

# YOUTH GROUPS - SESSION 5

## CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

**Main Aim:** to inspire them to fill the world with wonder

### Opening Game

**You will need:** Human Objects

**Time:** 10 minutes

- 👑 Teams have to make themselves look like a human washing machine etc.
- 👑 The winner is the group that wins the most rounds and makes the most realistic 'human' version of objects.
- 👑 Talk about how each group had to think how to be creative and innovate something out of seemingly nothing.

### Icebreaker & Question

**Time:** 10 mins

What's the best thing that has ever been invented and why?

### Say

Sometimes our everyday lives can become a bit mundane and boring. How often have you sat at school or at home bored and wishing time would fast forward? However we don't have to look far to find a bit of colour, excitement or wonder in our lives. The world is full of creativity and innovation which can excite and inspire us.

Spend a few minutes as a group discussing your favourite songs, films, books, TV shows etc. How does it feel to sit down and watch a brilliant film, read a thrilling book, or listen to a song that really resonates with you or gets you dancing/singing?

All our favourite films, songs, TV shows etc have been created by talented people who often have incredible talents that make them great at what they do. Christians believe that these creative talents and skills aren't an accident but have been gifted by God. God has made each one of us unique and special. God gives us our talents and skills (whether creative or not) so we can use them for his work, to do good and to help others.

We'll explore more about that later.

The Royal family is passionate about creativity and innovation. It is well known that many members of the Royal family, including the Queen, enjoy the arts. The Queen herself is Royal Patron to the Royal Academy of Art, Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA), the Royal Academy of Music and other organisations and charities dedicated to promoting creativity and innovation.

## Activity – Who Am I?

**What you'll need:** Paper, pens, a bowl and a timer.

**Length of activity:** 15 minutes.

This activity is a mash-up between 'Charades', 'Articulate' and 'Pictionary' and a great way of using your words, actions and drawings creatively to communicate.

Before you can start the activity, you will need some names of famous people on small slips of paper. Ideally you'll need about 30 names to play. Either write the names yourself beforehand or get the young people to write a few each before starting. Split your young people into even teams; 2-4 teams are ideal.

There are three rounds to the activity. In each round one person will pick out names from the bowl and try to get their team to guess correctly. One team should go at a time, with each team having 30 seconds a go, before passing to the next team. Keep giving teams 30 seconds each, until all the names have gone from the bowl. You can only pass on one name per go. A team gets one point per correct guess.

**Round 1 - Talking Round** - You can describe the famous person to your team using words only. You cannot say the person's name or what it sounds like though.

**Round 2 - Acting** - Using the same names again you need to act out the famous name without speaking or making any noises.

**Round 3 - Drawing** - Again, using the same names, this time you can only use a pen and paper to draw clues for your team to guess from. No talking or writing of words allowed.

A round only finishes once all the names have been guessed correctly. The rounds should get harder as you go through the activity, but as the names remain the same, this should help. The winning team is the team with the most points after all three rounds.

## Video

**What you'll need:** video clip below

**Length of activity:** 10 minutes.

**Video clip:** [Amanda Gorman](#)

Q. How does this poem make you feel?

Ask your young people the following question and have a short discussion using their answers.

If you could trade places with a movie star, singer, artist, author etc, who would it be and why?

## Bible Bit

**What you'll need:** A Bible.

**Length of activity:** 5 minutes.

Read Ephesians 2:10 to your group or get one of them to read it.

We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do..

Before looking at this verse in more detail, ask the group for their initial thoughts. What do they think the verse is saying?

Different versions of the verse use slightly different words. Some versions use handiwork, others use 'accomplishment', 'creation' or 'masterpiece'. For many it can be difficult to believe that God not only uniquely created you, but also views you as a masterpiece. The definition of a 'masterpiece' is a work of outstanding artistry, skill, or workmanship. Do you appreciate the fact that you are a masterpiece uniquely created by God? Are you using God's handiwork to do his work?

## Application/What's it to me?

**What you'll need:** Candles and a lighter.

**Length of activity:** 10 minutes.

Hold up a candle and ask the group what is it and what is its purpose? Place the unlit candle in the middle of a room (close the curtains first to make it as dark as possible) and then turn off the lights. Ask the group what has gone wrong? Why isn't the candle making a difference and lighting up the room?

Once the group has explained that you need to light the candle, do this and observe the difference.

A candlemaker doesn't make a candle for it to sit in the dark and not shine a light. The candle is given a wick right through the centre, to be lit so the light shines. We are just the same. God hasn't created us to sit idly by doing nothing. We are called to do good, make a difference and shine a light. Amanda Gorman uses this thinking at the end of her inauguration poem where she finishes with the line, "For there is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."

Finish by giving each person a candle and encouraging them to light it and place it in the middle of the room. As they do so, encourage them to say a prayer and to reflect. What are your unique skills and talents? Are you using those skills to benefit others? What is God calling you to do with them?

**Idea:** Speech Writing Challenge - encourage the young people to write a speech for the Queen, for her to use on the Platinum Jubilee - maybe make a video of them performing it.

## Prayer

You might want to close this time with this prayer:

Dear Lord,

Thank you for creating us uniquely, with a purpose and a plan. To know that you spent time on us, making us into a masterpiece is amazing. Help us to remember that you created us with incredible gifts and skills. Help us also to remember that you gave us these gifts for a reason. Give us the knowledge, confidence and passion to use everything you gave us to do your work.

Amen.

## Challenge

**What you'll need:** Pens and paper

**Length of activity:** 15 minutes

How can you use your God given skills and talents to make a difference and do good in the world around you?

As a large group, brainstorm different ways and then decide on a project / activity to take on. This doesn't have to be a major project, but instead can be a simple act such as baking for your church family or something similar.

Also spend some time reflecting on what thing(s) you could do outside of the group, in your own private life, to live out Ephesians 2:10

**Plenary:** What's the ONE THING I can create to fill the world with wonder?

## Rise Up & Serve

Invite the young people to learn, perform and record the Platinum Jubilee anthem 'Rise Up & Serve' – [find out more on the website](#).

## 70 Acts of Service

The Queen has served the UK and the Commonwealth for 70 years. To honour her, let's join together in [70 Acts of Service](#) during 2022.