

JANUARY - APRIL 2010

# FAITH & REALITY

EMMANUEL'S YOUNG ADULT VENUE FOR FRIENDSHIP AND CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

PUT  
YOUR  
HEAD IN  
THE SKY,  
NOT THE  
SAND



**Faith & Reality** is a discussion group, coffee house, movie theatre, social club where people explore the horizon of faith and culture.

It's a group of friends seeking wisdom about the really big ideas and difficult issues that emerge from our common humanity.

Whether you believe in God or not, this place is about seeking reality at all cost. Every truth-seeker is welcome and will find community here.

## **JAN. 17- Lord, save us from your followers!**

Why do so many people hate Christians? Is it just prejudice or are Christians today making a poor impression on people? Do Christians come across as ignorant, bigoted, arrogant, even hateful? Many followers of Jesus don't even want to be called Christian anymore. What can we learn from how people are responding to us? What's our fault & what's theirs?

## **JAN. 24 - Faith, Fraud & the Placebo Effect**

It's a miracle! Healings! Prophecy! Spirit Power! You can see it all on TV & online. Spiritual leaders with supernatural gifts. Or...bogus charlatans, manipulators, con artists who prey on gullible and vulnerable people. There's a sucker born-again every minute. How can we know what to believe? How can we learn to discern truth & falsehood?

## **JAN. 31 - Freedom & the Paradox of Choice**

Freedom is the gift of God and the intrinsic dignity of human beings and we are living in history's freest society. But is there such a thing as too much freedom? How do you measure that? Who sets the limits? What do we mean by 'freedom' anyway? What are the many forms of bondage? How does choice effect freedom? What is the Christian concept of freedom, of choice, of bondage? Feel free to attend this discussion!

more >>>



## EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

(HOME OF THE TUESDAY NIGHT STUDENT DINNERS.)

2121 Cedar Hill Cross Road  
at the Henderson St entrance to the **University of Victoria.**

**Sunday Nights: 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

Contact: [rob@ebcvictoria.ca](mailto:rob@ebcvictoria.ca) or try your luck at 250-592-2418

[www.faithandreality.ca](http://www.faithandreality.ca)

# FAITH & REALITY January – April 2010:

## **FEB. 7 - GUEST:**

### **Dr Rikk Watts**

Professor of New Testament at Regent College. Initially trained as an aeronautical engineer, Rikk worked for a time at IBM while undertaking a degree in Philosophy, Art History and Sociology. He was a founding member of *On Being*, a major Australian Christian magazine, and supported himself and his family as a professional drummer. Rikk has amazing insights to share that will deepen our faith by deepening our understanding.

## **FEB. 14 - Technology: friend or what?**

We once lived on the land; we now live inside of technology, e.g., the modern world - and we no longer know how to live without it. But what is the price we pay for the powers technology gives us? Does technology effect our values without us even knowing? Instead of 'using' things and 'valuing' people, doesn't it make us 'use' people and 'value' things? What have Christians thought about nature, power, and human ingenuity?

## **FEB. 21 - Limits of God Language**

If all of our thinking and all our language is based on reason and experience, how can we think and talk about the God who is *beyond* all human reason and experience? If our language about God is limited

by our humanness, how does that effect the Bible and our interpretation of it? How do we avoid the twin extremes of taking our concepts too literally or too spiritually? And what is really at stake here?

## **FEB. 28 - MOVIE:**

### **Mary and Max**

Two lost souls. Mary lives in Australia & Max in New York. They become pen-pals for life, becoming the only true friend the other has. Mary & Max's lives are filled with hardship. Max never overcomes obesity, & Mary never really escapes the shadow of her parents. Though there are usually no happy endings in life, there may be happy middles, as long as you can find connection with another real person. (Clay animation 80 min.)

## **MAR. 7 - Ethics: Dating Outside the Faith**

What is the Christian ethic regarding interfaith dating and marriage? Where does such an ethic come from? What comes from scripture and what comes from tradition? Let's talk about love, romance, wisdom, family, faith, friendship and happiness. Don't come to this talk with pre-conceived ideas. Let's really explore this issue with sincere openness to what is true, good and best.

## **MAR. 14 - Dating and Romance - Part ONE**

Whatever the case may be regarding the wisdom of inter-

faith dating, most people still feel really awkward about approaching the opposite sex. How are we supposed to meet potential mates? What are some appropriate ways to behave on a date? How does your Christian faith effect your dating, your mate selection? Is our culture's current form of dating appropriate at all? What would you suggest as an alternative? Why?

## **MAR. 21 - Dating and Romance - Part TWO**

More on dating, courtship, and romance. Last week, it was mostly about how women feel and think & this week we focus on men. How do men and women differ when it comes to meeting new people, first dates, communication? What about insecurity? What about that ego? We'll watch some videos and vote of the best & the stupidest advice.

## **MAR. 28 - MOVIE:**

### **Lars and the Real Girl**

Yes, Lars has a girlfriend. She is a life-sized, anatomically complete (OMG!), silicon doll purchased over the internet. But this is not some stupid indie comedy. It's a parable about the pain of loneliness, love & mental illness. It shows the power to heal and to be transformed that can come when families and whole communities are willing to seek understanding, and willing to act with grace. (104 min.)

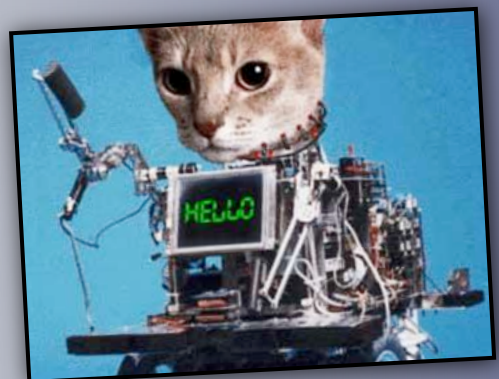
[www.faithandreality.ca](http://www.faithandreality.ca)

**Sunday Nights: 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

Emmanuel Baptist Church

2121 Cedar Hill X Rd.

[rob@ebcvictoria.ca](mailto:rob@ebcvictoria.ca)



Hello. I luv u, won't you tell me your name?