



Warrington YOUTH FOR CHRIST



Kim Wellens
Latchford Worker

“ I run an after-school club called Fresh, and we talk about God a lot. Each week is full of questions, discussions and debates about who God is, what He's like, if He even exists, what the Bible says about a whole range of topics. (A few months ago, the young people requested we do a series on the end of the world. I don't mind admitting my head was a bit frazzled after that one!)

Fresh is one of the highlights of my week, where around 20 young people from a variety of beliefs and backgrounds (mostly non-church backgrounds) come together to play games, eat donuts, and connect over big questions like these and many more.

But it got me thinking - what if we asked these questions directly to God in prayer?

What if we tried spending some time listening to Him for answers, peace and clarity?

So I decided to spend May leading a series all about prayer, with opportunities for young people to pray and encounter God for themselves in different ways if they want to.

Last week, we had a simple introductory session to the topic which resulted in a long conversation about unanswered prayer. So many of the young people shared experiences where they had prayed and it hadn't been answered, or they "felt nothing". They seemed pretty discouraged about it.

And that's where things are at the moment. That's our starting point with this series. I'm looking forward to continuing, whilst also a bit nervous - what if there's still discouragement? What if prayers still go unanswered?

But I think these nerves are a good thing! These sessions will rely completely on God and what He wants to do and say. How He might want to answer in His time, in His perfect ways and not ours. We don't come to God for black and white answers, we come to Him like Jesus did, saying "not my will, but yours be done" and experiencing the love and faithfulness of our Heavenly Father, acknowledging that His ways are higher than ours, and trusting in His goodness."

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Please pray that the young people at Fresh would encounter God in new ways during this series, and gain a deeper experience of what prayer is.
2. Pray for one of the Academy young people - a 14-year-old girl who is going to be leading a session on unanswered prayer!
3. Please also pray for me as I deliver these sessions - that I would learn afresh to rely on God and the leading of His Spirit, making space for young people to encounter Him whatever this might look like!

Social Media Evangelism

We're excited to be continuing our weekly Monday Message on Instagram, where one of the team shares a message of encouragement and hope which reaches hundreds (sometimes over a thousand!) of people online. It's great to have recently got young people from the Academy involved in this ministry - if you follow us on Instagram [@yfcwarrington](https://www.instagram.com/yfcwarrington) you'll be able to see what we've been upto.

Keep your eyes peeled for more amazing videos from the Academy, stepping out in faith and sharing so passionately, creatively, and bravely to their peers.



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