

# AGAP THEATRE

## OGGIE! OGGIE! OGGIE!

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### DISCUSSION POINTS



What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.

### THE RESTLESS HEART

Discuss the various phases of Oggie's spiritual journey and what each means for his development:

- **The Pear Tree:** *Is there anything significant in the fact that his fall and his rebirth take place at a tree in a garden?*
- **Sex, relationships and the search for freedom:** *What do you think Oggie comes to realise about sex and love?*
- **Becoming a parent:** *How does fatherhood alter Oggie's outlook?*
- **Facing death and illness:** *What happens when we die? What circumstances raise the 'big questions' for Oggie?*
- **Academia and Intellectual Grappling:** *Oggie ultimately finds meaning in the Catholic Faith. What do you think of his wrestling with religion? Can you relate to it? Can you be intellectual and spiritual?*
- **Breakdown and rebirth:** *What brings Oggie to face himself and have a profound spiritual experience?*

### HEARING GOD

In what ways does Oggie encounter God?  
How do we encounter God in our lives?  
Where is God in the following:

- Acts of charity (giving of ourselves)
- Encounters with others (words and actions)
- Mental health (experiences)
- Prayer life (raising our hearts and minds to God)

"The mind commands the body and is instantly obeyed. The mind commands itself and meets resistance."

"Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee."

### INFLUENCES

Discuss (perhaps in groups) the different characters that influence Oggie in the play:

- Patricius (Oggie's Dad)
- Monica (Oggie's Mum)
- His Friend in Thagaste
- His Partner
- Ambrose the Bishop
- His Son (Adeodatus)
- The Beggar

Who are the people that have had an influence in your life for good or bad?

How do these experiences shape you?

"Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours."

### SAINT 'OGGIE'?

Oggie says that "once you begin an adventure with God, who knows where it will lead you".

- Are you surprised that Augustine is a Saint?
- What other people do you know that have had a dramatic conversion and changed their lives?
- Could you be a Saint?

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