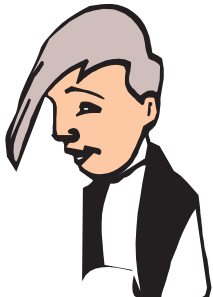


Case Study 1 St Saviours' Youth Group



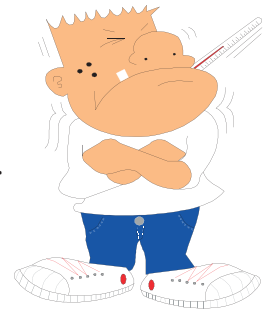
Graham Cartwright, vicar of St Saviour's is chairing a rather sticky meeting of the support group for Tim Simpson, the church's youth leader. Tim was appointed because he seemed to have "street cred" with the young people and an enthusiastic desire to relate Christianity to the modern culture familiar to them. He has been keen to explore the freedom Christ gives us to be ourselves: to some of the parents his dress and behaviour seem a little too unconventional! He also believes Christians need to be where people are in order to be a witness. Tim has been taking members of the group to local concerts. Some have gone with him to parties held by some of his non-Christian friends.



Dave Morgan, the Churchwarden has recently received several phone calls from worried parents. Tonight he has passed them on to the support group. Some of the young people have started smoking and drinking, using the claim that 'Tim's friends do it' as justification. One or two report having been offered drugs at concerts and parties.

Claire Eastwood one of the mothers on the support group, is very unhappy and says that some of the parents are thinking of moving to the Baptist Church where they take a stricter line on such behaviour.

Debbie Walker springs to Tim's defence: "My kids think he's wonderful. The teaching sessions they have had about using our creative gifts and developing an authentically Christian lifestyle have been really exciting. He has used the experiences the youngsters have had to open up good discussions about the use of drugs and about Christian standards."



To Do:

Divide into two groups to make the case for or against Tim's approach. You may like to find passages from within 1 Corinthians 8:1-10:33 to support your views.