



## Getting to know our Evangelistic Courses

As a church, we would love to see more people saved. This is why Jesus hasn't returned yet (2 Peter 3:10). One of the ways we are trying to facilitate this is through running courses. In the past we have run our own course called Explore. This term we will run not just Explore but also another course called 3-2-1. They are different and complement each other well.

The number of people coming to Explore has been quite low. Probably this is because our members have not really invited people, and one reason is probably that they don't know Explore. It doesn't have the "brand recognition" of something like Alpha. So in January we would like all CG's to get a taste of both courses, so that 120 people will know what these courses are and can invite their friends and colleagues to the appropriate course.

### *Explore*

This course was originally developed by Chris Thornton, probing questions that we think Hong Kongers are asking, like "Is there more to life than this?", "How can I have peace in this restless world?". So it is quite far back, for people who are not sure yet whether they're even interested in Christianity, just making them question their current life a bit. People gather at 7:30pm, at 8pm Niels or Kevin gives a short talk, and then the rest of the time people discuss around tables, like in the afternoon service.

### *3-2-1*

This is an existing course, not made by Watermark. Compared to *Alpha* or *Christianity Explored*, it is only 4 weeks, which is why we want to give it a try. Compared to Explore, this one goes more directly to Jesus and presents the gospel using the framework of 3-2-1. It is a better course for those who want to explicitly investigate Christianity, for whom Explore is too far back. And it will be a good follow-up to Explore, as after Explore most attendees will hopefully be ready to have a more thorough look at Jesus. The format will be similar to Explore, except there won't be a speaker. Rather we will watch two videos per evening, with some discussion questions at the end of each.

In CG, we would like you to get a taster of both courses. If you have only one week to fill in January, do both in one evening. If you have two, take one evening for each course. You'll watch the content of week 1, do the discussion questions (if you have two weeks) and stand back and think how you might use it. Let's pray that we would be stirred up to invite people, and that God would make this an exceedingly fruitful season at Watermark.

## 1. One evening: both courses

*"Tonight we will do a taster of two evangelistic courses we will run at Watermark. Evangelism is a significant weakness in our church, and getting a taste of these courses will give us confidence to invite our friends and colleagues."*

### a. Explore

*"This course was homegrown at Watermark, probing questions that we think Hong Kongers are asking, like "Is there more to life than this?", "How can I have peace in this restless world?". People gather at 7:30pm, at 8pm Kevin or Niels gives a short talk, and then the rest of the time people discuss around tables, like in the afternoon service. Let's watch a recording of the first talk so we have an idea what it's like."*

<https://youtu.be/WTNkHbm7cmw?si=QZEAJGlgOYOifsF>

Share the questions - maybe print them out or put them on Whatsapp, so people can see them. But don't go through them in detail - you won't have time.

1. If you had 6 months left to live, what would you spend your time doing? Why would you choose that?
2. What do you think most people in HK chase after? How contented are most people in HK? Why do you say what you say?
3. What do you think of David Foster Wallace's assertion that we all 'worship' something? If 'worship' is defined as 'giving yourself to some higher ideal in order to make your life work', what do you think you 'worship'?
4. What do you think about Augustine's statement "You have made us for yourself, oh God, and our hearts will always be restless until we find our rest in You".
5. Having heard tonight's talk, what do you think about the question: Is there more to life than this?

### Standing Back and Reflecting:

1. Anything that struck you about the content?
2. What kind of person would be good to invite to Explore?

## b. Speak Life's 3-2-1

This course is run via an online learning platform. Please make an account at <https://321.speaklife.org.uk/course/321> so you can do the course.

*"3-2-1 is a course we have never run before at Watermark. It is quite different from Explore and a good follow-up. We will run it in March after Explore finishes. It uses videos rather than a live speaker but for the rest it is the same. In fact, it means you can do it with a friend or in your office and just let the videos do the talking. Let's watch the videos of the first session."*

There are two videos to play

- Video 1: "Lost in Space" (8:34)
- Video 2: "The Greatest Story Ever Told" (12:56)

At the start there is an introductory question, and at the end some discussion questions. But just play the videos - no time for discussion. Also, you can turn on subtitles, probably useful.

### Standing Back and Reflecting:

1. Anything that struck you about 3-2-1?
2. How are Explore and 3-2-1 similar? How are they different?
3. What kind of person would you invite to 3-2-1?
4. Think of friends and colleagues with whom you have had conversations in the past. Who might be interested in Explore? Who might be interested in 3-2-1?

Finish with praying that people would be inviting and people would come!

## 2. Two evenings 1: Explore

*"Tonight we will do a taster of Explore, our evangelistic course that we have run a number of times in the past. We will run it again in February. Evangelism is a significant weakness in our church, and getting a taste of Explore will give us confidence to invite our friends and colleagues. Next week we will look at another course."*

### *a. Video*

*"This course was homegrown at Watermark, probing questions that we think Hong Kongers are asking, like "Is there more to life than this?", "How can I have peace in this restless world?". People gather at 7:30pm, at 8pm Kevin or Niels gives a short talk, and then the rest of the time people discuss around tables, like in the afternoon service. Let's watch a recording of the first talk so we have an idea what it's like."*

<https://youtu.be/WTNkHbm7cmw?si=s755J2IUb4OkQvR9>

### *b. Questions*

Please split into groups of 3-5 for this. You can maybe send them round on the WhatsApp chat.

1. If you had 6 months left to live, what would you spend your time doing? Why would you choose that?
2. What do you think most people in HK chase after? How contented are most people in HK? Why do you say what you say?
3. What do you think of David Foster Wallace's assertion that we all 'worship' something? If 'worship' is defined as 'giving yourself to some higher ideal in order to make your life work', what do you think you 'worship'?
4. What do you think about Augustine's statement "You have made us for yourself, oh God, and our hearts will always be restless until we find our rest in You".
5. Having heard tonight's talk, what do you think about the question: Is there more to life than this?

## Standing Back and Reflecting:

1. Anything that struck you about the content?
2. What kind of person is Explore aimed at?
3. For whom might it be less suitable?
4. Think of friends and colleagues with whom you have had conversations in the past. Who might be interested in Explore?

Finish with sharing names and praying that we would invite and people would come!

## 3. Two evenings 2: Speak Life's 3-2-1

This course is run via an online learning platform. Please make an account at <https://321.speaklife.org.uk/course/321> so you can do the course.

*"3-2-1 is a course we have never run before at Watermark. It is quite different from Explore and a good follow-up. We will run it in March after Explore finishes. It uses videos rather than a live speaker but for the rest it is the same. In fact, it means you can do it with a friend or in your office and just let the videos do the talking. Let's watch the videos of the first session."*

1. Video 1 Starter Question (just pause the video when it's displayed)
  - a. Which people have most shaped your view of the world?
2. Video 1: "Lost in Space" (8:34)
3. Discussion questions (just pause the video when they are displayed)
  - a. Did the idea of the space station make sense to you as a picture of life? What stood out to you?
  - b. Who do you relate to most: Hope? Doc? Sasha? Why?
  - c. If you were there, how would you react to the entrance of that fourth person?

-5 mins break-

4. Video 2 Starter Question (just pause the video when it's displayed)
  - a. Who is Jesus?

5. Video 2: "The Greatest Story Ever Told" (12:56)
6. Discussion questions (just pause the video when they are displayed)
  - a. *What have been your views of God in the past?*
  - b. *What have been your views of Jesus in the past?*
  - c. *What difference would it make if Jesus is what God is like?*

### Standing Back and Reflecting:

1. Anything that struck you about 3-2-1?
2. How are Explore and 3-2-1 similar? How are they different?
3. What kind of person would you invite to 3-2-1?
4. It is a course produced in the UK with an Australian speaker. Do you think there are any issues connecting to a Hong Kong context?
5. Think of friends and colleagues with whom you have had conversations in the past. Who might be interested in 3-2-1?

Finish with praying that people would be inviting and people would come!