

The Lookout[®] 2016 THEME LIST

Note to prospective writers: Please be sure to also look at our writers' guidelines (www.lookoutmag.com/about-us/write-for-us).

| <u>NO.</u> | <u>ISSUE DATE</u> | <u>MAIN THEME</u> |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| 01 | January 3 | Jesus' prayers |
| 02 | January 10 | Jesus' healings |
| 03 | January 17 | Jesus' confrontations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• with the religious leaders• against societal norms• other |
| 04 | January 24 | Jesus' teachings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to his disciples• to the crowds• other |
| 05 | January 31 | Worry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• personal concerns• worries for others |
| 06 | February 7 | Men's issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• getting involved in church• being the provider• other |
| 07 | February 14 | Women's issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• trying to do it all• not being catty toward other women• other |
| 08 | February 21 | Kids' issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• rebelling against parents• facing bullies• keeping kids involved in church as they get older |
| 09 | February 28 | Leap Year <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the day the sun stood still• Year of Jubilee• other Bible events that happened occasionally |

- 10** **March 6** **Hymns**
- why are they important to us still?
 - the stories behind them
- 11** **March 13** **Fasting**
- personal fasting (ex: Jesus)
 - fasting as a community (ex: Esther)
- 12** **March 20** **Palm Sunday**
- Lord’s Supper—approach Jesus in remembrance, fellowship
 - triumphal entry—approach Jesus with honor, excitement
 - cross—approach Jesus with humility, solemnity
- 13** **March 27** **Easter**
- what Resurrection Sunday means to humanity
 - what Resurrection Sunday means to you personally
- 14** **April 3** **Doubt**
- when you have doubts—what do you do?
 - when others doubt—how do you reach out to them?
- 15** **April 10** **Beauty**
- in unexpected places
- 16** **April 17** **Sharing Christ: in the Country**
- personal testimony
 - what your church is doing
- 17** **April 24** **Sharing Christ: in the Suburbs**
- personal testimony
 - what your church is doing
- 18** **May 1** **Sharing Christ: in the City**
- personal testimony
 - what your church is doing
- 19** **May 8** **Mother’s Day**
- Looking at moms through the years—when you’re young, in the middle years, and in the senior season
- 20** **May 15** **Fear**
- how do you cope, trust, and keep living?

- 21** **May 22** **Social Media**

 - how should we conduct ourselves online?

- 22** **May 29** **Cross-Generational Relationships**

 - training the younger generations to serve—mentoring
 - younger people intentionally befriending older generations
 - how do you include and minister to all ages in the church?

- 23** **June 5** **Reaching Out**

 - relational ministry to those outside the church

- 24** **June 12** **Reaching In**

 - ministering to those inside the church

- 25** **June 19** **Father’s Day**

 - Looking at dads through the years—when you’re young, in the middle years, and in the senior season

- 26** **June 26** **Complaining**

 - when critiques go too far
 - Israelites in the desert

- 27** **July 3** **Fourth of July**

 - what does this holiday mean to you?

- 28** **July 10** **Fellowship**

 - enjoying one another
 - more than potluck

- 29** **July 17** **NACC issue distribution—NACC (July 12-15)**

 - assignment only

- 30** **July 24** **Brokenness**

 - rebuilding from rock bottom

- 31** **July 31** **Special Needs**

 - adults with special needs
 - children with special needs
 - how do we make church inclusive?

- 32** **August 7** **Olympic spirit**

 - concepts from Ecclesiastes 9:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24; Galatians 2:2; 5:7; Hebrews 12:1
 - modern-day stories
- 33** **August 14** **Teamwork: Leaders & Followers**

 - why we need both
 - know your role
- 34** **August 21** **Introverts & Extroverts**

 - how to understand the other personality type, communicate with one another, and work together
 - how these personality types fit together in the church
 - get out of your comfort zone and learn from the other
- 35** **August 28** **Failure**

 - it's not the end—when failure becomes a blessing
 - it happens to everyone—how to start again
 - Jacob wrestling God
- 36** **September 4** **Love**

 - love God
 - love others
- 37** **September 11** **Joy**

 - your favorite joyful memories
- 38** **September 18** **Peace**

 - emotional peace
 - spiritual peace
- 39** **September 25** **Patience**

 - tales (humorous or otherwise) of learning patience
- 40** **October 2** **Kindness**

 - get to know people who are different from you
 - stories of random acts of kindness
- 41** **October 9** **Goodness**

 - role models you've had of people modeling goodness
- 42** **October 16** **Faithfulness**

 - to God
 - to church
 - to family

- 43** **October 23** **Gentleness**
- a forgotten virtue
 - gentleness doesn't mean weakness
- 44** **October 30** **Self-control**
- Jesus' temptation
 - how to overcome your biggest weakness
- 45** **November 6** **Our Civic Duties**
- making a difference in our communities/regions
 - being a voice for the disenfranchised
 - respecting authority (Romans 13) when we don't like them
- 46** **November 13** **ICOM Distribution (Nov 17-20)**
- assignment only
- 47** **November 20** **Thanksgiving**
- 48** **November 27** **Tithing**
- giving God the firstfruits
 - generous spirit—going beyond 10%
 - tithing our lives as well as our money
- 49** **December 4** **Sabbath rest**
- 50** **December 11** **Grief**
- 51** **December 18** **Spreading Christmas**
- spreading the joy to those without
- 52** **December 25** **Christmas**
- what Christ's birth means to humanity
 - what Christ's birth means to you personally