

## Chapel Idea James Bond Man of faith? (Using idea from REtoday Spring)

Reading: Joshua 24: 14-15 or Matt 6:19-24

Song: Bob Dylan *You Gotta Serve Somebody*

Clip from [IGN Top 50 Bond moments in 007minutes](#).

This idea is based on an article by Mark Roques who works on the premise that everyone lives by theology, but it isn't often put into words.

Take James Bond for example! Is James Bond religious? Does he have faith? Can't recall any of his films where he was praying or reading the Bible – he certainly doesn't seem too worried about keeping up with the Ten Commandments – Don't kill, don't steal, don't commit adultery!

In fact you could argue he takes particular delight in breaking commandments six and seven!

So yes while Bond doesn't appear to be religious as we would understand it he does have a worldview, he has a faith – the Bible teaches that people put their faith in a whole raft of things from the military power to money – Faith in God is the exception most of the time!

So what is a worldview? What do you dream about? What do you long for? What drives you? How you answer those questions is indicative of your worldview – the driving force in your life. *"Worldviews are the 'spectacles' behind our eyes – we look at the world through them, not at them."* A worldview is a bit like a secret agent – often invisible and elusive.

Imagine for a moment what you would do if you won a whole lot of money – I heard on the radio this morning that if you won the latest Powerball you would win enough to live on \$20,000 a day for a whole year – the radio station had started a competition where people could win that amount by entering a draw and saying how they would spend it. So how would you spend \$20,000 if you were given that amount of cash? Your answer to the question says a great deal about what you believe – your lifestyle reveals your worldview and every worldview tells a story.

The values we have make a massive difference to how we live our lives. The difficult thing is to be able to recognize the kind of values that are shaping your life, because what people say they value and what they actually value in practice are often two different things.

Rocques says that faith can be defined by how we answer the following questions:

1. *Where am I?* – Or what is the nature of the world that I live in?
2. *Who am I?* What is the purpose of human beings?
3. *What's wrong?* What gets in the way of me finding fulfillment? How do I understand evil? (Flight of the Conchords – what is wrong with the world today?)
4. *What's the solution?* How am I saved from what's wrong?
5. *What happens to me after death?*

So now let's have a look at how James Bond would answer those questions:

*Where am I?* In a world of gadgets, beautiful women, luxury and enemy spies.

*Who am I?* I am Bond...James Bond. I am a supremely confident MI6 agent – a 007 with a license to kill. All women find me extremely attractive.

*What's wrong?* Sometimes I don't have control over nature and other people – some enemies even refuse to be instantly killed. Sometimes I am attacked by huge crocodiles and sharks.

*What's the solution?* I will trust in science and technology and my own supreme skills to see me through. I will conquer my enemies and seduce all the attractive women who will not be able to resist me.

*What will happen to me after death?* It is almost impossible to kill me, but after I die I will rot and be eaten by worms.

For a Chapel you could intersperse with clips where James Bond reveals something of his world view. Then talk and ask the students to think about how they would answer those questions – what influences their worldview (still in formation)?

Then talk about both what Joshua said after they had finally reached the Promised Land – tell a bit of the story: *Who will you serve?*

Talk about what Jesus said about serving God and money.

As for me and my household...