

A little more information about some of the matters raised in the course booklet for

BUILD ON THE ROCK *faith, doubt – and Jesus*

Session One

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“I definitely went through a period when I thought I would make the experiment of unbelief, and it lasted several months, and it felt so wrong. It was as if the ceiling of the universe had come down, so that it was just over my head. By attempting not to think in religious terms, the validity of religious terms came rushing back, and from that point on I dreaded the idea of the contracted universe.”

When I was a Child I Read Books by Marilynne Robinson

Fawlty Towers

Track [12] on the CD / in the Transcript booklet:

Fawlty Towers is a British sitcom produced by BBC Television that was first broadcast on BBC2 in 1975 and 1979. Twelve episodes were made (two series, each of six episodes). The show was written by John Cleese and his then wife Connie Booth, both of whom also starred in the show.

The series is set in *Fawlty Towers*, a fictional hotel in the seaside town of Torquay, on the "English Riviera". The plots centre around tense, rude and put-upon owner Basil Fawlty (Cleese), his bossy wife Sybil (Prunella Scales), a comparatively normal chambermaid Polly (Booth), and hapless Spanish waiter Manuel (Andrew Sachs) and their attempts to run the hotel amidst farcical situations and an array of demanding and eccentric guests.

David Gamble's Closing Reflection [Track 14 on the CD / in the Transcript booklet]:

Honest to God [ISBN 0-664-24465-3] is a book written by the Anglican Bishop of Woolwich John A.T. Robinson, criticising traditional Christian theology. It aroused a storm of controversy on its original publication by SCM Press in 1963. Robinson had already achieved notoriety by his defence of the publication of D H Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*.

Session Two

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Rob Bell is a well-known church leader and author. His book ***What we talk about when we talk about God. Finding a new faith for the 21st century*** was published by Collins in March 2013.

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Barbara Kingsolver (born April 8, 1955) is an American novelist, essayist and poet. She was raised in rural Kentucky and lived briefly in the former Republic of Congo in her early childhood. Her work often focuses on topics such as social justice, biodiversity and the interaction between humans and their communities and environments. Each of her books published since 1993 has been on the *New York Times* Best Seller list. Kingsolver has received numerous awards, including the Orange Prize for Fiction 2010, for *The Lacuna*. She has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara_Kingsolver

Session Three

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The Way the World is by the Revd Professor John Polkinghorne
Westminster/John Knox Press, U.S. (21 Dec 2007)
ISBN 978-0664232146

'Woodbine Willie':

Geoffrey Anketell Studdert Kennedy, MC (27 June 1883 - 8 March 1929), was an Anglican priest and poet. He was nicknamed 'Woodbine Willie' during World War I for giving Woodbine cigarettes along with spiritual aid to injured and dying soldiers. In 1917, he won the Military Cross at Messines Ridge after running into No Man's land to help the wounded during an attack on the German frontline. He wrote a number of poems about his experiences, and these appeared in the books *Rough Rhymes of a Padre* (1918) and *More Rough Rhymes* (1919).

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The Kingdom of Free Men by G Kitson Clark
Cambridge University Press (29 Mar 2012). First published in 1967.
ISBN 978-1107663183

Session Five

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Gareth Malone is a British choirmaster and broadcaster, self-described as an "animateur, presenter and populariser of choral singing". He is best known for his television appearances in programmes such as *The Choir* which focus on singing and introducing choral music to new participants. Malone was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2012 Birthday Honours, for services to music

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The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief by Francis Collins
Collins Pocket Books; New edition edition (21 May 2007)
ISBN 978-1847390929