



# LIMITLESS FESTIVAL

2021



75 CREATIVE IDEAS  
TO HELP YOU

GATHER // PRAY // GO

[limitlessfestival.co.uk](http://limitlessfestival.co.uk)





## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

At Limitless Festival 2021 we are going to **GATHER, PRAY, GO**....

### GATHER

After so long being apart, we're dedicating Limitless Festival 2021 to helping you reconnect as a youth group again by creating a framework for memorable shared experiences; to remember what it's like to look one another in the eye and laugh together, to stand side by side and worship together.

### PRAY

The pandemic may have prevented us meeting, but it does not prevent the kingdom of God from advancing. So we're not going to shrink back and feel sorry for ourselves, instead we're going to seek God for a move of his Spirit in our communities.

### GO

And then we're going to get out of our building and into our communities, demonstrating the love of God through mission and social action. Imagine the combined impact we will have together when we do this together around the UK!

## HOW WILL IT WORK?

From 6th - 7th August, we'll be hosting online sessions to help us gather together nationally, and creating space for you to gather, pray and go locally. Here's a brief overview of how this will all hang together, but if you want to see the full programme just [CLICK HERE](#).

### FRIDAY 6TH AUGUST

11:00am	Main Session 1 - GATHER
12:30pm	TIME TO GATHER
07:45pm	Main Session 2 - PRAY
10:00pm	Late Night Prayer

### SATURDAY 7TH AUGUST

9:00am	TIME TO PRAY
10:45am	Main Session 3 - GO
12:30pm	TIME TO GO
7:45pm	Main Session 4 - CELEBRATE

## WHAT CAN WE DO TO GATHER, PRAY AND GO LOCALLY?

Great question! That's why this resource has been provided to give you a whole bunch of creative ideas for how you can gather, pray and go locally. Feel free to use whichever ideas will work best in your context, or to adapt them in whatever way you wish. These ideas are designed to be a springboard for your own creativity. Our hope is that they enable you to reconnect locally and create a memorable shared experience as you gather together again.

## GO FOR IT!



# GATHER

## 25 TOP IDEAS



1. **BONFIRE PARTY.** Make a fire (safely, obvs), sing songs, share stories, eat marshmallows!
2. **HIRE SOME INFLATABLES**
3. **BUILD A SLIP 'N' SLIDE**
4. **HAVE A WATER FIGHT**
5. **HAVE AN INDOOR SLEEP OVER IN YOUR CHURCH BUILDING**
6. **HAVE AN OUTDOOR SLEEP OVER IN TENTS** (for the real Limitless Festival vibe!)
7. **GO BOWLING**
8. **SET UP A SCAVENGER HUNT**
9. **CREATE A HOMEMADE CINEMA.** Pop some corn, throw out some bean bags, maybe go big with some nachos, and share a great movie together.
10. **BALLOON RELEASE.** Pick up some helium balloons or Chinese lanterns and set them free. This can also be tied into a prayer activity (see below).
11. **HAVE A SPORTS DAY.** Rounders, football, basketball, volleyball and the rest. You could have single play games or create a tournament.
12. **THROWBACK SPORTS DAY!** Egg and spoon race, sack race, three-legged race.... you know how it goes.
13. **HAVE A BBQ.** Yum.
14. **PICNIC.** Visit the local park, nature reserve or beach.
15. **CRAFT ACTIVITIES.** For the more arty amongst you.
16. **HAVE A BAKE OFF COMPETITION.**
17. **TRIBE WARS.** Split your group into small teams and have a variety of different activities and challenges which earn points for the team.
18. **PHOTO TREASURE HUNT.** Hide stuff around the local area take photos at each location. Send your young people off with a leader to go and get a picture of themselves in a trolley, on a swing, or on the train tracks... (Just kidding! Please don't send your young people to the train tracks. We're just checking you're still paying attention.)
19. **HOST A TALENT SHOW**

20. **MOCKTAIL MAKING WORKSHOPS**
21. **VISIT AN OUTDOOR ACTIVITY CENTRE**
22. **RUN A GAMING TOURNAMENT**
23. **NAVIGATE AN ORIENTEERING COURSE ON LOCAL NATURE RESERVE**
24. **PLAY ULTIMATE FRISBEE**

And, if you're still restricted by social distancing....

### 25. HOLD A SOCIALLY DISTANCED GAMES AFTERNOON.

- Ninja dance moves
- Reverse pictiory
- Reverse charades
- Wizards, giants & elves
- Land mines
- Shouting gunslingers
- Viking ships
- Musical bumps / statues
- Shoe shucking
- Coin of destiny
- Britain seriously doesn't have talent
- Paper boules
- Observation game
- Blind drawing
- Draw something spectacular
- Animal racing
- Three marvellous things
- Listing

For instructions on how to play these games, [CLICK HERE](#).





# PRAY

## 25 TOP IDEAS



- 1. PRAYER STATIONS.** Set up creative prayer stations for young people to circulate around. You may dissolve a tablet in some water to represent dissipating anxiety. You may have a cross upon which young people can stick post-it note prayers. There may be a map in which the young people can place a pin to pray for their neighbours or school. Or perhaps a washing line upon which young people can 'hang' their burdens.
- 2. PRAYER WALL.** Stick up some big roles of paper onto the walls and encourage young people to write, draw and paint their prayers on it.
- 3. COMMUNITY PRAYER REQUESTS.** Get out of the building and set up a table with cards out for prayer requests. Banner out: "SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS HERE". Invite members of the public to come and write their prayer needs. Have young people ready to offer prayer, there and then at the station.
- 4. PRAYER SCAVENGER HUNT.** Set up prayer stations around your local area, with youth leaders at each station (with chocolate). Young people are given a map and have to head out to find the prayer stations. When they get there, they are given the prayer requests (i.e. if it's your local Police Station, young people encouraged to pray for the Police and all the work they do in the community). Cards with written prayers ready at each station, for those not confident with prayer or non-Christians taking part.
- 5. THE HOT SEAT.** Young people take turns to sit on the "hot seat" (basically, a chair). The rest of the group gather around and pray for the young person in the hot seat, listening to God and sharing words of encouragement and Scripture for them.
- 6. PRAYING FOR YOUR LOCAL CHURCH COMMUNITY.** Get pictures of members and hand out the pictures to your young people. Encourage them to get in a quiet spot and pray for the member of the church in their picture. Write down any pictures or scriptures they have for them, and possibly share with the group and even the members of the church at a later date.
- 7. FIRE PIT FORGIVENESS.** Set up a fire pit, or alternatively, purchase Chinese Fire Lanterns. Have a time reflection and prayer around struggles the young people are facing, past hurts they want healing for, or sins they need forgiveness from. Invite them to either write them

on the side of the lantern, or a piece of paper and 'give them to God'. To do this they throw them into the fire or set the lantern on fire. Finish with a time of praying for each other, or writing notes of thanks to God for what he has done.

- 8. PRAYER SPLASH.** Get a large waterproof map of your community and place on the ground in a large outdoor space. Fill water balloons and invite the young people to hit targets on the map. As they hit each target, have a list of the prayer requests for that specific area ready for them. Young people encouraged to then pray for the area they hit.
- 9. CRAFTIVISM:** Gather your young people and enter into a time of prayer, praying for your community. Have craft materials ready, together with either labels or stones. Invite the young people to seek God for encouragement for their community and have them write either a scripture, or just 'we are praying for you' and have contact details of your church. Go out across your community and either tie the labels up or leave the stones for people to be encouraged by.



# PRAY

## 25 TOP IDEAS (CONTINUED)



- 10. REVIVAL RUN.** We take a prayer stake, we take a prayer and we plant it in the ground in another place, church or town and pray for God to move if we were praying for our own. (See [WWW.REVIVALRUN.ORG](http://WWW.REVIVALRUN.ORG))
- 11. COMMUNITY PRAYER WALK.** Walk through the local community, stopping in specific places to pray for those areas or for specific things.
- 12. PASS ON THE BATON.** Arrange to travel to another youth group and pray with them. Make a large baton and take it with you, along with some permanent markers, writing prayers on there to pass on.
- 13. PRAYER FOR HEALING.** Pray for anyone who is in need of healing. If they are able to do so, ask them to test it. If they are not yet healed, continue to pray some more. And of course, take time to explain that not everyone is healed every time. We want to reaffirm that a lack of healing doesn't mean that God doesn't love them, but that perhaps God has a greater plan/purpose that we don't understand. We trust Jesus whatever the outcome.
- 14. WORSHIP MUSIC & PRAYER.** Use songs of worship to inform your prayers, wither by joining in or simply soaking in God's presence as you listen to the music.
- 15. PERSECUTED CHURCH BLACKOUT.** Pray for persecuted Christians around the world using Open Doors 'Blackout' resources. Check out [WWW.OPENDOORSYOUTH.ORG](http://WWW.OPENDOORSYOUTH.ORG) for more.
- 16. PRAYER FOR FRIENDS.** Lay out a long roll of paper across the floor and ask the young people to write the names of their friends who don't know Jesus yet. Pray for each of them by name then get the whole group to lift the paper roll up in the air and pray, as a pro hectic act of lifting up their friends to God.
- 17. CENTERING PRAYER.** Centering prayer is a quiet spiritual practice that helps us to become more aware of God's presence. There's a teaching video expelling how to do it that you're welcome to use here.
- 18. LECTIO DAVINA.** This is a wonderful way of praying and listening to God through Scripture. There's a teaching video expelling how to do it that you're welcome to use here.
- 19. WRITE A PSALM OF LAMENT.** It's been a tough year! A fantastic prayer exercise is to help your young people write a Psalm of lament to express their grief and anxiety to God in a healthy way. There's a teaching video expelling how to do it that you're welcome to use here.
- 20. WRITE A PSALM TOGETHER.** Set up four sheets of flip chart paper on the floor in different areas around the room. Split the young people into groups and send them around each station one by one. Each piece of paper has a title: PRAISE, THANKSGIVING, REQUESTS, COMMITMENTS. Once the groups have visited each station, combine the sheets and read them out as one Psalm. It may be helpful to have a leader at each station to help guide the young people and keep them on theme.
- 21. GUIDED MEDITATION.** Ask the young people to sit or lie down and give their distractions and concerns to God. Now ask them to use their imagination. Encourage them to imagine a quiet place. They become aware of someone with them... they feel safe and scared all at once. They turn and Jesus is there. He is smiling. He is delighted to be with them. Ask the young people, "what do you want to say to Jesus?" Pause. Now say, "what does Jesus want to say to you?" and ask them to listen. After another long pause, wrap up, and ask the young people to feedback.
- 22. THE OBJECT GAME.** Sit the young people in a circle with a load of random objects in the middle. Listen to God, asking him to draw their attention to a particular object in the circle. Now ask God, "what do you want to say to me through this object?" Once the Lord has spoken, they can ask, "who is this for and is it for now." Then the young people can share what God has said to them for that person.
- 23. PRAY FROM SCRIPTURE:** There are so many great biblical prayers. Print these out and distribute them around the young people, asking them to pray them out loud one at a time.
- 24. HIGH-RISE PRAYER:** Get out to the highest location in your locality and pray over the nation and your local area. This may be a hill, a mountain, or a high-rise building.
- 25. PRAYER MAP:** Get hold of a big map of the UK and gather around it, praying for God to move across our land. You may want to take one nation at a time, and include by praying specifically over your local area.



**GO**

# 25 TOP IDEAS

- 1. GO 'TREASURE HUNTING.'** Take some time to listen to God, to asking show you words, pictures and encouragements for specific people, then go out into the community and share them with the people God shows you.
- 2. BAG PACKING.** Arrange with a local supermarket to help with bag packing.
- 3. DO SOME FUND-RAISING AND GIVE IT AWAY TO BLESS A LOCAL CHARITY.** This could be through, car washes, bake sales, car boot sales etc.
- 4. YOUTH BAND BUSKING.** Sing some worship songs publicly, with others offering pray for people who stop to listen.
- 5. CONNECT WITH A LOCAL CARE HOME TO BLESS THE RESIDENTS.** This could be by performing dramas or music, playing games, or simply offering company and chatting.
- 6. LISTENING TABLES.** Giving opportunities for people in the community to simply come and talk and be heard.
- 7. HEALING PRAYER ON THE STREETS.** Set up in the town centre and pray for people for healing. Incredible things can happen!
- 8. HOLD A COMMUNITY FUN DAY.** Inflatables, fairground games, sports - all in a local park or communal area for families to come and enjoy.
- 9. HELP THE HOMELESS.** Connect with a local homeless charity and see how you can serve them for the afternoon. Perhaps you can take some time to pack some meals for the homeless in your community.
- 10. HOT DRINKS FOR THE HOMELESS.** Make some flaks of hot drinks, take some disposable cups and go give them to the homeless, sharing the love of Jesus through generosity.
- 11. FREE CAR WASH.** Set up in a local car park and offer to wash people's cars for free.
- 12. SHOEBOXES.** Pack some boxes of fun summer holiday activities and treats to give out to kids, or with some essentials to provide for the poor within your local community.
- 13. NINJA ENCOURAGEMENTS!** Take some time to listen to God the write out what he tells you - these may be words of knowledge / prophecy /encouragement or verses of Scripture - then go and post these through these through letterboxes in the neighbourhood.
- 14. YOUTH THEATRE.** Acting out gospel stories in parks or town centres.
- 15. MEET AND EAT.** Host a BBQ or activity afternoon to which young people invite their friends who don't know Jesus, then lead into watch the evening session together of Limitless Festival together.
- 16. COUNCIL CONNECTION.** Contact the local council to see if there are any needs within the community that your group could help with.
- 17. SERVE YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL.** Although Limitless Festival runs in school holidays, schools often do a lot of prep work in that time. Could there be anything that your group could help with to bless your local school?
- 18. ROCK PAINT DROP.** Paint rocks with verses of Scripture, then go walking with those rocks and place them around the community for people to find.
- 19. OPEN AIR YOUTH SERVICE.** Hold an open air youth service in the town centre, park of church car park.
- 20. CAKE DROP.** Bake some delicious cakes then go and drop them off at neighbours in your local community.
- 21. SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY.** This could be through litter picking, gardening, painting or easy DIY jobs.
- 22. GIFTS FOR KEY WORKERS.** Thanks the key workers in your local area by making up a few hampers and giving them away to NHS staff, teachers, supermarket staff, police etc.
- 23. DOOR KNOCKING.** Yep that old classic... Visit houses and share the gospel, if you dare!
- 24. KIDS AND COFFEE.** Invite tired parents to take a break by preparing some fun games and activities for kids to play with the young people, while parents are given a free cake and hot drink.
- 25. BIBLE GIVEAWAY.** Simply hand out free Bibles on the street to those who want them.





# THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

**COVID RESTRICTIONS:** When planning these activities, please take into account where COVID restrictions are at that time. It may not be possible to do all of these activities if the opening up of lockdown restrictions is delayed.

**RISK ASSESSMENTS:** Ensure all of your activities have been appropriately risk-assessed to ensure the safety of everyone involved. Consider food hygiene if cooking/baking, and a meet up point for young people if you get separated during your 'go' activity.

**SAFEGUARDING:** As in all of our youth work, safeguarding is paramount. It is advisable to run your plans past the safeguarding officer in your local church to ensure everything is properly considered.

**PREPARATION OF RESOURCES:** What are the resources you need for your gather, pray and go activities? Prepare these far in advance so that you don't have to run around sorting everything out on the day.

**BUDGET ALLOCATION:** Will there be a cost involved? Will you pass this cost on to your young people by charging them to attend your Limitless Festival event? Do you need to run your budget past your senior leader, or do some fund-raising in advance as you might do when attending an in-person Limitless Festival event?

**PARENTAL CONSENT:** Ensure parents of your young people are informed about, and have given explicit consent to, the specific activities you will be engaging with for your Limitless Festival event.

**TRANSPORTATION:** If you are travelling further than walking distance for any of your gather, pray and go activities, arrange this in advance along with drivers to assist you.

**TEAM:** Do any of your gather, pray and go activities require additional team? This would particularly be the case if going into busy city centres or for prayer activities with multiple stations.

**PREPARING YOUR YOUNG PEOPLE:** Is there any training you want to do with your young people in advance of Limitless Festival. You may want to prepare them for some of the more evangelistic activities, as well as for those that involve stillness and listening to God.

**ASKING FOR HELP:** And in all of this we are here to help. If there's anything we can do to assist you in planning your Limitless Festival event, even if it's just bouncing around ideas or asking some clarifying questions, then please do not hesitate to get in touch!



## LIMITLESS TV

To aid your GATHER time, we're giving you access to a whole load on demand video series called Limitless TV. These teaching videos come with discussion questions to get your group talking around themes like Social Media, Sex & Relationships, Big Questions, Social Justice, Spiritual Practices and loads more... just think your usual Limitless Festival seminars, but shorter and when you want them!

**HOW TO WATCH:** To access these teaching videos simply register your group for [Limitless Festival 2021 here](#) and we'll send you a link and password.