

Luke's second interview

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3 **Interviewer:** Through the first interview and your journal, you reflected on
4 how your faith has changed as you have been growing up. Is
5 there anything further you would like to add to what you have
6 stated in the past about the changes you have experienced?

7 **Luke:** No I can't think about anything really.

8 **Interviewer:** If you think about the role of Jesus in your life, is there anything
9 you'd like to add about that?

10 **Luke:** Um, no, not really. ... Just that I could add – you see – you see it
11 in things that you don't think it could be. You can see –
12 sometimes you think – if you look too hard you won't find it. You
13 just gotta let it happen. Um, that's confusing. I'm not sure.

14 **Interviewer:** Do you want to work on that a bit more?

15 **Luke:** Um – no, 'cause I think I wrote about it better in my journal.

16 **Interviewer:** Alright. What about images of God? Let's come back to that for
17 a moment. Is there anything about how your image of God has
18 changed over the years?

19 **Luke:** Um – it used to be just a hand really – 'cause you see in TV an'
20 stuff – you see the hand coming out of the clouds and the act of
21 God as the hand. But now it's turned into a figure, a whole
22 figure. I can't see detail 'cause I don't know. That'd just be
23 making it up. But I see a figure on the clouds, yeah, as God.

24 **Interviewer:** Okay, would you like to comment more about clouds?

25 **Luke:** Well – um – I believe that he's up there because he's always
26 looking on us, looking over us to me. Um – and – yeah, that's
27 the only reason he's up there on the clouds.

28 **Interviewer:** What about your image of Jesus?

29 **Luke:** Um – always the face that we see in pictures, on cards, always
30 that with the hair down, the curly hair, just always that smile.
31 He's just inviting you – an' stuff like that.

32 **Interviewer:** Are there any words in the songs that you sing that you relate to
33 Jesus?

34 **Luke:** I've never thought about that. Not really, no.

35 **Interviewer:** Where do the songs you sing fit into your faith?

36 **Luke:** Oh, they – it's a way of expressing myself towards him, like
37 towards Jesus and God. It's saying all the things – it's
38 confirming all my beliefs and saying them in a way I can relate
39 to. I find that more powerful to me than some prayers.

- 40 **Interviewer:** Okay. What about the Holy Spirit? Is there anything you would
41 like to add to what you have said or written about before?
- 42 **Luke:** Um – I don't see it as a figure. I see it as the tongue, the flames.
43 I think it's like people have said, it's like the wind and I believe
44 that I can see it literally – you can see it acting on things an' you
45 can feel it. Sometimes it's strong, sometimes it's weak.
- 46 **Interviewer:** In your journal and even in your interview you made statements
47 about meaning, finding meaning in your life and that your faith
48 helps you to find meaning in life. Is there anything further you
49 would like to add?
- 50 **Luke:** Not really, no. I think sometimes it's hard because you don't –
51 you can't find that meaning.
- 52 **Interviewer:** What do you do when it's hard?
- 53 **Luke:** Ask for guidance and, hopefully, it'll happen. I mean you can't
54 really tell when it's happening. You just believe that guidance is
55 occurring, he's helping you. Sometimes you can feel it, but
56 other times you just think and hope he's guiding you.
- 57 **Interviewer:** And in the end?
- 58 **Luke:** In the end – um – yeah, you probably look back and think,
59 "Yeah, you got me through that. I got through it alright."
- 60 **Interviewer:** Is there anything further you might like to say about the people
61 in your life, like your parents, your sister.
- 62 **Luke:** Um – my parents have been a great help to me, to my faith.
63 They've got – they've brought me to where it is.
- 64 **Interviewer:** Okay. Anything further you want to add about your involvement
65 in youth groups?
- 66 **Luke:** Just that they help so much and hopefully –
- 67 **Interviewer:** Could you explain what you mean by "help so much"?
- 68 **Luke:** Well, just – you don't have much motivation when you're at
69 home just to pray. But if you were out with a group and
70 everyone's doing it and you just like – yep, it's time to do this
71 now. And you can get so much guidance and good advice from
72 them and just to be with people who feel the same way that you
73 do helps you just so much to understand new things, like you
74 have problems understanding, some doubts maybe, and just to
75 talk them through with people, you just feel that so much better,
76 like you fill in gaps.
- 77 **Interviewer:** Good. Is there anything else that you would like to add about
78 prayer and your relationship with God?
- 79 **Luke:** Um – sometimes it's a bit hard. I feel, like I said before, you
80 don't have much motivation to do it. Before bed, you'll feel really
81 tired. You might have had a hard day. You think, "Aw, can I be

- 82 bothered or not?" In the end, you do, but you might not say it as
83 meaningfully as you would usually. Yeah. Yeah. What was the
84 question again? Sorry.
- 85 **Interviewer:** That's okay. When you're tired and you can't be bothered, what
86 sort of prayer do you pray?
- 87 **Luke:** I'll generally start with a thanks for all the good things. Ask him
88 for forgiveness. Then go on with things that I will need help with:
89 my family –
- 90 **Interviewer:** So, it's spontaneous?
- 91 **Luke:** Yeah.
- 92 **Interviewer:** Not set prayers?
- 93 **Luke:** Set order, but different sayings sort of thing and then I finish with
94 other prayers.
- 95 **Interviewer:** Good. Thankyou. Is there anything else that occurs to you
96 about your experience of school, of RE classes, of teachers, of
97 your peers that you would like to add; about how these have
98 helped or hindered your relationship with God?
- 99 **Luke:** Well, the stuff that we're doing at the moment with other
100 religions has just reinforced it so much like researching other
101 religions and finding out they have the same sort of ideals and
102 beliefs as us. You think, "Well, there must be something there if
103 so many people can believe it." So many different religions,
104 even though they're all – I think they're all derived from one main
105 religion. I don't know which one was the first one.
- 106 **Interviewer:** Okay. What about teachers?
- 107 **Luke:** Um – they definitely help understand the concepts. They can
108 explain things in a good way that priests can't. They're – priests
109 I find are very formal in their talking and they often talk about the
110 old ways and put it in the old context, the Bible and stuff. But
111 the RE teachers can put it in modern day terms for us and that's
112 a lot easier.
- 113 **Interviewer:** Good. What about your peers?
- 114 **Luke:** Um – in what context?
- 115 **Interviewer:** Like in terms of either helping or hindering your relationship with
116 God?
- 117 **Luke:** Um – my friends are very accepting of it, so that they – yeah,
118 they don't do either really. They just are accepting of it. I've got
119 some friends that are in the groups with me and they're really
120 good. I always go to them. But my other friends just neither
121 help it nor hinder it. They're just accepting.
- 122 **Interviewer:** Good. Now is there anything you would like to add to what
123 you've said or written that we haven't covered?

124 **Luke:** Um – no. We covered everything, I think.

125 **Interviewer:** Good. Thank you for your help, Luke.