

October Prayer Letter – Eloise Marsland

Hey!

I can't believe it's already been over a month since I started as a ministry trainee! Here's a quick update of what I've been up to over the past few weeks and a few prayer points too.

As we've been looking at the book of Ephesians together on Sunday, I've reminded of what a blessing it is to be a part of God's family, on a large scale and a small(ish) scale at Fulwood. Despite having been a part of Fulwood Church for 3 years, I've been surprised by how few people I know and so I'm super thankful that I've been able to get to know some more of our church family each week despite ongoing restrictions. Please pray that this would continue and that I would be striving to love others in my church well.

One of the greatest encouragements over the last few weeks has been joining a year 13 girls small group. Each week we meet together to discuss the sermon from the previous Sunday and to think about how we can apply it to our lives. I've loved starting to get to know the girls and being able to pray together about the struggles and joys of life.



Our youth group has continued meeting online on Sunday evenings to discuss the book 'Transgender' by Vaughan Roberts. We are planning to start a midweek in person youth group on the 15th October, although this is dependent on any changes in current guidelines. After many months of Zoom, it'll be great to meet with some of the young people (sadly only 15 each week) to study the book of Romans and play some socially distanced games together.

Our first week at Bible Training Yorkshire –Some of us were able to meet in person but are now all joining in via Zoom instead. This term we're studying

As we make plans in such uncertain times with the possibility of tighter restrictions coming in, I've been so encouraged reading Psalm 33 and being reminded that God's plans cannot be stopped. He is in full control and is working out his purposes, even when it's hard to see that.

Thanks again for your prayers. I'd love to hear from you too! So please do get in touch to let me know how you're doing and how I can be praying for you.

With love,
 Eloise

Give thanks

- The blessing of being a part of the church family at Fulwood and God's wider church! For how friendly and encouraging people have been and for opportunities to get to know more people in the church.

- Feeling more settled in my role and for the various opportunities I have to serve, learn and grow.
- God's word - for how he uses it to encourage us and challenge us as well as the opportunity to study it more in depth at Bible Training Yorkshire.

Please pray

- Continuing to build relationships with the families and youth at church, in particular with the girls in my small group. Please pray for wisdom when leading studies and that I would be able to love and support them well.
- Plans to start in person midweek and Sunday children's and youth groups - that this wouldn't be hindered by the new guidelines and that God would use the groups to build up the young people.
- That I'd be eager and willing to serve in any way. In particular, please pray for patience when editing videos and other techy jobs.
- That God would use His word to challenge me this year (2 Timothy 3:16-17) and that through all things I would come to know Him better (Ephesians 1:17)

Looking ahead

7th October – Launch of toddlers group (Small Talk) online

15th October – First week of our in-person youth group.

Psalm 33:10-11 'The Lord foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.'