

## Continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Colossians 2:6-7)

The Kairos YES Retreat celebrated its tenth year with a retreat like no other - our first ever virtual YES Retreat!

The retreat took place over two evenings (Fri 30th and Sat 31st Oct). It included talks, worship, games, discussion groups, prayer, videos, tiktok dances and testimonies, Each participant received a YES pack in the post helping to guide them through the weekend.

The theme this year was being 'Rooted in Christ'. Our focus was taken from Colossians 2:6-7 "Continue to live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him" During this year, many things have felt more uncertain and this was a great opportunity for us to focus on being rooted and built up in Christ.

On Friday evening our director Peter Eves introduced the theme of the retreat and most of the evening was spent getting to know everyone. Each youth group made their own video to introduce themselves and their country. There were some great videos! Everyone was then split into smaller groups and played some interactive games.

With all this we were ready to come back on Saturday.

Saturday began with some more games, before hearing from Dom Perrem on 'Who we were made to be'. Lord's Day was hosted in Leuven with the prayers read out in six different languages! Worship was hosted in Dublin and we had testimonies from Bielsko-Biała, Glasgow, Dublin. We then had a time of prayer, to hear from the Lord and youth responded with prayer ministry offered in local groups.

It was a successful time for the youth to spend time together and **continue to be rooted and built up in him**.

For a video recap click here!

The YES Retreat continues to exist to gather youth (14-17 year old) from Sword of the Spirit communities and connected groups. We were delighted that this year **over 130 young people and leaders** gathered from across Europe, representing all of our communities. Gdansk and Bielsko-Biała (Poland), Leuven (Belgium), London (England), Glasgow (Scotland), Belfast (N.Ireland), Dublin (Ireland) and Munich (Germany) as well as youth from Beirut (Lebanon) for the first time! One of the fruits we continue to witness is a growing network of friendships across communities that provide support for the youth as they continue to walk with God.



The YES Retreat 2020 was hosted and organised by Servant Trust on behalf of Kairos EME

God spoke powerfully to us during our worship, encouraging us that He can do far more than we could ask or even imagine (Eph 3:20). We received many words about the freedom and satisfaction found in Christ, the comfort & healing He brings and the abundance of life that comes from giving our 'Yes' to him. We tasted & saw God's goodness as we leaned into new opportunities that an online retreat presented. Since the weekend, we've seen links strengthen between youth groups across Europe and young people journeying together for over a month, seeking to deepen their roots in living the Christian life.

## Peter Eves, YES Retreat Director

The YES Retreat was a great experience this year, although it was different online I still really enjoyed it. I had a great small group and got to catch up with my friends from previous retreats. I was also on the worship team and I loved participating in worship again because I find it really encouraging. And as always, the YES Retreat came at a perfect time where I really needed some guidance and encouragement with my faith. Many people expressed the same struggles I was facing and this made me feel less alone. Although the YES Retreat was different this year, the leaders made it work and it was great.

Giulia, youth from Dublin



## Resources - Rooted Series

YES isn't just for a weekend. This year, the team have prepared four weeks of input, talks, activities, daily prayer ideas, reflections and guides. Each session will feature a talk, a youth testimony, activities and a week of daily prayer reflections.

Click here for links to videos and resources for each session!









For more Kairos youth resources please go to www.kairos-eme.org/yes-content