

*Now Eric is going to come and share a little bit of his story. Eric was, I think, already a Christian at the time he's going to tell us about, but he also at a time of great need, responded to God's invitation.*

At the beginning of 1970, I was confined to bed for three months through stress at work, and I thought that I was going to die. I wanted to see my children grow up. And there came a time so deeply that I just simply cried out to the Lord, "I don't want to die." Along with my wife and two children at that time, we were attending the local Anglican church in Luton. At an evening service later in that year, the Reverend Colin Urquhart was the speaker, sharing about his encounter with God. After the service was over, I asked if I could speak with him and to share about my recent illness. All I can remember of that conversation was that he asked me if I had a Bible, to which I answered yes. He said, go home and read it. So I did. One day I was reading Matthew's gospel about Jesus taking his disciples up to the mount of olives, and before they went, they were singing a hymn which, as I understood it, was psalm 118. As I came to verse 17, it read, 'I shall not die, but live and declare the work of the Lord.'

My heart was warm as I felt the weight of the stress I had been carrying was lifted off me. Father God had heard my cry of desperation and set me free. The Bible, with the help of the Holy Spirit since that time has been my guide as I have declared the work of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.