



# Fishbowl: faith and society

## AT A GLANCE



### Place

Indoors



### Key idea

Discussing faith and society controversially and respectfully



### Effort

Materials 5 min · Preparation 20 min



120 minutes



8–20 scouts



from 16 years



discussion



## Materials

- ☐ 4 chairs in the inner circle, the rest around the outside
- ☐ statement cards (see below)
- ☐ moderation card with discussion rules
- ☐ optional: drinks and snacks



## Schedule

**0–15'**

**Introduction** – Present the discussion rules, draw the first statement.

**15–95'**

**Fishbowl** – Three to four statements of 20–25 minutes each.

**95–110'**

**Review** – What surprised you? Did you change your mind?

**110–120'**

**Closing** – Thought: always be prepared to give an answer ... with gentleness (1 Peter 3:15–16).



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## How it works – simply explained

- 1 Three people sit in the inner circle and discuss; one chair stays empty.
- 2 Anyone who wants to join in sits on the empty chair.
- 3 Then someone from the inner circle must move outside.
- 4 Only the inner circle speaks – the outer circle listens.
- 5 Example statements: “Christians should get involved in politics.” – “Scout camps should be climate-neutral.” – “Social media harms young people more than it helps them.”

 **Example:** “I see it differently from you, because ... But your point about ... made me think.”

## Safety

- Respectful language, no personal attacks.
- The moderator makes sure quieter people get a say too.
- Nobody has to go into the inner circle.

## Variations

- Let the scouts collect statements themselves.
- Invite a guest (e.g. from the church or local politics).

## Something to think about

When is an argument good – and when does it become hurtful?