

ROOTS YOUNG PEOPLE

Go to www.rootsontheweb.com for all templates, links and images. Find Bible notes and more prayers on p.6. Use the BIBLE section below first, then choose activities from the other sections. Extra ideas can be found in *Explore & respond* opposite.

BIBLE John 10.1-10

Warm up 5 mins E

Split the young people into groups of three and give each group an egg. Challenge them in two minutes to wrap up or protect the egg in some way, using only whatever they can find, before they give it to you, and you drop the egg from a great height. How easy is it to protect things in times of trouble? How can we be better equipped for what life throws at us?

Bible protection 5 mins W E S

Ask for a confident reader from the group to volunteer; ask them to sit on the floor with a version of the Bible passage and a torch. Encourage everyone else to gather round and shield the reader from every angle, making a cocoon of protection around them. Invite the reader to then share today's passage. Reflect afterwards about how the group felt offering protection to the reader; also, how did the reader feel, being 'penned' in?

Questions to discuss

- What do you think it means to live life abundantly?
- Do your friends know that you have this life in abundance that Jesus gives?
- Are there any ways in which you can share that abundance?



CONNECT

Missing 15 mins W E


Invite the young people to imagine that they officially left school today without any notice: what would they miss? Now ask them to imagine they are moving to another country tonight: what would they miss about living here? Finally, ask: if they didn't know Jesus, what would they miss? Would it make any difference to their lives?

Social shepherds 15 mins W E

Bring in a selection of newspapers and magazines or access to particular posts on social media. Invite the young people to look through them for people who are trying to be like shepherds, to get more followers or to persuade people to their point of view. Discuss what they find, and then ask: how do they feel if someone clicks 'like' on one of their posts? Who do they follow?

 **PostScript:** Linking this week's reading to the news .

Listen

 See *Young People* page or *Hymns, songs & music* for links to these tracks.


New man, Charles Dada, on *New man*
Let there be light, Third Day on *Revival*
Into the deep (live), Citipointe live on *Into the deep*

EXPLORE


Picture quality 10 mins E

Divide the group into pairs and give each pair some paper, a pencil and a blindfold. Explain that one of each pair will now be blindfolded and guided, in word only, by their partner to draw something simple, e.g. a house. Then ask the pair to swap roles. How did it feel to have to listen to someone else leading you? How often do we listen for God leading us?

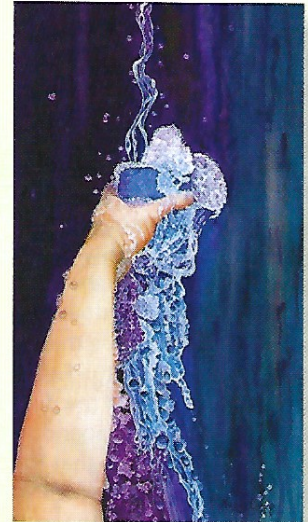
Man of steel 10 mins W E

Show the clip from *Man of Steel* [PG] (see ): it is the scene where Superman starts to discover his purpose for being on earth, to bring hope. An abundant life for Superman is found in helping others by sharing his special gift. Ask the young people what abundant life means to them. How can we share what we have with others?

Picture pointers

Questions for reflection 

- ▶ What feelings does this image evoke in you?
- ▶ When have you experienced 'enough with enough to share'?
- ▶ Does your church offer opportunities for sharing abundance?



PRAY

Power in pairs 10 mins E S

Split the group into pairs and, if they are comfortable doing so, ask them to share with each other some of the things they are worried about, and want to find peace about. Then encourage them to pray for one another about those things, and to read Psalm 23 together.

Social media prayers 5 mins E S

Give the young people a piece of paper and a pen each, and encourage them to write a private tweet, Facebook post, Instagram post, or other social media post as if to God, encouraging them to thank God for all the abundance they have and that they might experience abundance in every aspect of their lives.

Live your faith

Share the message of hope and abundant life that Jesus gives with one of your friends on social media using the hashtag #livingmybestlife. **E A**