DVD Study Guides and Films for rent from PCN Britain

Please read these notes on how the loans work

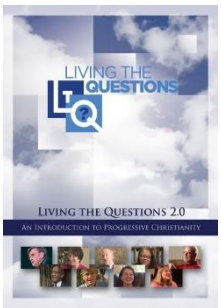
To check the availability of any of the titles, please contact the PCN Britain DVD librarian,
Jess Lee – jess.lee@pcnbritain.org.uk

Rental prices exclude postage and packing. This varies depending on the number of discs involved.

The rental period is based on the assumption that groups meet monthly, so long loans are the norm. For this reason, we usually send you just one disc at a time. You may, if you choose rent just the one disc, in which case your rental will be reduced proportionately.

Living the Questions Study Guides

These study guides are published in the North American format, NTSC. Most modern European DVD players and TVs should be able to play this satisfactorily.



Living the Questions 2

DVD Series
£30 to hire

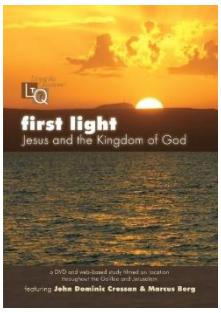
This is a 21-part series, for groups which wish to explore beyond the traditions and rote theologies in which so many people and local churches seem to be stuck. Living the Questions will help seekers discover the significance of Christianity in the 21st Century and what a meaningful faith can look like in today's world. Contributors include: John Bell, Marcus Borg, Walter Brueggemann, Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Lloyd Geering, Hans Küng, Bernard Brandon Scott & John Shelby Spong.

There are three discs each with its own theme**:** Invitation to Journey, Reclaiming the World and Call to Covenant. The 20-minute video segments include conversations with leading voices of faith, sermon and lecture clips. LtQ2 is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers and instead strives to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity.

LtQ2 includes downloadable session guides with weekly readings and discussion questions.

First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom

DVD Series
£25 to hire



Why did Jesus happen when he happened? Why the confrontations in Jerusalem ? Why then? Why there? What were the priorities of Jesus' proclamation of the Kingdom? How was the status quo of Roman imperial theology subverted by this obscure Galilean whose message continues to indict empire today?

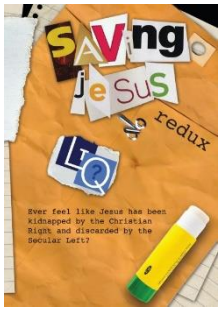
First Light is a 12 session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the shattering implications of the Kingdom of God, with **Marcus Borg** and **John Dominic Crossan** on location in Galilee and Jerusalem. The Participant Reader is written by John Dominic Crossan: “It is all I have to say about Jesus after half a century of study…in succinct summary” and the set comes complete with downloadable participant and leader guides.

DVD series

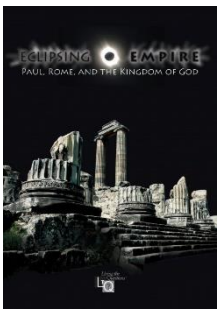
Saving Jesus
DVD Series
£25 to hire

Ever feel like Jesus has been kidnapped by the Christian Right or the Secular Left? Saving Jesus is a revolutionary DVD-based small group exploration of Jesus Christ for the third millennium. Featuring leading religious voices of our day, the 12-week program includes a printable participant reader and a facilitator guide offering discussion questions. The basic format for each weekly 1 - 1½ hour session includes conversation around the readings, a 20- minute video segment and guided discussion. Join Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Matthew Fox, Amy-Jill Levine, James Forbes and others for a conversation around the relevance of Jesus Christ for today.

Saving Jesus Redux
DVD Series
£25 to hire



Saving Jesus Redux is a total revision SJ1, LtQ's popular 12 session DVD-based small group exploration of a credible Jesus. Featuring many of the contributors to LtQ2, this programme includes a new printable participant reader and a facilitator guide with discussion questions.



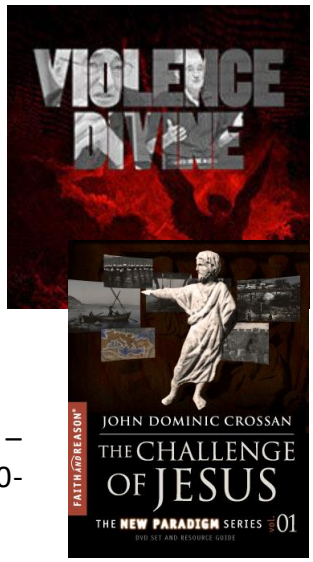
Eclipsing Empire: Paul, Rome, and the Kingdom of God
DVD Series
£25 to hire

Join preeminent New Testament scholars Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan on location in Turkey as they trace the Apostle Paul's footsteps throughout the Roman Empire.

This 12-session DVD and web-based study explores fresh insights into Paul's message of the Kingdom of God, its challenge to Roman imperial theology, and the apostle's radical relevance for today. Participant Guide written by John Dominic Crossan. Filmed in High-Definition across Turkey, Greece, and Italy.

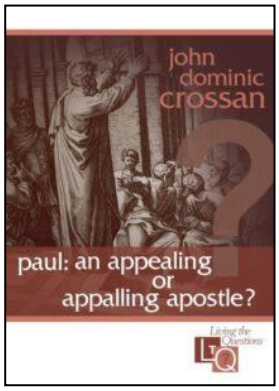
The Theology Book Group found that these DVDs work well in conjunction with the book 'The First Paul' by Borg and Crossan.

Violence Divine
DVD Lecture Series
£5 to hire



Filmed before a live audience in a workshop setting, professor and author John Dominic Crossan summarises the essence of his bestselling HOW TO READ THE BIBLE & STILL BE A CHRISTIAN: Struggling with Divine Violence from Genesis Through Revelation and shows the way forward for those seeking an authentic Christianity for the 21st century.

Violence Divine is an eight-session DVD-based program. The basic format for each 1 – 1.5 hour session includes chapter breaks and discussion questions related to each 40-minute video segment.



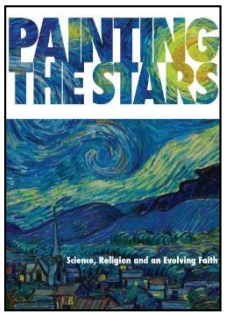
Paul: Appealing or Appalling Apostle
DVD lecture
£5 to hire

A DVD lecture by Dominic Crossan 50 minutes John Dominic Crossan addresses challenges to understanding Paul - three different Pauls, Paul's character and theology, and gender balance and imbalance in the New Testament. Plus a bonus sermon by Crossan, "Justice as Love."

Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today
DVD Lecture Series
£5 to hire

Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today is a study for progressive Christians featuring **Walter Brueggemann**. "It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again... [because] Pharaoh has immense power always to draw us back into slavery." A study for progressive Christians. Ideal for Advent and Lent, flexible in format, Countering Pharaoh can be conducted over four or five sessions. The program includes over an hour of video on DVD and a CD-Rom with printable written materials.

· Session One: The Way Out
· Session Two: The Decalogue
· Session Three: Countering Caesar
· Session Four: An Act of Imagination
· Session Five: On Not Doing God Any Favours



Painting the Stars: Science, Religion and an Evolving Faith
DVD Series
£20 to hire

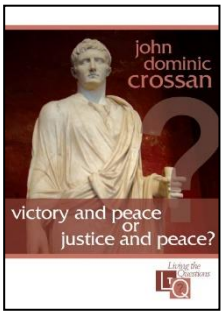
Celebrating the communion of science and faith, Painting the Stars explores the promise of evolutionary Christian spirituality.

Featuring over a dozen leading theologians and progressive thinkers, the seven-session program includes a downloadable/printable participant reader (written by evolutionary theologian Bruce Sanguin) and a facilitator guide with discussion questions. The basic format for each 1-1 1/2 hour session includes conversation around the readings, a 20-minute video presentation and guided discussion.

Contributors include: Philip Clayton, Michael Dowd, Rachel Held Evans, Matthew Fox, Catherine Keller, Megan McKenna, Michael Morwood, Jan Phillips, Barbara Rossing, Bruce Sanguin, Bernard Brandon Scott, John Shelby Spong, Gretta Vosper

"Mystery is a condition of awe, of resting precisely in an unknowing, long enough for the silence to have its way with us. The goal of this curriculum is to create some space for us to inhabit this mystery more deeply, and explore the relationship between science, particularly evolution, and religion. We invite you to engage these seven weeks with an awareness that you are not separate from the creativity that produced you." - Bruce Sanguin, Author of *If Darwin Prayed*

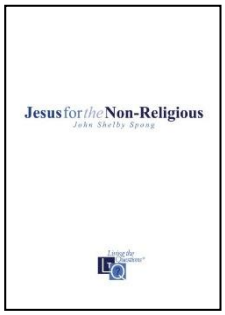
Victory and Peace or Justice and Peace?
DVD Lecture series
£5 to hire



Including nearly four hours of dvd content and discussion guide, this DVD-based study featuring John Dominic Crossan explores the juxtaposition of Roman Imperial Theology and the Kingdom of God. Ideal for Advent and Lent. Flexible in format, "Victory and Justice or Justice and Peace?" can be conducted over 4, 6, 8 or 12 weeks. Contents include:

- Justice & the World: What is the Character of Your God?
- History & Jesus: What is the Content of Your Faith?
- Worship & Violence: What is the Purpose of Your Prayer?
- Resurrection & Community: What is the Function of Your Church?

Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies at De Paul University, John Dominic Crossan is generally acknowledged to be the premier historical Jesus scholar in the world. He has written twenty books including Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography, Who Killed Jesus? and The Birth of Christianity. A Roman Catholic monk for nineteen years and a priest for twelve years, Crossan is a former co-chair of the Jesus Seminar and chair of the Historical Jesus Section of the Society of Biblical Literature.

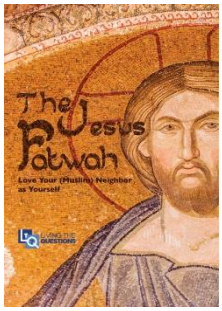


Jesus for the Non-Religious DVD
DVD lecture
£5 to hire

A perfect companion piece to the bestselling author's book of the same name, the Jesus for the Non-Religious DVD is a 68-minute distillation of Bishop Spong's understanding of the Godpresence in Christ. In this lecture, Spong explores the meaning of 'Christ,' images of Messiah, how Christ has been experienced through the ages, and how the divinity of Christ has its ultimate expression in a fulfilled humanity.

"Jesus calls you to be whole, not religious. Jesus calls you to be real, not religious. Jesus calls you to be loving, not moral and righteous. Jesus calls you to be inclusive, not hating everybody that disagrees with you and claiming your superiority over them. That's what this Jesus portrait is about and that's why people believed that they experienced all that God is in the life and in the person of Jesus of Nazareth." The retired Episcopal bishop of Newark, New Jersey, John Shelby Spong is a columnist and author of over fourteen books including Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism, Why Christianity Must Change or Die, The Sins of Scripture and, most recently, Jesus for the Non-Religious. Lecturer at Harvard, Humanist of the Year, and a guest on numerous national television broadcasts including The Today Show, Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher, and Larry King Live, Bishop Spong lectures around the world.

The Jesus Fatwah
DVD Lecture Series
£5 to hire



Much of what passes as information about Islam is weed-like disinformation rooted in stereotype and watered by fear. In The Jesus Fatwah, Islamic and Christian scholars offer reliable information about what Muslims believe, how they live out their faith, and how we all can be about building relationships across the lines of faith.

PCN Britain

Gretta Vosper With or Without God

DVD

Free to hire, p&p only

With or Without God is the title of the lecture given by Gretta Vosper in London on Wednesday September 24th 2014. This was Gretta Vosper's first ever speaking engagement in the UK. She went on to be the keynote speaker at a weekend conference in Oxford. These DVDs were recorded at the London lecture. She was joined by her husband, hymn writer Scott Kearns, who illustrated with his music how Gretta's ideas for a non-theist liturgy might be translated into new hymns.

How I became a Heretic – with help from Jesus

DVD

Free to hire p&p only

The PCN Britain 2017 Marcus Borg Memorial Lecture led by the Rev Dr Robin Meyers. With the Rev Dr Val Webb and Paul Onslow, and Chaired by the Rev Tony Rutherford.

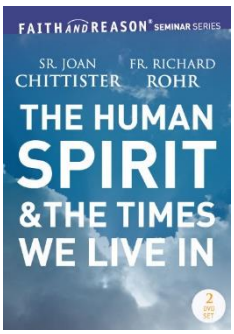
Made of Stories

DVD

Free to hire, p&p only

These are the first five stories in the PCN Britain Made of Stories project.

Faith and Reason Study Guides



The Human Spirit and the Times We Live In

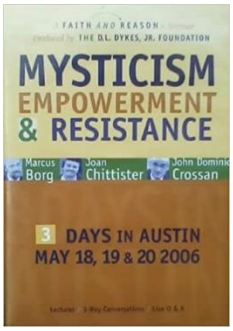
DVD Two Disc set

£20 to hire

Sr. Joan Chittister and Fr. Richard Rohr explore two fundamental realities of our common experience: The Identity and Role of Women in the History and Tradition of Christianity especially in the way we face and deal with the human experience in the world today (Chittister) and the Development and Evolution of Spiritual Awareness as it applies to contemporary human experience today (Rohr).

Disc One contains the two lectures by Sr. Joan. The two lectures are divided into approximately 35 minute segments. Segment 1 is the first half of Joan's "Divine Feminine" lecture, Segment 2 being the second half. Segment 3 is the first half of her lecture on "Women and War," with Segment 4 being the second half.

Disc Two contains Fr. Richard's two lectures on "The Human Spirit," which have been divided into four segments, each approximately 25 minutes in length. In addition to Fr. Richard's lectures, an extended Q & A session has been included with both Sr. Joan and Fr. Richard responding to questions from the audience. Participant questions for each section which can be downloaded - web address with DVD pack.



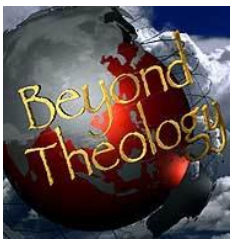
Mysticism, Empowerment and Resistance
Free, P&P only

This is an AUDIO recording in MP3 format and will not play on many CD players.
It is the recording of three days of talks given by Marcus Borg, Joan Chittister and Dominic Crossan to a conference in Austin in May 2006. It is interesting for two reasons: 1. it makes the case for mysticism in a progressive understanding of Christianity, 2. it reflects a period in the progressive Christianity movement in the US when liberal Christians were under more pressure than now and when attitudes among its supporters were more combative.

The Challenge of Jesus by Dominic Crossan
DVD Two Disc set
£25 to hire

Renowned historical Jesus scholar John Dominic Crossan presents his life's work developing the unexplored matrix of Jesus' unique time and place in a provocative new resource for small group discussion in homes, churches and retreats. The series is divided into 4 Themes: The World of Jesus; The Life of Jesus; The Death of Jesus; & The Resurrection of Jesus. Each theme is subdivided into 4 segments of 15-18 minutes each for easy integration into class curriculum. (Total of 16 sessions plus prologue and epilogue). This is a well produced, illustrated presentation. Participant questions can be downloaded. There is also an accompanying book available. Because of its weight you may choose to leave out the book to keep postage to a minimum.

<u>Shumaker Family Foundation</u>



Beyond Theology
DVD series
£15 to hire

Beyond Theology explores the evolution of consciousness. The series examines topics such as the challenges confronting humanity and the changing representations of God. Throughout the ten-part series, noted theologians, scholars and authors reflect upon the fundamental challenges of our time, addressing the roots of contemporary culture wars and global environmental crises. The series focuses on the emergence of a worldview that integrates science and spirituality, while exploring the notion that the guiding myths of modern civilization are in transition.
Series participants include Karen Armstrong, Dr James Forbes, Sister Joan Chittister, Bishop John Spong and Huston Smith. The series is hosted by Charles Atkins.

Mary McMahon, former PCN vice chair, has used this series and says it is worthwhile though she warns that one of the episodes relates to the US government and is therefore less relevant to a UK audience. John Churcher, former PCN Britain Chair, says it may not be one for new comers to progressive Christianity, but it is excellent in tapping into the new consciousness of open thinkers across the faiths.

Sea of Faith

DVD series

The Sea of Faith: Christianity in change
DVD series
£5 to hire

This is Don Cupitt's 1984 BBC TV series in six parts. The Sea of Faith movement started in response to this series. He surveys western thinking on religion and charts a transition from traditional realist religion to the view that religion is a human creation.

Part One: The Mechanical Universe. Part Two: The Human Animal. Part Three: Going back to the Book. Part Four: Prometheus Unbound. Part Five: Religion shock. Part Six: The New World.

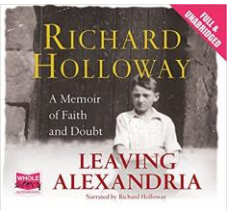
Free to Believe

CD series

Richard Holloway at the Free to Believe Reading Party
CD series
£5 to hire

The 2013 Free To Believe Reading Party at the Lake District Windermere Centre in May 2013 featured Richard Holloway's memoir Leaving Alexandria and was a stimulating occasion in the inspiring presence of the author himself.

Chris Avis has recorded a 4-CD set of his talks together with discussions. The discs include plenty of discussion and some extracts from the concluding Service of Celebration led by Kate Compston. Chris writes, "Richard comes across as a hugely attractive person and we were all privileged that he shared so much so honestly."



Richard Holloway Leaving Alexandria
CD series
£5 to hire

The prize-winning memoir: "an enlightening walk through a life that encompasses West Africa…rent strikes, the divided self and the question of grace" (*Scotland on Sunday*, UK).

An international bestseller and winner of the PEN/Ackerley Prize, Ricard Holloway's candid memoir "is many things. It is a compelling account of a journey through life, told with great frankness; it is a subtle reflection on what it means to live in an imperfect and puzzling world; and it is a highly readable insight into one of the most humane and engaged minds of our times. It is, quite simply, a wonderful book" (Alexander McCall Smith).

At the tender age of fourteen, Richard Holloway left his hometown of Alexandria, north of Glasgow, and travelled hundreds of miles to be educated and trained for the priesthood at an English monastery. By the age of twenty-five he had been ordained and was working in the slums of Glasgow. Through the forty years that followed, Richard touched the lives of many people as he rose to one of the highest positions in the Anglican Church. But behind his confident public faith lay a restless heart and an inquisitive mind.

The Hibbert Trust

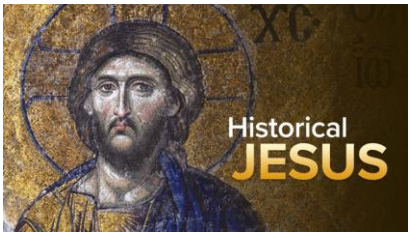
DVD series

Life Spirit
DVD series
£5 to hire

This is a set of talks which is being trialled by the Hibbert Trust. They can be used in any order. It is open to people from different traditions, whatever their beliefs. There is a manual for the facilitator, which provides follow up questions.

1. Your odyssey
2. What is spirituality?
3. The role of personal faith
4. The role of organised religion
5. Making moral choices
6. Facing death
7. Who says so?
8. Time and history
9. The importance of belief
10. God
11. Suffering and evil
12. Doing and being

The Great Courses

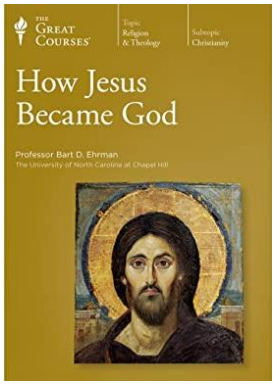


Historical Jesus
DVD lecture series
£15 to hire

Who was Jesus of Nazareth? What was he like? For more than 2,000 years, people and groups of varying convictions have pondered these questions and done their best to answer them. The significance of the subject is apparent. From the late Roman Empire all the way to our own time, no continuously existing institution or belief system has wielded as much influence as Christianity, no figure as much as Jesus.
Worshiped around the globe by more than a billion people today, he is undoubtedly the single most important figure in the story of Western civilization and one of the most significant in world history altogether.

Everyone who has even the faintest knowledge of Jesus has an opinion about him, says Professor Bart D. Ehrman, and these opinions vary widely.
Those differences are visible not only among laypeople but even among professional scholars who have devoted their lives to the task of reconstructing what the historical Jesus was probably like and what he most likely said and did.

In this course, you learn what the best historical evidence seems to indicate as you listen to lectures developed with no intention of affirming or denying any particular theological beliefs.

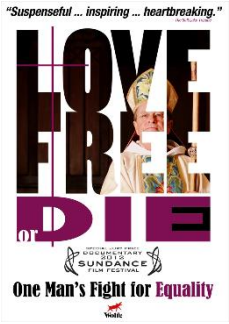


How Jesus Became God
DVD lecture series
£15 to hire

The early Christian claim that Jesus of Nazareth was God completely changed the course of Western civilization. In fact, without the Christian declaration of Jesus as God, Western history as we know it would have never happened.

If Jesus had not been declared God, his followers would have remained a sect within Judaism, and the massive conversion of Gentiles, the Roman adoption of Christianity, and the subsequent unfolding of the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, the Reformation, and modernity would never have taken place. For that reason, the question of *how* Jesus became God is one of the most significant historical questions of Western civilization.

Films



Love Free or Die
DVD Film (80mins)
£6 to hire

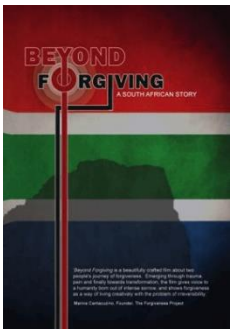
Love Free or Die is about a man whose two defining passions are in direct conflict: his love for God and for his partner Mark. Gene Robinson is the first openly gay person to become a bishop in the historic traditions of Christendom. His consecration in 2003, to which he wore a bullet-proof vest, caused an international stir, and he has lived with death threats every day since.

The film follows Robinson's personal story as American churches debate whether or not lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people are equal to heterosexuals in the eyes of God while our nation debates whether LGBT people are equal to heterosexuals in the eyes of the law.

In LOVE FREE OR DIE, Bishop Gene steps onto the world stage as he travels from small-town churches to Washington's Lincoln Memorial to London's Lambeth Palace calling for all to stand for equality – inspiring bishops, priests and ordinary folk to come out from the shadows and change history.

LOVE FREE OR DIE reunites the filmmaking team of Macky Alston and Sandra Itkoff who collaborated on *The Killer Within*. Alston also directed *Family Name* which premiered at Sundance and prior production credits for Itkoff include *Defamation, Cadillac Desert*.

The film has been highly praised by two PCN groups. A donation from the booking fee goes to the makers of the film.

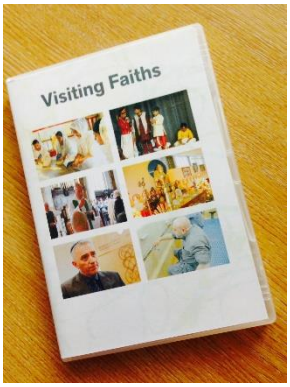


Beyond Forgiving, A South African Story
£5 to hire
DVD film (28 minutes)

Beyond Forgiving is a documentary depicting the journey of Ginn Fourie and Letlapa Mphalele from South Africa to bring healing and reconciliation to their country. Ginn and Letlapa form an unlikely team: a white Christian woman and a black atheist man. One has suffered directly from the actions of the other, but both have been victims - and risen beyond their pain. What brings them together is a profound story of tragedy and hope.

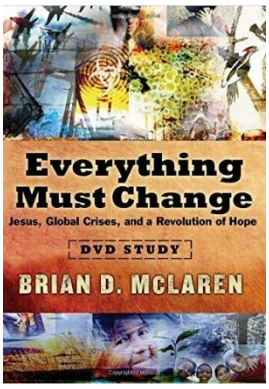
Produced and distributed by Initiatives of Change, 24 Greencoat Place, London SW1P 1RD films@uk.iofc.org.uk www.uk.iofc.org/films. copyright 2013 Initiatives of Change. All rights reserved. A donation from the booking fee will go to the makers of this film.

Other



Visiting faiths
DVD series
Free to hire, p&p only

This is one of the DVDs from The Faith Encounter Programme and gives a taste of visiting six of the most inspiring places of worship in the West Midlands.



Everything Must Change
DVD series
£5 to hire

The impact of our society and the demands upon the religious community call for a thoughtful response from followers of Christ. If believers don't change, all is lost. This 8-week DVD study, based on Everything Must Change, shows how the message of Jesus provides a framing story that brings healing and sanity to the dominant societal and global realities of our time: systemic injustice, poverty, and dysfunction. Intended to be used with the trade book, this DVD study will help participants discover a form of Christian faith that is holistic, integral, balanced, that offers good news for both the living and the dying, that speaks of God's grace at work.

(updated August 2021)