



R REFLECT

Think back over last month's teaching, *The Wilderness Road*, by Joy Chalke.

Share anything that has particularly stayed with you, and reflect on which parts of the teaching have shaped how you've lived out your discipleship journey over the past few weeks – and why.

R RECEIVE

Watch or listen to our latest teaching, *From Platforms to Pillars*, by Paul Woodman.

- YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3CWvZhf>
- Spotify: <https://bit.ly/4oe7LS8>
- Apple: <https://bit.ly/479CgCL>

Quick Tip: You can access a complete transcript of this teaching by going to the YouTube video and clicking 'more' in the video description, then clicking 'Show transcript'.

RESPOND

Take time to work through the following activities, including questions that go deeper into the teaching you've just watched or listened to:

Questions

1. Where am I tempted to build a platform rather than pursue faithfulness?
2. Who has been a pillar in my life?
3. Where is God calling me to become a pillar for others?
4. How can our church seek the *shalom* of Southampton this year?

Podcast

Take a listen to the Mark Sayers podcast:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/mark-sayers-becoming-pillars/id391860262?i=1000611415994>

Bible Verse

This month, challenge yourself to memorise Psalm 1. You can use this worksheet for some inspirational guided reflections:

<https://www.citylife.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Psalm-1-Worksheet.pdf>

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you that you have placed us exactly where we are for Your purposes. Forgive us for the times when we have been more concerned with building our own platforms than faithfully following you. Root us deeply in Christ, our cornerstone, so that our lives may bear lasting fruit. Teach us to be people of presence rather than prominence, choosing faithfulness over recognition, service over status, and character over reputation. Help us to trust that You are at work even in the ordinary rhythms of building, planting, praying, loving, and serving.

Lord, make us pillars in Your kingdom and to be people who support others, endure through difficulties, and create space for others to flourish. We pray for the *shalom* of Southampton: for our schools and universities, our neighbourhoods, our families, those who are lonely, those experiencing homelessness, refugees seeking safety, and all who are struggling. May your

church be a faithful presence in this city, bringing hope, healing, and the love of Christ wherever You have planted us. Use our lives to strengthen others and glorify Your name, so that future generations may know your goodness because we chose to remain faithful.

In Jesus' name, Amen.