URC Spring Conference “Household of Faith”

Rachel Turner - Session 2

What are we aiming for?

People of all ages to be deeply impacted by the word and by encounter and walk away changed in some way (if either adults or kids disengaged, then we fail).

Often take the seesaw approach, but we need to find the middle ground. Often people use PIXAR as an example... But I've been thinking it's more like STAR WARS

Two things to remember -

Age is not our main guide, accessibility and learning style is.
  • Where do you pitch it?
  • 5 year old and 40 year old new believer need the same language
  • Not everyone learns one way
  • No slot separation

Engagement not infotainment

How?

1. Start with impact first... What do you want people to walk away with at the end of this talk - both knowing and experiencing?

So often we start with the passage, or select a story, or a creative idea... Stop.

2. Me, We, God, Me, You

Me -
  • Story is important, start with story, yours..

We -
  • How affects all of us...
  • Include research to engage all of us... Quiz
  • Level the playing field

God -
  • ONE JUMP (usually make it about him)
  • Illustrate the one jump - experience it if you can
(Treat the story as scripture, not as something to make funny for the sake of it... )
(Use opportunity to foster connection between people in delight and joy and spontenaity)

We -
  • How this affects us and finish your story
You -
  • Tool
  • Practice it and encounter
  • (Guide them through it)
  • (Coach parents)

Having said that... Often don't go by this... Good starting point...

Remembrance Sunday, Christmas... All the same principles, just a different order

Key questions -

Would I feel comfortable leading this if I was alone in a room of adults, or just in a room of kids?

Is this patronising to or targeting teens/kids in a specific way? Ie talking about children to adults with children in the room?

What about - under 5's?

Shall we try it? TRY