



Jesus has always been in my life but I've not always been in His. For many years, my relationship with Him was one foot in and one foot out. Instead of following Jesus, I'd try to fit in with the crowd, looking for validation and acceptance from others.

When I came to Nottingham for university, I created a wallpaper on my laptop with pictures of my life goals. One of them was to get closer to God, so I googled random Bible verses and picked one I liked the sound of: Proverbs chapter 3, verses 5-6. I put it up on my wallpaper but forgot all about it. Soon afterwards, I remember picking up a Bible but didn't know where to start. I prayed for God to guide me, flipped through the pages and stopped when my heart told me. As I looked down to read, it was the same verse as my laptop wallpaper: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; acknowledge him, and He will direct your paths" (Proverbs chapter 3, verses 5-6).

The words were so relevant; it felt like God had heard my prayer so I decided to take another step and find a church. I googled churches in Nottingham, found Trent Vineyard and went along that same evening which turned out to be the annual

student pizza night – definitely a bonus!

Coming to Trent for the first time was amazing. I remember feeling God's peace in the room and sensed He was happy to see me home. I joined a small group which helped me continue to build my relationship with Jesus. One night I shared with the group about some challenges I was facing. Everyone gathered around me to pray and from that moment I saw God help in such a powerful way. Not long after, I was on my laptop and saw the wallpaper with the Bible verse I had randomly chosen. As I read it again I could not stop crying because of how amazing God is. I realized Jesus had always been in my life but now I was in His.

I decided to get baptised which was such a holy and peaceful experience. It helped me understand what it means for me to have a new life in Christ. My life has changed so much. I find myself talking to God through the day and love to spend time with Him. The Bible has come alive to me. I keep telling my friends and family it's like I got married because I love Jesus so much, with a love like that found in the best of marriages. I'm so grateful to be part of His family.

Changing Lives