



FROM THE COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

As our current cohort of Year 12 students begin their journey into the HSC, it can be helpful to ask questions from someone who's been there recently.

Syon Rosh encouraged our students at Chapel, our lunchtime ministry groups and around the playground about the encouragement he's found through Christ. Here's some of the questions he was asked.

Question: How did you do in your HSC?

Syon: I got the course I wanted at the Uni I wanted so all in all it worked itself out. I'm doing Psychology at the University of Wollongong (UOW)

Question: What have you done since leaving Thomas Hassall?

Syon: Since leaving, I attend University 4 days a week studying psychology at UOW, I have 2 jobs that I do on different days during the week, on Friday nights a few other young adults and I help run a youth group at my church and Sunday nights I go to church and every 2 weeks I play in the church band.

Question: What's the biggest difference between school and Uni?

Syon: There is a lot more freedom at Uni. you can pick and choose what you want to study and what subjects you do. You can join clubs and the diversity is amazing but be sure you know how to time manage and prioritize because it's not good if you don't know how.

Question: Christianity is obviously important to you, can you explain why?

Syon: I was raised as a Christian but I made the conscious choice when I was around 14-15. The reason being that as humans we are horrible and just unworthy of anything but God loved us so much that he sent His son to save us even though we don't deserve it. I mean, look at us now and everything we have. They are all gifts of God that we take for granted when they could easily be stripped away from us yet we are still here through the love and mercy of God and Jesus.

Question: Why do you keep learning about the Bible AFTER Thomas Hassall? Don't you already know everything in the Bible?

No, I don't know everything, but I wish I did. The reason I chose to keep learning about the Bible is because:

- I want to grow spiritually as well. There is no real accomplishment in wanting to follow God when we don't even read what he is trying to tell us
- To help others as well. Being a youth leader, kids will ask questions and I need to make sure I am able to answer those questions
- Because you're able to meet other people who want to grow spiritually as well and it's such an encouragement being able to help each other out

Question: You're studying Psychology which teaches you how to learn to help people change their unhealthy thinking habits. Also, this week is RUOK Day. Can you share how you handle difficult times in your life?

Syon: When things get me down I tend to ask God and my family and friends for help. 1 Corinthians 10:13 says that God will never put you in a situation that you can't handle but in doing so he will provide you with a way to overcome it. We need to have patience as well because help isn't always instant, everything has a time frame. I do know some people that have suffered from depression. You can help by checking up on them to make sure they are OK so they know they are not alone. Be sure to offer help but don't make it seem as though they NEED your help but let them know it's there. Space is always helpful as well because you never know how the person is feeling but in giving them space don't create distance between them. However, make it known that you are there if needed. Always keep praying as well because God works in many amazing and mysterious ways.

Thanks Syon

Rev Stuart Tye
Chaplain
