



# Growing Faith

## 30 - Summer | 17 July 2025

## Faith

By David Joey Mitchell (Performance poet & Spirituality week contributor)

### “I believe; help my unbelief.”

- Mark 9:24

**1. Honesty** – Honesty is the start of any real relationship, including with God. Sometimes we feel like we need to hide how we’re really doing. But the Bible shows us a different way. The Psalmists prayed with their whole hearts — questions, anger, sadness, hope. In Psalm 13, David says: “How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever?” That’s raw. And God is big enough to handle it. Even though most of the Psalm is a cry for help, David ends by saying: “I will sing the Lord’s praise, for he has been good to me.” This is an example of faith and doubt, sitting together in one prayer.



**2. Community** – Community is where we bring our real selves. In Christian community, someone is always grieving — and someone is always celebrating. The challenge is to make space for both. Galatians 6:2 says, “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ.” That means checking in, showing up, and being honest — even when the answer to “How are you?” isn’t “fine.” Community is also a place to remind each other of what God has done. Where there has been breakthrough. We also need a place to share our joy. Hebrews 3:13 says, “Encourage one another daily... so that none of you may be hardened.” Don’t hold back your testimony — it might be what helps someone else keep going.

**3. Perspective** – Perspective changes everything. In Mark 9, a father brings his suffering son to Jesus and says: “If you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” Jesus replies: “Everything is possible for one who believes.” And the father responds honestly: “I believe; help my unbelief!” Faith isn’t about trying harder. It’s about remembering who we’re believing in. In Mark 9, the father may have forgotten that Jesus had been healing through Israel, and he could do it again. Sometimes doubt and disappointment can skew our view of God, but when we remember who we are praying to, it can change what we are praying for!

**Final Thought** – If you’re carrying doubts, don’t hide them. Bring them into prayer, share them with trusted people, and remember who God is and what God has done!

# Spirituality Week

## Reflection

by Gabriel Thornton (Senior worship co-ordinator)

I was delighted to take part in Spirituality week this year. Personally, my favourite part was having "Respect Me" into school. I enjoyed listening to them talk about relationships and some of their own stories. Also, I especially enjoyed exploring the true meaning of love with Mr Cuff. Finally, to have Brave church talk about their personal stories. I found this whole week extremely fun and also very interesting.

### A Prayer

By Aiden Kelly  
(Courageous Christian Advocate - Prayer)

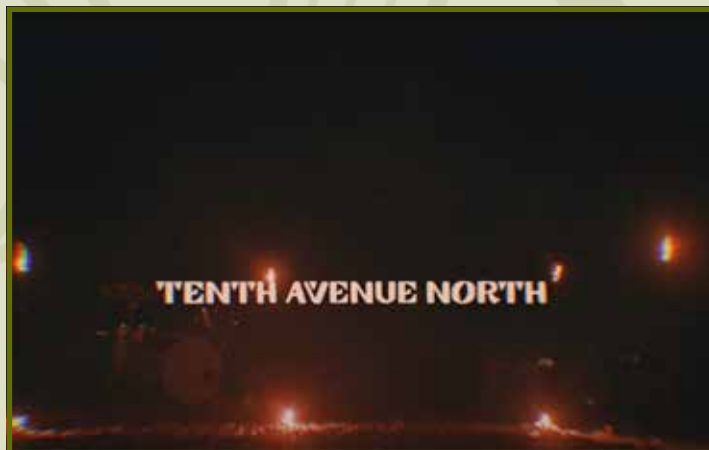
Dear Lord,

Thank you for the past year, for all we have learned, shared, and experienced together. We are especially grateful for Spirituality Week —a time when we could talk about and grow closer to you, Lord.

As we look ahead to the summer, we ask that you stay with us and guide us with everything we do. May we return renewed and ready to learn in the year ahead.

Amen

### Song for reflection



Tenth Avenue North  
Running With You In The Dark

### Church Support

## Church Services

Every Friday night from 7-9pm we have a Brave Youth Group (free of charge) for ages 11-16. We have fun, play games, chill and have some free hot chocolate whilst listening to a short message about life from a Christian perspective!

To find us at: Brave Church, Watson St, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, BB5 3HH, UK.

**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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