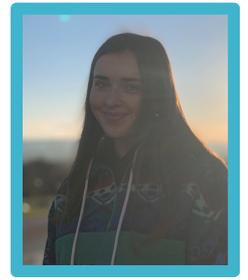


Update from Lydia



Hello! Six months have flown by since I began a youth internship at BPC, which is hard to believe! These months have been quite different than I expected, but God has been teaching me to trust Him in all circumstances. Here's a short update on what I have been up to during the last few months...

What have I been doing?

It has been a joy to be involved in the youth ministry at BPC and to have spent this time building relationships, serving, learning and being challenged.

It was great to be able to meet in person at the start of this year and before Christmas. We all understand that meeting online can never be the same as connecting in person, but its amazing what can happen on Zoom! Some examples include making pancakes together on Pancake Tuesday, hanging out and playing games on Friday nights, continuing Discipleship groups and Merge Extend, as well as many fun quizzes. It has been a privilege to play a part in these times of connecting and credits to Michael for all his creative ideas.

I love Thursday evenings as this is when our Girls' Discipleship group meets. Petra leads these weekly Bible Studies and I have learnt so much by watching her encourage the girls from God's Word. Helping lead and taking part in these times of study has been a real blessing to me.

I am thankful that through lockdown it has been possible to meet with one person and go for a socially distanced walk. It has been brilliant to connect and catch up with a few young people in this way when in person contact is so limited.

Currently we are just finishing our first youth worship song. This has been a good opportunity to worship together, though apart, and hopefully to encourage others. Maybe you will be able to have a look at this soon!

As well as interning, I have been working as a Nursery Assistant since October. I'm having great fun with the wee children every day and having this daily routine has been very helpful.

What have I been learning?

Throughout these months God has been teaching me so much. As I study His Word and trust Him, my faith has been strengthened. Each week I have a study meeting with Michael where I'm learning about youth ministry and how to follow God's plan for leadership.

I'm taking part in a training course called 'Building to Grow'. This is run by an organisation which aims to train leaders in Bible-centred youth ministry. This has deepened my understanding and been very beneficial.

As I have been given opportunities to do new things, God has helped me grow and gain confidence. I see the vital and positive impact youth leaders can make to young people when they give their time, energy and share their faith in love.

Prayer Points

Thank you to each of you for your continued prayers and encouragement. It is amazing to be a part of our loving church family. Here are a few prayer points for the next few months...

- Learning from God's Word each day
- Bold faith to follow God and opportunities to share Jesus with others
- For our young people to come to faith in Jesus and grow in Him
- God's guidance for next year and into the future