



LIGHT

IN THE DARKNESS

LIVING IN THE GLORY OF CHRIST

SEMINAR LIST

1. Western saviours?

Interested in global health? Have you ever considered that unequal power dynamics exist in international aid? Have you ever considered that missionary aid has historically flowed from former colonial powers to former colonised regions? Have structural inequalities and western saviour ideology influenced mission work? How could we contribute to dismantling discriminatory structures within mission work? Should we as students aim to serve God across the world? Do we have a right to be going? What on earth can we offer?

Come for a lively interactive seminar on God's heart for mission, ongoing global health needs, and why and how we can respond to some of these difficult questions.

Fi McLachlan, Head of Global at CMF, has a background in social work and healthcare management. She has worked in mission, based in South-East Asia, and currently serves on the International Committee of Tearfund as well as being a board member of a large hospital in the Gulf.

Amina Kaloko is a Deep:ER Fellow and intercalating student in London. She has a keen interest in global health, especially analysing and critiquing historical mission work. She has also been involved in projects around 'decolonising' medical education at the University of Bristol.

2. Sharing your Faith with Muslim Friends

Muslims believe in Jesus and his Virgin Birth; they believe that God revealed the Torah to Moses and the Gospel to Jesus. Yet Islam denies the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus, denies Jesus' divinity and believes our Bible is hopelessly corrupted. How's that for some great conversation starters...?

Mark Pickering is CMF Chief Executive and a prison GP. During his student days in London, he spent many Sunday afternoons at Speakers' Corner in Hyde Park talking with Muslims; this sparked a lifelong interest in understanding Islam and Muslims.

3. An injection of intercession

Prayer doesn't have to be loud or scary. Explore together how to bring prayer into your daily care at work. Hear some testimonies and tips from a variety of experienced HC professionals. Let's get praying!

Pippa Peppiatt is CMF Head of Nurses and Midwives

Esther Chevassut is a CMF Staffworker and Staff Nurse in Southampton

Rachel Denno is a CMF Associate Staffworker and Mental Health Nurse in Southampton

4. What on earth is heaven?

What happens to us when we die? What will heaven be like? Is it a place of pink fluffy clouds, angels and cherubs playing harps? Is the Gospel really just about 'saving souls for heaven'? If so, why be a doctor? Why cure physical illnesses if the material creation will be destroyed at the end of time?

In this seminar we will re-examine what the Bible has to say about heaven... and earth. What we discover is that the Gospel isn't an escape hatch to heaven, but a call to be part of bringing the kingdom of heaven to our square inch of the earth.

Jim Paul is a former palliative care consultant and now director of English L'Abri, a Christian community that provides space for people to explore their questions and doubts about the Christian faith. He is author of *'What on earth is heaven?'* (IVP, 2021)

5. Christian Friendship

Building strong and intimate friendships is of central importance to living as a Christian, and yet there is surprisingly little teaching or discussion about the topic. This seminar will look at biblical teaching about friendship, including intergenerational or 'Paul-Timothy' friendships, and asks how we can translate this into building strong friendships as students. What can we learn from recent 'spiritual abuse' scandals in the church and what are the 'red flags' that indicate when relationships are becoming unhealthy, coercive and abusive? What are the hallmarks of healthy intimate friendships and how can we make them stronger?

John Wyatt is CMF President and Emeritus Professor of Neonatology. He is currently a senior researcher at the Faraday Institute, and a sought-after speaker and writer on medical ethics and related topics.

6. Doctrine or Dogma: When Christians Disagree...

The number of Christian denominations worldwide is thought to be in the thousands. We can easily begin to ask how so many different beliefs can possibly be held under one banner; how do we separate what is holy from what is heresy? In an increasingly polarised world, is it possible to have a unified Church without compromising on our core Christian beliefs? This session will aim to look at how we can learn to disagree well as Christians, both with each other and the wider secular world.

James Howitt is a former CMF Associate Staff Worker and medical SHO. He now runs Strategy and Operations for the Skylark International Network.

7. Mental Health within a Biblical Worldview

More than one in four of us will have a significant episode of psychiatric illness at some time in our lives. The World Health Organisation now says that depression is the largest single cause of ill health across the world. As Christian health professionals we have a special responsibility for people with mental health problems, who are often stigmatised or marginalised, and to help our churches minister to them. The seminar will seek to answer -

- How do we make sense of secular models of mental illness from a Christian perspective?
- What is the role of sin in mental illness?
- Any other questions you bring along!

Nick Land is a psychiatrist, a retired medical director of a large mental health trust, an Anglican Reader and a previous chair of Christian Medical Fellowship.

8. Advocacy: Helping beyond healing

What is advocacy? Why should I care, and what difference could I really make anyway? The Bible is pretty clear that God cares about those society rejects or dismisses. In this seminar we will look at what the Bible says to those who

have influence about those who don't. We'll consider how that relates to 21st century healthcare and what you can be doing now to answer his call.

Jennie Pollock is Head of Public Policy at CMF. By the time of the conference she will (hopefully) have an MA in Bioethics and Medical Law and one in Philosophy. She is the author of *If Only: Finding joyful contentment in the face of lack and longing*.

9. Thriving in FY1

"It was the best of times and the worst of times." Whilst Charles Dickens didn't write these words with 21st-century junior doctors in mind, he nonetheless aptly summarises what the FY1 experience is like. You're finally a doctor, saving lives, earning money, loving life. But you're also loaded with new responsibilities, new expectations, new challenges – and sometimes lives can't be saved.

How can you make the most of the opportunities afforded to you in FY1 whilst navigating the trials that will inevitably come your way? How can you thrive for the glory of God and not just survive? Join us as we explore this issue together. Bring your questions and concerns, your hopes and fears, and by God's grace, we'll all help each other to make the most of our junior years.

Silas Anderson studied medicine in Bristol and is now an FY2 in Oxford. He hopes to apply for ophthalmology training after taking an FY3 year. In his free time, he enjoys running, playing golf, reading, and spending time with friends and family.

Paula Busuulwa is currently an academic obstetrics and gynaecology trainee in Liverpool. She graduated from King's College London (GKT) and completed foundation training in London. When she's not learning how to operate and deliver babies, she loves music, food, and spending time with family and friends.

10. Why does God allow suffering?

If God is love then why does he allow so much pain? Do pandemics, childhood cancers, genocide, terrorism and natural disasters not disprove the existence of a God who is both all-powerful and 'filled with compassion'? And if God cares for me personally then why did he not heal my loved one or prevent the suffering I have experienced? Together we will begin to explore some of these huge questions and consider both how we can respond to others asking these questions and how we can hold onto our faith when faced with suffering ourselves.

Ashley Stewart is Associate Head of Student Ministries at CMF. She worked as a junior doctor in Northern Ireland before leaving medicine after F2 to study Theology and Counselling. She now works as a counsellor alongside her role at CMF.

11a Women in medicine

What does it mean to be a woman in medicine? Does being a Christian woman make any difference? Does it make any difference that we are a woman? How do we make godly career decisions? Come along to learn, hear examples from other women in medicine and share thoughts and ideas, with a woman who has been in medicine for more than 20 years, who with God's help is still working out the answers to those questions.

Sarah Baker is a consultant oncologist, currently also holding roles in academia and medical leadership. She is a former CMF staffworker who loves working with students and young people and hosts a local CMF group with her husband Idris, who is leading a seminar on men in medicine.

Whilst this seminar uses primarily examples from medics, the principles are applicable to a range of healthcare settings and so all students are welcome.

11b Men in medicine

Idris Baker is a consultant in Palliative Medicine, Lecturer and Clinical Director of Cancer Services in Swansea.

12. Ethics that point to Jesus.

Argument or apathy? Or an opportunity to talk about Jesus? Starting in 1 Corinthians we'll explore how healthcare ethics can be all about glorifying God, living and speaking for Jesus.

Giles Cattermole is a part-time EM Consultant and works for UCCF in London.

13. Handling money as a Christian student in today's confusing world

As a medical student, how should you think of money? There is so much advice out there and yet most of it is jargon. How should you prioritise the demands on your money? How does being a Christian make a difference to your priorities? This seminar aims to help you understand money, what it means, and how it links with your faith. I will also provide you with scenarios to consider and there will be opportunities to discuss your questions and concerns on the subject.

John Wong is a Chartered Accountant and a Chartered Financial Analyst. He is currently a Fund Manager and is married to a doctor. He has considerable experience of money matters.

14. Monday to Sunday Christianity: Demolishing the sacred-secular divide

Can we honestly say that we are the same person at eleven am on Sunday as we are at eleven am on Monday? It's easy to be inconsistent, even when we don't mean to. Yet Jesus is Lord over everything. We see that easily enough over Bible reading or evangelism; but how do we see his Lordship over music, mathematics, mountains, or medicine? This seminar will help us live in the light of the greatness of God, consistent between wards and worship.

Laurence Crutchlow is CMF Associate Head of Student Ministries and a GP in London

15. Becoming a Christian leader in healthcare

What, if anything, is unique about being a Christian leader? Is healthcare a place for Christian leadership? In this seminar, we will look at ways in which we can be leaders as Christians in healthcare and how we can be an influence for Jesus.

James Tomlinson is a GP based in Birmingham. He is currently CMF West Midlands Catalyst Team Leader and previously served as Regional Secretary for the International Christian Medical & Dental Association in Europe & Eurasia.

16. Culture wars - soldier, pacifist, other?

How do we engage and respond as Christian healthcare students? Every other day it seems as though there is a Twitter spat or someone is getting cancelled over a big issue of our day. From gender and sexuality to critical race theory and much more; how do we keep up, let alone respond? Join us as we outline a biblical framework to help us engage – whatever the issue – and have a chance to discuss your questions and experiences.

John Greenall is Associate CEO at CMF and a paediatrician in Bedfordshire.

Rachel Owusu-Ankomah is Head of Student Ministries at CMF and a junior doctor in surgery.

17. Unplanned pregnancy and abortion. What's a Christian response?

Celia Wyatt unpacks the work of Christian crisis pregnancy centres and describes a positive and Christian way to engage with women and partners facing the dilemma of an unplanned pregnancy or who are struggling after an abortion. This seminar will promote your understanding of the issues and equip you to respond to women with both the truth and grace of the gospel.

Celia Wyatt: has spent the last 20 years working with a Christian Crisis Pregnancy Centre in London, formerly as Executive Director, now as manager of their prison counselling project. She originally trained as a nurse and later retrained as a counsellor.

18. Mini-Saline – Sharing faith in healthcare

Are you always seeing opportunities to speak for Jesus only after they have gone past? Wonder why you can't think what to say? Longing to be more switched on as a light for Jesus in lectures and on the wards? Come and see why people find the Saline course so helpful.

TBD