

Grace Conference Workshops 2017

<p>Anya Kutchen</p>	<p>Grace Girls - Decision-making and Serving God Do you ever feel that decisions you make now will affect the rest of your life? Your teachers tell you to choose next year's subjects carefully because that will affect what course you can get into at TAFE or Uni, and that will affect your whole life! And what about all the other decisions - whether to get a part-time job while you're at school, and how many extra-curricular activities to do? It's time to take the pressure off and think instead about how we can love and serve God in whatever decisions we make about life</p>
<p>Carola Bradford</p>	<p>Grace Girls - Faith, Friendships and Wild Banshees Loving Jesus and being true to you and your faith when you are with your friends is hard at times, especially at school. The pressures and expectations of friendships, studies, socialising, work, or where to get the most realistic spray tan to keep that summer glow rolling on might suddenly become more important. New classes = more homework. New independence = more decisions. New faces = more Wild Banshees to defeat. Ewwh!</p> <p>Our time together will be fun and great for discussions while learning to juggle Jesus into our busy lives.</p>
<p>Michelle Stevens and Bekk Sellars</p>	<p>Grace Girls - Who is my neighbour? Jesus spoke about loving our neighbour and caring for those around us. His mandate to LOVE included some of the most down cast, ridiculed and forgotten people of his time. As his disciples we can learn so much from where he walked and who HE spent his time with.</p> <p>Come hear stories from fellow 'learning disciples', as we share stories of what God is doing amongst some of the poor in our very own city! We want to invite you into a creative discussion of what it could look like to love our less obvious neighbour, right at our door step.</p>
<p>Rosey Huf</p>	<p>Earning, saving, giving (and spending!) with a Christian focus (<i>designed for 15-25 year olds</i>) <i>So you've started working and the money is coming in. You pay your bills, go to McDonald's with friends and then what?</i></p> <p>This seminar will look at what it means to live deliberately thinking about the resources that God has given you and hopefully start you thinking about money, work, etc. in a healthy and helpful way. We can cover (but aren't limited to); the bondage of debt based living and how to get free so that you can be more generous, good saving habits, deliberately setting up thoughts on giving to church and mission, hospitality. Rent vrs mortgage at a young age and how to think through 'financial</p>

	<p>security'. Where to start with all these awesome charities, simple budgeting, buying your muesli (and other altruistic consumable goods), ambulance cover, industry super funds <i>and how to take a great holiday without the extra side helping of guilt.</i></p> <p>Rosemary is currently studying a Masters at Bible College SA, holds a commerce degree, but most importantly wants to help you be deliberate in thinking through money so that you can be amazingly generous towards others.</p>
<p>Caitlin Ellery</p>	<p>Hospitality – practical generosity that honours Jesus At the heart of hospitality is God’s grace. Jesus welcomed us into His kingdom and we too have been called to welcome others into our hearts, church families and homes.</p> <p>Come and discover what the Bible has to say about the true meaning of hospitality and how we can practically open our lives to others, wherever we are and whatever stage of life we are at.</p>
<p>Caroline Litchfield</p>	<p>Reading the Bible 1-1 Imagine if all Christians were reading the Bible, not just in their own devotions, but intentionally reading it with others as well: to introduce a non-Christian friend to Jesus, to encourage a fellow-believer in the faith, to teach their kids to know and love God. Just imagine the impact for the gospel of this web of relationships based around prayer and Bible reading!</p> <p>However, reading the Bible ourselves is one thing; we may feel ill-equipped to read it with another person. “What if I don’t understand the passage? How do I actually go about it?” This seminar is designed to de-mystify one-to-one bible reading, help you remove obstacles to doing it, and to have a structure to understand and apply a Bible passage. It will aim to give you confidence that this is something you CAN do, and to help you think of realistic ways to get started.</p>
<p>Cat Patrick</p>	<p>Social Justice and the Christian In the Bible, we see that God cares deeply about issues of social justice and calls his people to have mercy on the poor and oppressed. Often it just leaves us guilty and unsure how to respond (or how we might find time)! In this session, we'll have a guilt-free look at how our everyday decisions affect others around the world, and consider a variety of ways we can care for those who can't speak for themselves.</p>
<p>Cissy Mutagubya</p>	<p>From Hopelessness to Hope We are called to protect, nurture, develop and bless children abundantly. We are called to release them from poverty in Jesus’ name. In this interactive workshop, learn that poverty is complex</p>

	<p>yet there is hope that we can make a difference.</p> <p>Growing up in one of the largest slums in Uganda, life was tough for Cissy. Just when she thought things couldn't get any worse, tragedy struck her family and she found herself alone, confused and hopeless. But this was not the end of Cissy's story. Come and hear the work of the local church and the transformation it made in her life, and how you can be a light in the darkness for children living in poverty.</p>
<p>Corinne Woodd</p>	<p>Heart Changes Do you struggle with the same sins and wonder if you will ever make progress? How does the Gospel enable and empower us to grow? How can we help each other in this?^a</p> <p>In this seminar we will look together at how growth and change happen in the Christian life. We'll consider biblical principles and practical application.</p>
<p>Gemma Mayfield</p>	<p>Praying without ceasing An interactive workshop with group work, in which we will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jesus' teaching on prayer • Practical considerations that will help us to 'pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests' (Eph 6:18) • Ways to pray from the Psalms, and from prayers in the New Testament
<p>Helene Van Ruth</p>	<p>Peacemaking/Relational Wisdom <i>John 13:34 A new command I give to you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.</i></p> <p>Do we have an appealing Christian witness in the way we love others? Why do some people seem to have less conflict, and when it does arise, they seem to be able to resolve issues? Why is it that some people have close, long lasting friendships and such good relationships with their children and in their marriages?</p> <p>They probably don't have higher IQs, (Intelligence Quotients) than us, but it may be they have higher EQs, (Emotional Quotients,) that is, they are relationally wise.</p> <p>Relational wisdom involves our emotional intelligence, the ability to discern emotions and interests in ourselves and others, to</p>

	<p>interpret them in the light of God's Word, and to use this insight to manage our responses and relationships successfully.</p> <p>Skills in this area are something that we can learn and practice. This workshop will delve into concepts taught in Ken Sande's Relational Wisdom 360 courses, hopefully whetting your appetite to learn more, and perhaps even follow up with online training that is available.</p>
Jo Lock	<p>Guilt Free</p> <p>What is a guilty conscience? How can it help or hinder a Christian? This workshop will explore the role of our conscience, and consider how it can be either an unreliable voice or an indispensable and gracious gift of the Spirit of God at work in us.</p>
Julie Prattis	<p>Share Jesus Without Fear</p> <p>Do you ever wish that you had an easy answer to express to others the joy that you have found in Christ? Do you ever regret not sharing simple biblical truths because you were afraid?</p> <p>You are not alone if you answered yes to either of these questions. Using the easy to use and relational approach to witnessing developed by Bill Fay in his book <i>Share Jesus Without Fear</i>, this session will equip you to share your faith in Jesus with confidence and without fear! Practical, fun and interactive in nature, this workshop will give you the tools to guide a witnessing conversation without fear of failure or rejection.</p>
Karina Hudson	<p>Blended but not shaken</p> <p>Karina will share her testimony of God's sustaining comfort and grace throughout her life and how His restoration and forgiveness extends to every Christian in all of life's difficulties. You will hear her heart's desire to minister and support those families who have experienced the pain associated with separation and divorce and how her children's books are aiding her ministry.</p>
Kathy Fopp	<p>Telling My Story</p> <p>Everyone loves a good story! How do I share the message of the gospel through the story of what God has done for me?</p> <p>This workshop will help shape your testimony so that it points listeners to Christ. It will also help you craft your story for all scenarios and opportunities.</p>

<p>Katy Annis and Michelle Schulz</p>	<p>Work Life Ministry Balance <i>Living as a committed and active Christian woman with competing and shared priorities</i></p> <p>The reality of life these days means that we all find ourselves with a variety of things that compete for our time. This workshop will help to explore what the Bible says about our purpose (particularly how it relates to our priorities), and how we can allow the gospel to shape the decisions that we make. It will also include some practical strategies to help manage our time wisely and make the most of the time we have.</p> <p>Please note: Given their own life situations, Michelle & Katy recommend that this session may be best suited to women who are unattached or attached without children.</p>
<p>Lauren Hull</p>	<p>Dating, Drugs, Diets & Digital Drama!</p> <p>There's nothing better than living a life that honours God. But sometimes it can be tough, especially when it appears that God is silent about some of the big areas of our lives! Does the Bible have anything to say about dating, or drug use, or the diet & fitness culture, or using social media? And if the Bible doesn't mention these things does that mean God doesn't care & we can do whatever we want? Or can the Bible still help us make wise & godly choices in these areas?</p> <p>Come along, invite your friends, for an open & honest look at God, the Bible, real life, and our choices!</p>
<p>Lee-Ann Hunt and Jayne Barbour</p>	<p>Embrace Grace</p> <p>The world is very prescriptive about what women's bodies should look like, but scripture says that we are made in God's image and are acceptable to him. So why do we as Christian women listen and get caught up in the world's perspective and values.</p> <p>The 'Embrace movement' has begun in our community promoting the idea that bodies of all shapes and sizes are acceptable and challenges the media's unrealistic ideals/In this workshop</p> <p>Jayne a dietician and Lee-Ann who has worked as a community health nurse will look at some of the issues this movement has raised and explore them from a Christian perspective.</p>
<p>Liz Rankin</p>	<p>Issues with Sexuality</p> <p>Today's society is thrust into many and varied conversations and encounters with those experiencing sexual identity and sexuality issues. These conversations and encounters, some constructive and some destructive, create and influence our belief systems. These belief systems develop foundational thinking on a</p>

	<p>continuum of compassion through to judgement of those facing these challenges.</p> <p>Today, many Christian families are grappling with these core issues.</p> <p>This session is not designed to provide all the answers but rather to assist the journey into God's clarity and understanding.</p>
<p>Marie Campbell and Angela Powell</p>	<p>Too Blessed to be Stressed</p> <p>The Bible encourages: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Philippians 4:6)</p> <p>"Cast your burdens on the Lord and He will sustain you" (Psalm 55:22)</p> <p>God wants us to live mentally healthy and whole. Anxiety and stress is not His idea. Stress can deviate us from our true destiny in Christ.</p> <p>This workshop will bring us back to the basics so we may focus on what His plans for our lives using scriptural strategies to help cope with difficult times and embrace the life God intends us to live.</p>
<p>Marissa Smyth</p>	<p>Women taking up their cross – Insights into the persecuted church</p> <p>Around the world today, there are millions of Christian women who face the double vulnerability of being women but also being Christian. These women are often isolated and hard pressed, but they are determined to keep following Jesus no matter what the cost. Hear their stories, be equipped to pray, write a card to bring a tangible message of love and encouragement to these women who share our faith but not our freedom.</p> <p>Marissa Smyth has worked with Open Doors since 2014, passionate about connecting women in Australia to the testimonies of women around the world who are persecuted for their faith in Christ. With a background in International Development, Marissa has had many opportunities to visit women's empowerment projects in other countries and has worked with other Christian organisations in mission, fair trade, community development and advocacy.</p>
<p>Naomi Beames</p>	<p>Chucker or Hoarder – Managing Household possessions in the light of the Gospel</p> <p>Do you struggle with too many or too little household possessions? Unsure whether you should chuck or hoard your things? Are you overwhelmed by the abundance of 'stuff' the</p>

	<p>shops have or the world tells us we need? This is something we encounter and grapple with through all stages of life – from setting up a home, to having children with excessive toys/goods, to then downsizing.</p> <p>Come on a journey with me as we look at what the Bible has to say on the topic of material possessions and how this can shape our daily practical management of household possessions in a way that glorifies God.</p>
<p>Nicole Jameson</p>	<p>Challenging the sexualisation of girls Sex sells - everything, everywhere, all the time. Whether we are at home, online, or out in the public space, we are surrounded by a never-ending stream of hyper-sexualised messages from corporations, advertisers, marketers and media. How has this become the norm in our culture? What is sexual objectification, and how does it affect us? What might it look like for Christians to engage critically with the sexualisation of women and girls?</p> <p>Nicole completed her Masters of International Public Health in 2006 and worked as a research assistant in the field until motherhood took her in a different direction. Nicole has worked as an activist and researcher with Collective Shout: for a world free of sexploitation, since 2010.</p>
<p>Rachel Trenholm</p>	<p>Letting Go and Holding On - a discussion about God and Life at Home As mothers who love God, we desire to experience his life-giving strength flowing through us, but sometimes that seems elusive. We can try and do too much in our own strength and end up distracted and 'running on empty'. We need grace to let go of the many distractions and hold on to Him. Rachel will discuss the importance of nurturing a personal relationship with God and share some helpful strategies she has learned in the last 20 years in building a peaceful (not noiseless!) and loving home. There will be time for questions and prayer.</p> <p>Rachel is a mother of six children and can testify to the truth that God's power is perfected in weakness!</p>
<p>Sue Harrington</p>	<p>Creating Christian Culture with Your Kids What this seminar is not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A simplistic cookie cutter "how to" on child raising to ensure your kids follow Christ • A list of rules to follow • Intended to promote guilt or despair! <p>This seminar will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise that with God's help, our privilege and responsibility is to nurture our children in the Lord, while knowing only God can work in hearts.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore the core biblical goals that we all share as Christians for our households. • Highlight that there is flexibility when deciding how to practically work towards creating a Christian culture with our kids. • Consider the way the personalities, gifts and circumstances of those in our households might influence our strategies. • Have a combination of input and workshopping.
<p>Tamra Purton</p>	<p>She's so gifted Ever heard yourself say this about someone and as result wonder if you've got anything to offer. Join me in exploring spiritual gifts- what they are, who gets them, how to use them and what their purpose is.</p> <p>Tamra is mum to 2 little people, helper to 1 husband with ministry amongst international students and juggles various other roles in her often messy life while drinking a lot of good coffee!</p>
<p>Wendy Lin</p>	<p>Thinking about Technology As Christian women, how should we use the technology of today? How do we think biblically and make wise decisions about Facebook, Instagram and other social media? How have lives that are full of screens changed the way we interact with each other? How has technology altered how we gather information, how we communicate, how distracted we are, and how we process all that information?</p> <p>There are some great things to embrace and some dangers to be aware of - come and consider how we can move forward with wisdom, discretion and an awareness of the heart issues at stake.</p> <p>Wendy is a keen reader, keen blogger, and has an ongoing like/hate relationship with Facebook. Come think with her about the issues involved for Christians with technology.</p>