

## IOW Young Adults Summer Retreat – ‘Steadfast’ in the UK

Hyang-Hee Kim  
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The Young Adults Summer Retreat was a precious weekend filled with exciting adventure, deep sharing and thought provoking talks. Although it was only a few days long, from Friday 19th to Monday the 22nd, we were able to create special memories that will be remembered forever, such as singing classic songs together around the camp fire, praying on the beach on prayer night, and playing board games until the early hours of the morning.



On our two full days in the Isle of Wight, the morning was dedicated to receiving guidance and spiritual food from our older brothers and sisters. Our talk givers, Uncle William, Yebunny and Patrick all shared powerful messages that instilled the motto of ‘Steadfast’, and how we can implement it in our daily lives.





Our afternoons were then spent taking part in the activities such as the '3G swing', archery, balance beam and volley ball. These fun activities allowed us to bond together as second generation brothers and sisters.



Developing our relationships in the Young Adults Community was also catalysed by our one-to-one sharing evening, where we were able to share closely and deeply with each other – and connect on a whole new level that is often not possible when we see each other briefly and casually at other church events. We then concluded our sharing evening toasting marshmallows and singing songs around the campfire.







The beach, which is only a ten minute walk from our campsite, was the perfect location to host our prayer evening – after Sean shared a few words about prayer, we were able to pray individually for 21 minutes with the sound of the ocean, surrounded by the cliffs of the Isle of Wight.



Thank you to everyone who came and all the staff that made this amazing weekend possible!

### **Reflections from the Workshop!**

‘Things you learned: How easy it can be to be absorbed into our current situations and difficulties, and to sometimes forget basic things that contribute to a life of faith thus sometimes altering our priorities for ourselves rather than for the bigger picture of life and faith’

‘I really enjoyed the bonfire night and singing cheesy songs with everyone. The prayer evening on the beach was wonderful as always, it was really peaceful and had a cleansing atmosphere to hear the waves of the ocean crashing on the shore as we prayed. All the talks we had were really interesting and had deep and meaningful things to teach us and for us to think about. I also enjoyed the one to one sessions, it was

nice to have an opportunity to speak to people on a deeper level.’

‘This workshop has been very reflective for me, through the several talks I have relearned the importance of relationships and our power to restore them. It is up to us to make a positive change in our family and peers and we can’t just wait things out. I have also learned the importance of balance in work, and spiritual life.’

‘We need to be leaders of hope. With a lot of compassion and huge amounts of steadfastness, we need to encourage people to have hope in their lives, happiness, future.’

‘What I thought was great about the workshop was the free environment we had as it gave us the responsibility to make genuine friendships with others. I also felt that the lectures were very well structured and coherent with the theme of the workshop which helped to make a stronger learning experience.’