

Speaker Briefing

KEY INFORMATION FOR KESWICK CONVENTION

We are deeply grateful for your willingness to serve on the speaker team at the Keswick Convention – thank you! This briefing document set out the context to help you prepare for the event.

Context – All One in Christ Jesus

We thank God that Keswick audiences are hugely supportive of all speakers, and receptive to God's Word. There is a remarkable warmth and openness to meetings. We are therefore looking for Bible teaching that is warmly faithful to the text, that goes through the heart and exalts Jesus; drawing us all closer to him, to joyfully love and live for him in all of life.

We draw believers – and a speaking team – from a range of church backgrounds and denominations. For over 150 years, our founding text has been, “All one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28); seeking to unite around the gospel of Jesus Christ. We will therefore have legitimate, but differing views on matters of secondary importance that are not themselves salvation issues and we ask you please to refrain from foregrounding these.

General Programme

The Keswick Convention runs for three weeks with a full and fantastic programme. Here is a typical day at Convention:

8:45am – 9:15am	Prayer Meeting
9:30am – 10:30am	Seminars / Keswick Lecture
11:30am – 12:45pm	Morning Bible Reading (Kids & Youth groups)
1:00pm – 1:30pm	Lunchtime Planning Meeting
Afternoons	Various smaller receptions /events
7:30pm – 9:00pm	Evening Celebration (Kids & Youth groups)
9:15pm – 10:15pm	Evening Extras

Bible Readings and Evening Celebrations

The Morning Bible Readings (11:30am – 12:45pm)

These are an opportunity for one Bible teacher to work through and expound a Bible book or sequence of passages. This allows for more in-depth teaching, and we allocate 45 minutes for that task. We don't make a sharp distinction between teaching and preaching but want the morning Bible Readings to be applied to the heart throughout, so that our lives and affections are changed to want to become more like God's Son, to live for his glory in all of life, and serve his mission.

The Evening Celebrations (7:30pm – 9:00pm)

Sermons for these meetings are set in the context of worship and celebration, much like a Sunday service. We would ask speakers to expound the passages which are allocated to them, bearing in mind that there will be a range of speakers across the week, and to be aware (from the briefing notes) how what you say may tie in with passages on other nights.

We are looking for faithful and clear exegesis that helps us see that God is good and the gospel is true; and therefore, warms our hearts, stirs our emotions, challenges our wills, and encourages deep change. We are however not looking for application that is merely pietistic or individualistic, but one that is engaged with others and the worlds where God has placed us. The speaker has 35 minutes (except on the Saturday and the Friday of each week when there is 30 minutes).

Prayer Pre-Session

Before the Morning Bible Reading and Evening Celebrations we spend time in prayer with the programme team. Please arrive in plenty of time for your sound-check and to join in with this prayer time.

Word-Centred

We see the preaching and exalting of Christ through the Word as the main priority for our ministry at Keswick. Please help us see what you have seen in the Bible and keep the passage at the centre of your preaching.

We do however expect a diversity of preaching styles because God gifts and shapes each speaker differently. Please be yourself, though "We wish to see Jesus" (John 12:21).

We normally use the 2011 NIV as our default text. We are happy if you would prefer to preach from the ESV. If so, please let us know in advance.

Evening Celebration Theme, Title & Passage

We try to ensure that the Bible passage and title match the theme of the Convention. We know that we do not always get this right. So, the default position is; the Bible passage wins! If the title we proposed does not match what you believe should be proclaimed, please feel free to change this – but again, please let us know in advance.

Seminars and Lectures

Seminars

Are held on weekday mornings, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 9:30am-10:30am. Since the programme is tightly scheduled, speakers should work on the assumption that 50 minutes is available for their session with a few minutes for Q&A. Seminars attract c100-300+ people.

Keswick Lecture

The Keswick Lecture is each Wednesday morning, 9:30am-10:30am. Again, 50 minutes is the target length. The Lecture attracts between 500-1,000 attendees each week.

Sunday Afternoon Welcome Meeting

There is a welcome meeting for all speakers each **Sunday at 4:30pm-5:50pm on site**. We highly recommend that you attend this meeting (unless you are due to arrive later in the week) as we welcome you to this year's Convention, introduce you to others involved in delivering the ministry, and spend time praying over the week. Light refreshments will be available.

Lunchtime Planning Meetings

There will be a planning meeting each day to run through the night's Evening Celebration and the following Bible Reading. The evening's speaker will need to attend along with the band, hosts and production team.

Saturday 2:00pm / Sunday 12:30pm
Monday – Friday 1:00pm

Wider Ministry

Alongside speaking at the Convention there are other opportunities to serve the Convention and Keswick town.

Preaching in Local Churches: Each Sunday morning there are opportunities to preach in Keswick churches and surrounding areas.

Keswick Convention Podcast: Our podcast runs pre-Convention with interviews from Convention speakers to whet the appetite of conventioners for the upcoming Convention.

Keswick Ministries is the operational name for the Keswick Convention Trust

info@keswickministries.org

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01768780075

Registered Office: Rawnsley Centre, Main Street, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5NP

Prayer Team: Being available to assist our Prayer Team after main sessions to stand alongside conventioners to respond to the word.

Kids, Youth, 19-24s track and Keswick Unconventional: We are a multi-generational event and each of our groups appreciates hearing the main speakers. This could be for a short devotion with the team or a stage interview.

Dress Code

We do not have a dress code. Please wear what you are comfortable with. From a 'technical' point of view on screen, solid bold colours work best. You are easier to listen to if you do not visibly distract your listeners!

Relays, Streaming and Recording

The Bible Readings, Evening Celebrations, main tent Seminars and Lectures are relayed to other venues on site and in Keswick. They are also live streamed via our YouTube channel. All talks and seminars are then available on catch-up.

Audio and Video recordings of all meetings will be available to buy on a USB and free to download, as well as audio material available via our podcast and website Talks Library.

There may be part of your session that you feel it would be best not to be on the recording, such as part of a Q&A that is very personal to a specific person. If there is anything from your sessions you would prefer not to be on the recording, please let us know before you leave the Convention so we can edit it out of the recording.

PowerPoints

Bible Readings and Evening Celebrations

Please provide your title, talks structure, sub-points, and media to us no later than 1 week before your sessions. We will put these onto PowerPoint for you.

Seminar and Lecture PowerPoint Template

Where full screen slides are required, please use the Keswick PowerPoint template (available on the speaker portal) which incorporates the Keswick logo for a fail-safe format that looks clean and effective. In case of any on the spot technical issues, please provide us with a copy of your PowerPoint no later than 1 week before your sessions.

Speaker Lounge and Team Space

A **Speaker Lounge** is available for your use if you need some quiet space for final prep.

A **Team Space** is also available for contributors, volunteers and staff members to grab a cuppa and check your emails.

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Parking

There is **no parking** on the Pencil Factory site. Please help us by walking whenever possible.

We do provide a car park next to the site for Blue Badge holders that is free to use.

Key Speaker Contact

Carolyn South 07391 575674 or speakers@keswickministries.org.

And finally, please be assured of our prayers as a staff team, and of the prayers of many supporters for you as you prepare and serve the Convention in this way!