

HELEN HAZLEWOOD



Helen Hazlewood tells her faith story as part of [#SpeakOut2016](#) with the Diocese of Truro, starting with the move from a theoretical to a personal relationship with Jesus.

“I know a lot about Jesus, but I don’t have a personal relationship with him,” was the disturbing truth I had to face when I went to a school friend’s baptism and heard her story of believing in Jesus. It left me in tears, but God is very loving, and just 2 weeks later, with the help of Christians from another church, I made the decision to follow Jesus as my Saviour and Lord. That was the start.

However, God also knew me very well. He knew I was very good at starting things but not so good at carrying on with them (I still have a pile of uncompleted projects and half read books at home). So very early on in my faith journey God made a verse from the New Testament stand out for me. It is this, “God who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.” I may not be classified as a “Completer/Finisher”, but God is.

Such an interesting life has followed; teaching RE in the East End of London, working for Scripture Union in West London, marriage to a clergyman (who was a medical student when I first knew him), 12 years in Singapore and Indonesia seeing the bigger picture of God’s worldwide kingdom, 4 children, over 20 places to call home in 41 years of marriage – all proving the truth of Jesus’ promise, “I am with you always”.

There have been sad times including 2 miscarriages, lonely times when we had to send the children away to school, and lots of uncertain times, both of illness, and not knowing what the next task might be or where it would take us. But lots of joy, too, in churches in Ipswich, Southampton and Cardiff when we came back to England, and loads of friends made in many different countries. And the journey hasn’t finished yet...God has just provided us with our first own home in Liskeard, with so much to learn and so many people to get to know and no doubt a few things to get involved with here, too!”