

Some resources to let you know about

So, What Next?



You've started following Jesus, *So, What Next?*

Navigating the 'what next' after you've made the decision to follow Jesus can be difficult, especially if you're unfamiliar with the

Bible, and you're still discovering who God is; that's why we've created *So, What Next?*

Designed and written in collaboration with New Wine, this back pocket booklet helps young people who have made a recent commitment to follow Jesus continue on their journey with him.

Using short Bible reflections from the books of Psalms, Romans and Matthew *So, What Next?* covers the topics of: Who is God? Who am I? and Who am I becoming? Common questions that children and young people ask as they delve deeper into what it means to live for Jesus.

Light Party Pack 2024

As we engage with the 95 children in our community and invite them on a journey of faith, we need to find

points of connection. Halloween offers us an opportunity to celebrate – to celebrate light and to invite our communities to celebrate with us.

Light Party Pack 2024 offers the best of Scripture Union's Light Party ideas. It will help you to create a party for the children aged 5 to 11 you are working with, or hope to work with, offering a way of bringing the good news of Jesus to them and helping them to begin a journey of faith.



Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas

The Grumpy Owl and the Joy of Christmas is the story of an owl who is desperate to find some peace and quiet. Follow his adventure and see the nativity unfold as he returns to the very place he was trying to escape from!



Can you help us to continue to do what we do?

We are so grateful that so many people continue to support Scripture Union with prayer and by giving.

We do not want to add any additional burden to you at this time, but if you are able to provide any financial support, it would be much appreciated, as we seek to continue to share God's love with children and young people across

England and Wales.

Please pray with us for God to meet these needs. If you do feel able to give head to: www.su.org.uk/RobS where you can set up a direct debit or make a one-off donation or call 01908 856000 and a colleague can take a donation over the phone. Thank you!



Get in touch

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THANK YOU
so much for
your ongoing
support

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Scripture Union

North Team Prayer News

Autumn 2022

Things to be thankful for . . .

As I sit and write this, I am full of gratitude. We have just finished a fruitful summer and are looking forward expectantly to the coming months!

I am thankful for many, many children hearing about Jesus over the summer on camps, missions and non-residential days. I am thankful that each week more and more churches are hearing about the Revealing Jesus framework and wanting support and coaching for their own church in reaching out to unchurched children and young people!

I am thankful that this coming term we are starting to grow our work in Cumbria and Merseyside. I am thankful for people who pray, for people who give, for people who volunteer and for the staff team I get to work with. Writing this prayer letter always gives me the chance to reflect on the numerous ways God is at work in and through the North of England. As ever, thank you for your support. It is appreciated more than you know.

Rob North Region Mission Team Leader



Edale Adventure

It was a privilege to lead Edale Adventure holiday this summer. The place was packed! I never get tired of seeing the commitment and passion of our volunteer team.



This year, it became pretty apparent in our planning that God was opening up a door for us to have a young leaders stream and it was a delight to see these Christian 15- and 16-year-olds grow in their confidence, gifts and their own faith throughout the week! Here are a few quotes from a couple of them:

"Thank you for bringing me closer to God and helping me to gain more confidence"

"God has pushed me along this week and he has opened my eyes in more ways than one. The week was amazing and God really spoke to me."

"It's been fantastic working with you and learning from you. Thanks for your support and helping us think about how to read or teach the Word."

SU holidays are a team effort made up of amazing volunteers, excitable children, behind-the-scenes prayer warriors (like you!) and people who give towards our work! My motto at the end of an SU holiday is 'Shattered body; full heart' and this summer my heart is even fuller than normal! Read on for more stories from some of the members of the North staff team.

www.scriptureunion.org.uk

There are many things we could share but here are a few stories from the summer from some of our North staff team

Lucy Pearson

In the summer I got the opportunity to offer the Rooted tent at Luminosity (the youth event at the New Wine Festival).



The tent provided a space for young people to access for conversations, to process, pray and respond. This is our third year and it was great seeing so many familiar faces and meeting lots of new ones too. The tent was well used and a great place to journey alongside young people amongst the busyness of the festival. Young people were able to take away the



Rooted Grow Journal and it was fab seeing returning young people bringing their journals from years before. I also got the opportunity to speak at the evening celebration to over 1000 young people exploring more about the roots of who we are and how God wants to be welcomed into our everyday life.

Nic Findlay

One of the highlights on my summer was taking a young person from my community away to one of our Scripture Union holidays as a young leader. In many ways, serving on an SU camp was way out of this young person's comfort zone, and I was a little apprehensive about how it would go. I needn't have worried. The young person absolutely loved their time away and it was such a privilege to watch them grow throughout the week. On the way home, when I asked him what his favourite thing about the week was (I anticipated he'd say climbing, or campfires, or archery) he replied, 'Getting closer to God and being able to talk to other young leaders about faith.' How amazing!



I also had the privilege of serving on another holiday early in the summer, a weekend with 15 young people where we explored what God means to them in their lives. It was a fantastic chance to be able to dig a bit deeper with them.

Sarah Howard-Smith

This summer I was able to get out of the office and look after some of the Shine Film team as they were filming for this year's videos in Wrexham. It was an interesting day watching them work and getting involved too, so check out this year's new resource '[Friend](#)' here and see if you can spot me!



Geoff Brown

At the end of July I was involved in two very different holiday clubs in Northumberland. A holiday club has been running in Hexham for over 50 years and it really is a town-wide event, with local churches working together and utilising half a dozen venues. During the mornings, I was part of the team running activities for children in Year 2 and in the evenings I helped out at 'Night Shift' for teenagers. The following week I was leading the 9- to 12- year-old group at Stamfordham Holiday Club. This is also a long-running event but on a much smaller scale. It was great to work with these young people and help them explore stories from Matthew's Gospel using SU's *Deep Sea Divers* holiday club resource. The weather was even warm enough one afternoon to have loads of fun with water games on the village school field.



Neil Jackson

In June, I worked with several Faith Guides to run our Faith Guide holiday, Launchpad. Each Faith Guide brought a few children with them from their churches.



The children had a great time doing lots of activities, especially climbing and a cave bus. The children came away with a huge sense of achievement from all that they achieved during the day.

Over the weekend they also took part in a scavenger hunt, messy games, a water fight and a campfire – one day with enough activities to fill a week and to top it all a few children made bread! To end the day everyone watched a slideshow of all they had done.

Perhaps the best of all, though, were the brilliant sessions, complete with Bible teaching, games, quizzes, songs and discussion. Each one had a different style, but they combined to make a brilliant spiritual programme! It was awesome to see God at work through them. In particular, the children from one group all told how they had taken significant steps towards a faith in and friendship with Jesus.

Ian Kent

In August, I was involved in an SU Holiday at Edale. The teaching during the week focused on learning about Jesus by following the story of Peter, with a particular focus on the idea of being Called, Forgiven and Sent. One practical way we explored the story was by making Rocky Road together, and reflecting on how God can take our brokenness and make it into something beautiful. The children enjoyed making and eating the Rocky Road, but it also helped them to understand how much God loves us, with one young person commenting how good it was to know that God could use even the messy bits of him.



Throughout the week we often made use of the *Diary of a Disciple* books (a retelling of Luke's Gospel), and several young people asked to take a copy home, with 18 of them also asking for the sequel (Peter and Paul's story). After the holiday we received several messages to say how much children were enjoying the books, with one parent reporting that her daughter, who normally doesn't like to read, had asked to go to bed early so that she could read more about Jesus!

Chenda Nuttall

We welcome Chenda to our team as a volunteer Revealing Jesus Pioneer. She will be working with us for a few hours a week in her local area. Chenda has a long connection with Scripture Union so we are delighted to have her as part of our team. We are looking forward to being able to reach out into more parts of Cumbria with Chenda's help.