

LIMITLESS

ONLINE RESOURCES



A YOUTH WORKERS RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS



How life has changed so much in the past few weeks. Just a few Monday evenings ago, I was with one of our pioneer youth groups in Hereford, bowling with

the young people and leaders there. Now, in this past week we have had our first successful online youth group with the same young people. It was a fun experience, something that I highly recommend.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO KEEP MEETING TOGETHER...

At the start of this pandemic, before it became so serious, I was thinking 'Do we really need to connect with young people online? Surely it can't be that bad.' How wrong I was!

It is becoming clear that we may not be able to meet face-to-face for at least a few weeks, if not months. I think it will be invaluable to meet together in any way we can for a few reasons:

CONNECTION

It is so important at a time where people could feel increasingly disconnected, that we are meaningfully making a connection with people in our lives. For the young people we are working with, connecting meaningfully with them will be such a big thing, in a time when everything feels out of sync, let us be a consistent presence in the young people's lives.

CONSISTENCY

As mentioned before, being a consistent presence is really important. Usually, meet at 7pm on a Thursday evening? Have some sort of presence online at that time each week. It will serve as something consistent in a life that feels totally devoid of patterns of consistency.

CARE

There is a lot of uncertainty and fear around at the moment, so many questions are going around. How can we show *care* to the young people God has entrusted to us? Can we pray with them (or offer to do so)? Can we check in on them and see how they and their families are doing? The main question we need to be asking is, in what ways can we show *care*?

HOW DO WE DO IT?

It has been great to see youth workers all over the country come up with different ways in which we can stay connected whilst on lockdown. Here are a few different ways.

ZOOM

This is a great way to connect with young people all together. It is a 'conference call' style meeting, where people can sign in and be a part of the group together. Best of all, for the most basic package, it is totally free. All you need to do is **sign up, create an account, host a meeting, send out the meeting link/ID and then get your young people to download the free app, joining the**

meeting at the scheduled time.

There are small group options, screen sharing and live chat. As the host, you can also mute people for those moments where you maybe need to share with the whole group.

REMEMBER, Safeguarding these calls is **SUPER** important, otherwise you can be open to anyone entering them. The important thing to do is **PASSWORD PROTECT** your meeting and **DON'T SEND THE MEETING LINK OUT PUBLICLY.**

DO A LIVE STREAM

Instagram, Facebook, Youtube.

This is another way in which you could do your youth group ONLINE. A host can do a youth group online. You can have comments and interactions as you share together. Why not try a Q&A with the young people on these formats, where you answer questions that they have? This can all be done from your phone or tablet also, making it really easy and user friendly!

UPLOAD VIDEOS

These could be challenges, devotions, thoughts, but think of creative ways to stay in touch with young people during this time. If you can do some sort of challenge video and get your young people to do the same challenge, this can be a great way to stay connected and have some fun at the same time!

STILL UNSURE HOW TO DO IT?

Our friends at Youth for Christ have produced some great video tutorials which I highly recommend. These vary from how to use Zoom to safeguarding online.

[Click here](#) for all of the video tutorials.



SOME SUPER HELPFUL RESOURCES:

LIMITLESS TV

We have filmed a few episodes of LIMITLESS TV a few months ago, but are fast-tracking the editing so that we can get these to you. The first episode is here, and there will be three more coming your way!

YOUTHSCAPE PODCAST

The team at Youthscape produce weekly podcasts, but last week did one entitled 'Virtual Youth Work.' Well worth a listen, and well worth checking out the Youthscape website, there are loads of helpful articles on there.

YOUTH FOR CHRIST ONLINE

Youth for Christ have always been fantastic at creating resources for leaders and young people alike. They have responded to the pandemic, by creating some online resources to do with your young people. They have a 6 week FREE trial on all resources as well.

KEEP PIONEERING...

I have recently finished the book *'Dirty Glory'* by Pete Greig. In it, he talks about the need to keep pioneering in ministry, in reaching young people with the gospel. Here, at LIMITLESS, one of our values is that *'Pioneering is our calling.'* In the days that we are in, pioneering, doing things differently, trying some things will be **SO** important. Remember the call is to **MAKE DISCIPLES**, so let's, even in lockdown, commit to reaching young people with the good news of Jesus.

YOUTH ALPHA ONLINE

Maybe, you could think about starting (or continuing if you have already started) a Youth Alpha course online! Alpha gives some really helpful tips as to how this can be done. So check it out.

STABAL VIDEOS

Stabal have produced some free videos, some interviews and worship sets in there. Rather than watching Netflix all day, why not point your young people towards these? You can maybe even watch and discuss them together.

Big love,

Jamie Price - LIMITLESS Pioneers