

## PETE MORGAN



As we continue with [#SpeakOut2016](#) with the Diocese of Truro we hear from Pete Morgan. Between Pete and his wife Rosie they have helped so many of our young people, like Val, Eden, Vanessa and Luisa, who have also shared their faith stories.

“One of my earliest memories is of the inside of a church.

I was visiting St Andrew’s church in Plymouth with my father. It was being restored following a visit from the Luftwaffe during the war. I remember carpenters putting the finishing touches to the pews before the reconsecration. This happened in November 1957, so I would have been three at the time.

I grew up within St Andrews, going through the Sunday school and the youth club. I started a church disco there, which began my interest in sound systems and loud music. This may or may not have been a good thing!

At a sixth form conference at the church I met a girl called Rosie. This definitely was a good thing as we have now been married for 38 years! We moved to Landrake in 1980 and after a while went to the church there.

For me, church was always a rather formal part of my life and I was always suspicious of more liberated styles of worship. After trying to buy a bigger house in Landrake it became clear God wanted us to move. No-one seemed interested in our cute “first time buyer’s” property. Then we looked at Liskeard and a buyer came out of nowhere and bought it!

St Martins was like coming home for both of us. It was welcoming, friendly and innovative. I however, was still keeping my faith on very “safe” ground. Then, with some wariness, I went to Spring Harvest at Minehead; my first experience of a Christian conference for thousands of people. It was there that I heard a talk from a speaker called Gerald Coates. He was Outspoken. Outrageous. Completely out of my experience so far.

A light came on. Christianity was not about rules and regulations. It wasn’t a religion; it was a relationship. A relationship with a God who allows us to be ourselves; after all, it was Him who made us!

Whilst we were still at Spring Harvest my daughter Jess, aged 9, was prayed for. She had a lazy eye and the treatments had not been helping much. I was very sceptical about healing through prayer but the guy at the eye infirmary was astonished by her recovery, so my scepticism quickly faded away. Now I had a relationship with a God who not only accepted me as the person I was but could also intervene in our lives in physical, as well as spiritual ways.

Do I ever still have doubts? Of course. Am I still on a journey of discovery? Definitely. But learning, a day at a time, to trust God is what makes sense of my life. And life is for living – God, who designed the whole universe, still wants us to have fun!”

