mental health, making good choices, and the role of technology today ... to name but a few. At times, **Crossroads** may ask you questions you don't have answers for – and that's okay. Hopefully, by the end of the book, you will have a better understanding of both the world around you, and within.

You'll notice that there is a 'journey' theme happening inside these pages. This is to acknowledge the life-journey that you are currently travelling. With that in mind, it might help to think of **Crossroads** as your roadmap. It can offer you techniques to recognise and respond to roadblocks, navigate unfamiliar territory, and when it's time to stop and ask for help. Better still, think of it as your own personal G.P.S. It will show you where you are now, and where you want to be.

Nothing left to say, really, except 'happy travelling and safe journey' as you jump aboard the MJR Van for the trip of your life!

What's in Crossroads?



Values



MJR Van: A symbolic way forward on your journey through life. Hop on board!

Takeaway box/bag: This is where you write a brief summary of the main thing you are going to remember (take away) from this topic.

Road sign: These signs will point you in the right direction in life.

Pencils and writing hand: The place to write answers and reflections.

Values: Intentions or expectations considered to be important.

Virtues: Positive traits or qualities we wish to achieve when living a good and wholesome life – following in the footsteps of Jesus.

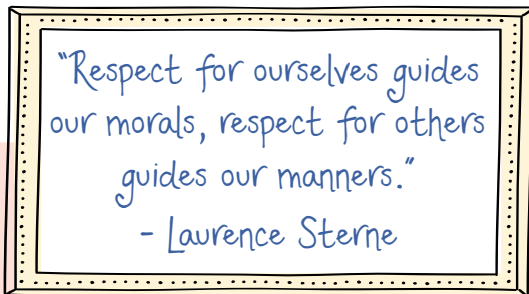


Let's find out what respect is ...

Respect is a positive way of treating or thinking about someone. It is a basic human right. You must give respect to get respect.

Why is respect important?

Respect is important because it is the **glue** that holds relationships together – when you give respect, you get respect! We are all worthy of respect, no matter our age, race, hobbies, level of education or religion, because we are made in the image and likeness of God. (Genesis 1:26)



R E S P E C T

What does the quote teach you about respect? _____

How is this quote similar to the saying, "Some people know their rights but not their responsibilities"? _____



Fill in the lines with your own examples of respect.

When I am self-disciplined, I show respect by _____

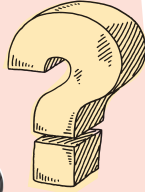
When I admit responsibility for my actions, I show respect by _____

When I tell the truth and act with integrity, I show respect by _____

Your respect role models

There is an old saying, "It takes a village to raise a child", and that is very similar to how many people it takes to teach students the value of respect. You learn respect from your parents, siblings, extended family, friends and teachers, just to name a few.

Who would you consider your respect role models to be?




Respect in a school environment

School is place where you need to feel safe, comfortable, happy and respected.

How does this happen?

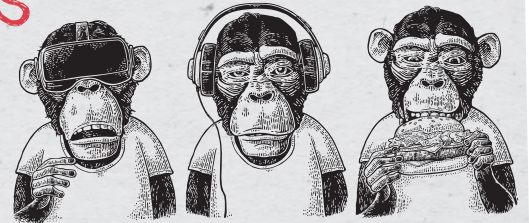


Add your own answers to this list.

- You show self-discipline when interacting with others.
- You take responsibility for your actions.
- You act with integrity in making good choices.
- _____
- _____

What respect looks, sounds and feels like at school

What does respect look, sound and feel like at school? Fill in this table below.



Looks like

Sounds like

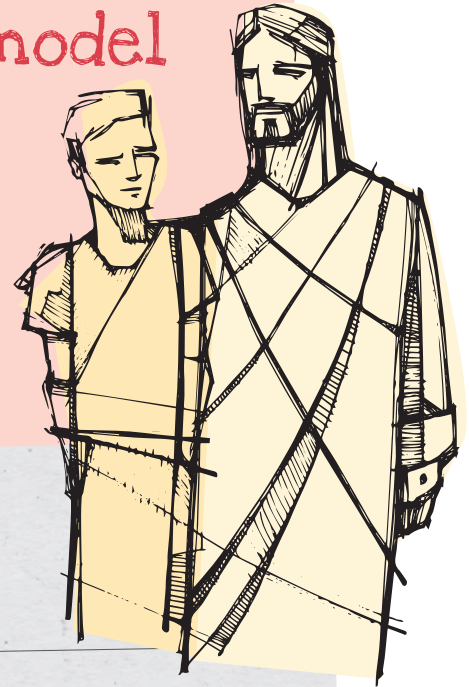
Feels like

In the classroom			
In the yard			
On the school bus			
At sports			
At assembly			
.....			

Jesus is our respect role model

Jesus is the ultimate role model for what it means to act, speak and think with respect. Jesus often took time out of his life to stop and show care for people who weren't well. He showed dignity and respect, especially towards the marginalised, and even the people who challenged him, such as priests and lawyers.

Jesus emphasised the importance of treating others with respect because he taught us the important lesson: we are all created in the image and likeness of God.


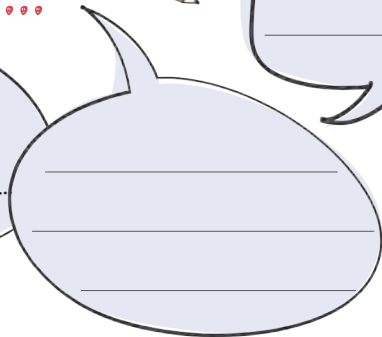


Q What would our world be like if everyone followed Jesus' example of respect?

A  _____

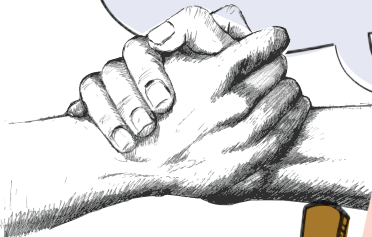
Our world would be ...

Peaceful, without wars, everybody would feel welcome ..





_____

The Golden Rule
"In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."
Matthew 7:12



In the Gospel of Matthew, we are taught that respect is mutual – we need to do to others what we would like done to us.

Write a prayer about respect. 

JOURNAL

Reflect on how you actively show respect towards others.



TAKE AWAY

