Lesson Plan: Religious Education Is Everything Screwed? Exploring Hope and Justice

Year level: High School (Years 9-12)

Duration: 50 minutes

Lesson Objectives:

By the end of this lesson, students will:

- Reflect on global challenges and their personal emotional responses
- Explore historical and contemporary examples of hope and change
- Understand how grounded, faith-based hope can motivate positive action
- Identify ways they can contribute to justice and restoration in the world.

Materials Needed:

- Is Everything Screwed? Video
- Student Worksheet
- Bibles or printed verses (Micah 7:8 and Isaiah 58:6-10)
- Whiteboard or display screen

Teacher Notes:

- Be sensitive to emotional responses; some students may feel overwhelmed
- Encourage realistic optimism: change is possible and has happened before
- Emphasise small, meaningful action over perfection

Lesson Structure:

- 1. Thinking Routine: Think Puzzle Explore (8 minutes)
- Students complete Section 1 of their worksheet
 - o What do you currently think or know about the state of the world?
 - o What questions do you have about that?
 - O What would you like to explore further?
- Discuss responses as a class.
 - o Prompt students to consider how media, experience and education shape their outlook.
- 2. Video Viewing (11 minutes)
- Students watch the featured video
- 3. Thinking Routine: See Think Wonder (8 minutes)
- Students complete Section 2 of the worksheet
 - o What did you see or hear in the video?
 - o What do you think about it?
 - o What do you wonder now?
- Class discussion drawing out common themes and emotional responses

4. Breakout Groups (15 minutes)

- Split class into small groups
 - o Assign half Micah 7:8 and half Isaiah 58:6-10
- Prompt discussion using Section 3 of the worksheet
 - o How does this verse connect to the video's message?
 - o What does Christian hope look like in action?
- Bring class back together to share insights

5. Thinking Routine: I Used to Think... Now I think... (5 minutes)

- Students to complete Section 4 of worksheet
 - I used to think the world was...
 - o Now I think...
- Optional: Share with a partner or a small group

6. Personal Commitment (3 minutes)

- Students to complete Section 5
 - o What is one small way I can choose hope and take action this year?
- Option to post on a class board or share aloud