



# Growing Faith

25 - Autumn | 4 November 2024

## Pivots: A reflection on God's providence

By Thomas Humphrey (Lower Sixth Student)



**Many a time in our lives individually and corporately we hang still in pivot: a conversation, a decision, both potential and actualised can lead us closer or further from purpose.**

Within the six radiant weeks I have spent as part of the St Christopher's sixth form and youth church community respectively, the reality of this pivot has been evident

Inevitably with any decision either side of actualisation is liminal space that can be expounded for either purpose, trivialities or true purpose. From Clitheroe where I live there is a half hour commute which makes for a decision of what to do with the time: reflect and listen

to something beneficial long term, sermons from: Calvin, Wesley, Whitfield or just wander into hyper stimulating music. Both lead to two different days. One alert, ready, driven or: lethargic, bored and more liminal than the hour previous. Or take breakfast for example: porridge leads you into productivity and coco pops into rampant giddiness.

In essence each decision leads to something. So did mine to attend St Christopher's, both spiritually, and academically,

However, in a wider sense, any decision (even breakfast options) over a repeated index of days, can amount to something more substantial. In the broader perspective of a potential lifespan, these two years of education are pivotal: spiritually, academically, socially, where could it lead? I said, in pivot: potentially a chance to participate in the coming of the eternal Kingdom of God which he so richly proclaims throughout scripture. Since this pivot it has only taken less than six weeks for such to be actualise , by the orchestration of the Holy spirit within the organisation and dedication of Mr Pountain and the volunteers of both Youth church and the Sixth form Spirituality day, and I'm assured that so many students of other faiths or none where greatly enriched by the broad range of knowledgeable speakers: Rachel and Jason Gardner and Dan Theobalds just to mention a few, alongside Bishop Tony Porter at Youth church.

All with one point of focus: Truth.

Truth is the centre of all ideological discourse, it rules nations, it liberates, yet it is a choice.

Jesus Highlights such in his conversation with the Jewish religious class in John 8:31-34 stating that the truth is in following him. Yet you have an opportunity to pivot this half term: participate thoroughly, or regret.



**“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”**

John 8:31-32

# ST CHRISTOPHER'S YOUTH CHURCH

## *Reflection*

By B Turner  
Courageous Christian Advocate

As the new half term begins, it is likely that new challenges will begin to be faced- so as this happens let the story of Gideon (judges 6:14-16) give you guidance on how to overcome them. Gideon was sure that God had the wrong person as he wanted him to defeat the Midianites, but he thought he was too 'weak' for the job. However, God told him to "go in the strength you have" as he will be with Gideon to help him prevail over the challenge, he didn't think he was good enough to face. In the end, the 'weakest in Manasseh' succeeded along with his faith.

Therefore, just like Gideon, don't be afraid to tackle these challenges as God will always be with you – in good times and bad – and give you the strength to overcome difficult times. From preparing from stressful exams like fellow pupils of mine to even just a small decision, let the bible remind you that God has a plan for everyone and our mighty lord sees, cares and can lead you to victory and blessing on the other side as long as you keep your faith set with him.

## A Prayer

By A Flynn  
Worship Co-Ordinator

Dear Heavenly Father,

loving and merciful, we thank you immensely for all the blessings you have gifted upon us throughout this half-term.

We come before you, grateful for the gift of family. We ask for your blessings upon each member, that you may fill our homes with love, understanding, and peace. We also pray you bring together and keep all families in perfect unity of love and mutual support.

Help us Lord, to support one another during times of need, and to be able to communicate openly. May we always turn to you for any needed guidance and strength, and may we reflect your love in all we do. We pray you protect us from harm, and that we shall unite in your purpose.

In Jesus' name, we pray,  
Amen.

## A Song for Reflection



Way Maker  
by Jesus Image

### Church Support

## Church Services

Please visit these church websites to see when their services are taking place:

Great Harwood Christian Fellowship: [Website](#)

St John's and St Augustine's Church, Huncoat: [YouTube channel](#)

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Rishton: [Facebook Page](#)

St. John's Church, Baxenden: [Website](#)

Peel Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

Ernest Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

All Saints Church, Clayton-le-Moors: [Facebook Page](#)

St James' Church, Clitheroe: [Website](#)

Burnley Life Church: [Website](#)

St Mary Magdalen's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)


St Andrew's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Peter's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

Brave Church: [Website](#)

Trinity Church, Great Harwood: [Website](#)



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