



During a scan before I was born, I was found to have a cleft lip where the upper lip doesn't form properly and leaves a gap. A cleft lip can't close up by itself so the doctors told my parents I would need operations, and my mum had lots of scans to check progress. Lots of family and friends prayed for me to be healed though and when I was born, my lip was perfect! Jesus had healed me. As I grew up and was told what had happened, it helped me understand God's love is unconditional. Before I had a chance to do anything good or bad, God loved me just as much.

As I grew older though, I didn't feel very connected to God. I started to think, "there must be more to being a Christian than this!" Then my family started coming to Trent Vineyard and I joined Trent Youth. I went along to DTI (Dreaming the Impossible youth festival) and it was incredible. On the first day of DTI, I was filled with the Holy Spirit while being prayed for. I felt so much joy and peace. It was so gentle and the sense of God's love was amazing. Whereas before, my faith had been in black and white, all of a sudden it was filled with colour.

During worship that day, I surrendered my life to Jesus. It's the best decision I've ever

made and immediately I saw changes. My confidence grew massively: I felt comfortable praying with and talking to people who I hadn't met before. I'd planned to have a night away from DTI because of my struggles with anxiety, but was now able to stay. After being filled with the Holy Spirit I've wanted to tell everyone about Jesus. I prayed God would open up opportunities for me to do this and soon afterwards, I started a Bible study at school with some other friends. It was amazing to see God working and to watch the Bible study grow.

After deciding to follow Jesus, life did not suddenly become perfect though. I continued to struggle with social anxiety, particularly around going to Trent Youth. I remember asking one of my youth leaders to pray for me about the anxiety and looking back, I can see how since that moment God has been slowly but surely healing me. My confidence has been restored and I love going to Trent Youth. It's such an incredible family! I know that I don't walk alone. Jesus is with me even when I cannot see it. Most importantly, I know my identity. I'm a daughter of the living God, and He will forever be with me.

**Changing Lives**