Interview 009 Pseudonym: Chris (older participant)

INTERVIEWER: Can you confirm for me that you’ve read the information that I sent about the study and that you’re happy to take part?

CHRIS: I have read the information and I am happy to take part.

INTERVIEWER: Thank you. To start off with, could you tell me a bit about your faith history?

CHRIS: Yeah. So I grew up in a Christian family. And my mother was always talking about God, praying. We were part of a small village church and we attended Sunday meetings twice on a Sunday, both morning and evening. And so I grew up with the knowledge and realisation of God, Jesus. And my mother gave me the opportunity when I was quite young – maybe five years old, something like that – to pray to … the vocabulary I was familiar with at the time was to allow Jesus into my heart. So… And then growing up, em, was more of the same. I think I was eleven, ten or eleven years old, when I was baptised in water. And then fifteen years of age I was baptised in the Holy Spirit. That’s two clear occasions of baptism. Faith history… Yeah, walked following… Follower of Jesus my whole life, yeah.

INTERVIEWER: So have there ever been times when your faith has been challenged?

CHRIS: I’d say there’s been times where it would have gone lukewarm during teenage years. But it was always there. Like, my village church that I was part of it was more about attendance than, em, how I’d probably understand being a follower of Jesus. So nothing stopped, but you know… it probably wasn’t until I moved to [UK town] and went to university and joined the church that I would say was a lot more, well was better at teaching being a disciple of Jesus, being a follower of Jesus, as opposed to just attending a Sunday service. So I realised what – I kind of had something to gauge my previous years against. What it could have been and what it had been up until that date. So while I wasn’t aware of any backsliding or anything like that, it certainly wasn’t the relationship with Jesus that it could have been.

INTERVIEWER: Who do you think have been models for you in your faith?

CHRIS: So definitely my mum. And dad to some extent, although my dad doesn’t wear his faith as much as my mum. But they’ve both been models of faithfulness and something they’ve done as long as I’ve known is read the Bible at night before they go to bed and pray. And I think that’s what kept me on the straight and narrow during my teenage years was, if I think about it, it must have been my mum and dad’s prayers each night for me and my siblings. Other people… I haven’t had so many great experiences. Unfortunately church leaders I’ve had one who kind of fell away from his faith a bit and another one who went into finance. So I haven’t had the best models in terms of church leaders. But certainly in terms of teachers – you know, people who’ve consistently fed into me, I would say someone like [name]. After university I did a one-year gap-year and it was called [name of project] and most of the teaching that we had during that year, theological teaching, was by a guy called [name] who’s in [UK town]. So he was very influential. And… at the moment we’re working quite closely with a guy called [name] in [UK town]. He has certainly been very helpful and supportive towards us.

INTERVIEWER: So how did you come to be doing what you’re doing?

CHRIS: Yeah. That’s a very interesting question. The gap year I spoke about. That was 99-2000. That’s where I met my wife who is [nationality: country where currently working]. When we got together we kind of laid our cards on the table. Obviously my wife would one day want to go back to [European country 1]. And I also had, during my university course, I had what I felt a call from God to go to [European country 2]. So, you know, I put that on the table as well. You know, will you come with me if and when God calls me to [European country 2]? And likewise, will you come with me if and when God calls me to [country 1]. So we kind of had a deal. And [European country 2] was first, funnily enough. Twelve years ago we left the UK and we moved to [city]: there was a church-plant starting up there. And what it seemed to be more than a call to [European country 2], it seemed more to be stepping stones to moving to [European country 1]. When we arrived it was 2008, it was the start of the global financial disaster, the recession. And there wasn’t anywhere to work. And we kind of thought, what are we doing here? We’ve got no family. At least if we went to [European country 1] we’ve got family. The church leader at the time said to me, well what do you need to be doing in faith now, to see yourselves moving to [European country 1]? And I said to him, well that’s very interesting, because my wife just the day before was mentioning about running a [European country 1] playgroup for parents and toddlers, because we had two under-three year-olds and we needed to give them some environment to learn [language]. So we started this playgroup. It was a Saturday morning in a library in a shopping centre. And it became quite popular. We had up to fifty people each Saturday morning, parents and kids altogether. And the [European country 1] embassy in [city] got news of it and they sent their Consul along and – to cut a long story short – I ended up being offered a job at the [European country 1] embassy in [city]. And learning [language] being sent on a one-month summer school in [European country 1]. So, where I’d say we knew one day we’d live in [European country 1], you know, both the call of God on my wife’s life: she had prophetic words that she would return to [European country 1] like… em… the Olympic torch gets taken around the world… it was kind of a word that she would be taking an Olympic torch back to [European country 1] and lighting fires. So I wanted to support her in that. And also we knew that the best way for our kids to learn [language] and be able to communicate with their [nationality] family would be to live in [European country 1]. So there was a sense that it was going to happen. We didn’t know when. We didn’t know where we would live. And we didn’t know what we would do. And about the same time that all this was going through our minds, [UK church network] led by the guy [leader’s name] that I spoke about earlier, he asked another guy called [name] to get in touch and ask us where we’re at with our thoughts on [European country 1]. And [name] contacted us via Skype, and we told him the story up until now. And he said, it sounds like things have got a bit stuck. Why don’t you come to the UK for a weekend and we’ll run a prayer day and see if God says anything. And we agreed we flew to [UK town], well, to the UK for a prayer day and when we arrived [leader’s name] shared the contents of an email he’d received from Canada. Because it was publicised that there was going to be a prayer day for [European country 1]. A guy in Canada emailed a guy called [name], he said, there is… or he felt a prophetic stirring or God stirring him about a city in [European country 1] called [City name]. And so we said, ok, that’s interesting, we’ve never been there. But we can think about that. Came back to [European country 2] and our daughter who would have been 7 at the time, was very tearful because this was all about moving to [European country 1] and she had plenty of friends and a great life in [city] and was very tearful about moving to [European country 1]. So my wife was praying for her that God would speak to her about moving to [European country 1]. And about, em, I don’t know a few months later, she came running into our bedroom and said “when are we moving to [European country 1]?” This was early in the morning. And she said she’d had a dream that she was riding a white horse called Majesty in [European country 1] and she was all very excited about moving to [European country 1]. So we put a few things together: we realised [city name] was the ‘city of horses’ in [European country 1]. It’s got an international steeplechase on a scale like the Grand National.

INTERVIEWER: I’ve been there and I can’t remember if I was just passing through. I went to a conference at a conference centre in [European country 1] that was absolutely beautiful. And I can’t remember whether [city] was just a transit stop or whether it was the nearest town to the conference centre.

CHRIS: Do you remember the name of the conference centre?

INTERVIEWER: I need to look it up and see.

CHRIS: Was it a Christian conference?

INTERVIEWER: Yeah

CHRIS: It was probably [name] conference centre. So [organisation]

INTERVIEWER: It may have been. I honestly can’t remember. It was beautiful: it has a lake.

CHRIS: yeah, so [city] is the nearest. How long ago was that?

INTERVIEWER: erm… seven years? Something like that.

CHRIS: [name] running it?

INTERVIEWER: it was an international organisation using a venue, so I don’t know who the people were at the venue.

CHRIS: That’s a thirty minute drive from here.

INTERVIEWER: That’s probably right. So we did a day trip and just wandered around the town for a day or so!

CHRIS: in [city]?

INTERVIEWER: yes, it must have been. We didn’t know very much and we didn’t do very much… this is why I can’t remember…

CHRIS: Oh, very interesting.

INTERVIEWER: I was living in Romania, so I came by train to this conference. So what I’m not sure is whether it was just somewhere I changed trains or whether it was actually my destination that they picked us up from the station.

CHRIS: There you go. So yeah, it was very clear that we were meant to move here but what wasn’t clear was the timing, so when. So that came two months later, em, in the form of my wife just looked up jobs in [city] and we got a job offer for two teaching positions, teaching English. And the timing was confirmed – my wife had a dream about three baskets and we thought that must mean three months. This was February the 12th. And the next day the manager of the school wrote back and said “can you start on the 12th of May?” So, that was exactly three months. And that was six years ago. We were just packing up our things in [city] and we just moved. It felt very clear from God that we were to move here. You don’t get guidance like that, you know, that’s a once in a lifetime clarity of guidance. It was while we were living here… So [UK leader’s name] was kind of in touch with us and then [other UK leader’s name], you know [name], he came out and visited us and asked us how we’re doing and what we’re doing here. And I said, quite honestly, “well, it was very clear God told us to move here, it was very clear when, but I don’t actually know… I don’t feel any confirmation from God in what we’re meant to do.” We were part of a small… not a small… but a Presbyterian church that’s here in the city. And em, [leader] was very clear and he said, “well it’s the Great Commission: Jesus said go into all the world and make disciples.” And, em, you know, part of that would have been to start a new church here because obviously our background is [UK-based network] churches or … we were never actually part of a [international network] church because we left for [1st city] before [international network] started up, but it’s you know, churches that are Bible-believing, grace-filled and Holy Spirit-empowered. And there’s nothing like that in the city. So, em, we battled. My wife was very clear that God brought her back here to start churches but I still wanted a confirmation from God and that came…. There was a [international network] they do every… three or four times a year they do a prayer event called [title] and we were asked to do a small video, it was broadcast June 2017. We were asked to put some prayer points forward. We’d already started up a small English-speaking kind of community group because there were so many ex-pats that were here and struggled with the [country] language. So we thought it’d be good to get those people together and explore if God is wanting to do something, but I didn’t personally feel with my wife that we were called to lead that, but certainly we initiated it, instigated it and, er, started it. And the … one of the prayer points was to help us with the next steps. You know, what we’re here for. And obviously [leader] was saying “make disciples; make followers of Jesus”. And then [network leader] from [UK town] got in touch and he said, you know, it sounds like you’ve already started a church plant. Your prayer needs to be more, you know, if God doesn’t want you to be doing this you’d better stop it!” And in fact the next day we were meant to drive on holiday down to [country] which is what all the [local population] seem to do here on summer holidays. And so [network leader] said, ‘while you’re there, sitting on a beach, you know, pray that God would give you clarity if you’re meant to stop doing what you’re doing or not.’ And what happened on the first day of the holiday, first morning of the holiday, I lost this wedding ring. And we spent five days trying to find it. And, you know, I was saying to God, “well, ok, you’ve told me I should be praying about this situation if we should be leading a church-plant or not, and at the same time I’ve lost my wedding ring.” And I prayed a dangerous prayer. I prayed: “if you give me my wedding ring back, I’ll do anything.” So I sold myself a bit short. You know, just for a wedding ring. And, em, exactly on the last day… My wife was also praying, “God, you know exactly where this ring is; if you want you’d be able to give it to us.” And on the last evening of the holiday…. We’d been trying to get in touch with a national [country] metal detecting association to see if they could send a guy down. But everyone was busy. In fact, the guy we did make contact with was on a different island completely. And it was the last evening we were watching the sun go down and there were missed calls on my wife’s phone – she’d had her phone off. Messages: ‘where are you? We’re at the beach where you lost your ring.’ So we raced down there, the sun had already set, it was dusk. And there were two guys combing the beach. And where I lost – where I thought I lost the ring was in this muddy lagoon, it was a special mud for skin conditions and everybody was lying in this muddy lagoon. You know, it’s quite deep, a couple of feet deep in places. And I thought this is probably one area where I think I lost it. It was probably an area the size, the footprint of a detached house. And the guys were scanning it and nothing… just the beep, beep. And then eventually this really loud hive of activity and they pulled up a big lump of mud, broke it open, and my ring was right in the middle. And, em, so it was, it was an absolute answer to prayer. The ring was returned to me. We asked the guys, you know, why did you come? And we said, you know, you said you were on a different island. And we haven’t got any money – they were asking big sums of money and the ring wasn’t even worth £40 I think. And they said, oh we just had a very strong feeling that we should come here. And my wife said, oh that’s amazing because I was praying. And [holiday location] is a Catholic country so the guys were saying, “oh you prayed to St. Anthony, the Saint of lost items?” And my wife said, “no, I was praying to Jesus.” And they said, “Ah, you went straight to the Boss.” So em, it was a touching moment, being reunited with my ring, but also feeling that sense of, em, you know, finally having clarity and confirmation from God that we were to carry on what we were doing and be specific about what we were doing. And having that confirmation which I definitely needed.

INTERVIEWER: Can I take you back… you said about the call to [first country] had come when you were a student. Can you tell me a bit about that? How did that happen?

CHRIS: Yeah, yeah. So that was interesting. So I’d had one year in, it was a [UK-based network] church in [UK university city]. And that kind of opened my eyes to a lot more about what it meant to be a Christian, to be a follower of Jesus. And summer of 98 I was to spend one month on the West coast of [country] making a geological map. So the isolation got to me. I had three other guys with me, but this was such an isolated place and we all had different areas. And I found myself a lot of times isolated on the top of hills and mountains, on the coast. [detail of location omitted] I just felt God stirring me to pray for all these little houses that were dotted around and the people who lived there because I knew, yeah, there wasn’t much… ok there was a Catholic faith, but there wasn’t much in terms of people living out a day to day walk with Jesus. It seemed to be very much a Sunday thing where I was. And then, you know, I kind of felt God say, ‘ok, with your back to the ocean, pray for Europe.’ It was an experience as a 20-year-old I’d never had before. And coming back to the UK I very much felt a heart for the nation. I visited a small Anglican church while I was there. The songs were played on a record player and there was no sense of community. Nobody spoke to me. I was, I was given a hand to shake as I left. And a “good day” as I left. And I thought, this isn’t how church is meant to be. And, yeah, so I felt a heart for the nation. I came back to the UK and there was a big worship conference in London that I went to I think the following weekend and I just spent my whole time weeping for the… you know, the previous Sunday I was in a stone building with a record player playing organ music and here I was in front of a live band with people praising God and community and … I just wept for the difference. I spoke about it with my church leader at the time and he said ‘well there’s God’s calling and then there’s God’s timing.’ And it was exactly ten years to the day: I arrived back I think the 17th of July 1998 and we moved – no, 15th of July sorry – and we moved to [country] on the 15th of July 2008. So it was an amazing thing that dates worked out exactly as they had. And yeah, we were there to be… there was a church-plant that was just starting there. It kind of tied in with our, where we were at. The job that I was doing was coming to an end; we had a small daughter and another one on the way so we needed somewhere bigger to live. And it just seemed to tie in with the ten years since my coming back from [country]. It seemed like a bit of a good adventure to go on really. Yeah. And it ended up being stepping stones to moving here.

INTERVIEWER: Tell me a bit about what you’re doing…

CHRIS: Church-wise or work-wise?

INTERVIEWER: erm, yeah! Everything really! What do you do?

CHRIS: So I’m … so we came out here to be primary school teachers. I’m still in the same role in the same school although I’ve managed to negotiate myself down to three days a week. It’s a crazy stressful job with kids that don’t understand you most of the time and then play up on that fact. Two days a week I do private English lessons. And my wife moved, there’s a Christian school here just ten minutes’ walk up the road, so my wife moved to that school and we put our kids in that school as well. In our opinion it’s a better-run school, better education. And then, yeah, like I said we started a group for ex-pats which we were meeting every three weeks on a Sunday and, em, the guys that we had with us that we were kind of running it with said, ‘well we don’t need to be part of another church, we can invest every Sunday in this small group’ and that was kind of a green light for us to say ‘ok, let’s be intentional, let’s meet every Sunday and let’s call ourselves a church-plant. Let’s be intentional about becoming a church.’ And that’s when we got more help from [UK leader] who introduced us to [other UK leader] and he’s been very influential in helping set us up and… We’re not that many in number, probably maximum 15 adults and kids. So we don’t do a Sunday service like bigger churches can do. We don’t do something like that every week. We only do probably… once a month we’ll have a social, just go on a trip together or go and visit a place together, or go for… have a meal together or something. And then because we meet in homes – well normally we’ve been meeting in homes but now we’re … so yeah the last three weeks everything’s changed. We’re meeting online, video-conferencing from all our different homes across the city. And we’re meeting every week now because it seems to be appropriate that we stay in contact better and we, we will pray, sing and have somebody speak to us from the Bible every week now. But we only meet for one hour.

INTERVIEWER: I’m just wondering – do you think that transition is easier because you were smaller?

CHRIS: Yeah. It was quite an easy transition. So we’re a week ahead of the UK in terms of the government acting and we have a state of emergency and restrictions came in pretty quick so we had to adapt very quickly. And yeah, it was a straightforward… it was actually… it’s come as a bit of a blessing in disguise. We were wanting to try and find a building that we could meet in each week so we don’t have to meet in our homes any more because that’s becoming a little bit draining especially for the kids, to have people invading your home twice a month, two or three times a month. So where – and also because we do private English lessons from this same home – it, you know, we were praying for a venue that we could have our home as a home. And God knew what would be happening. There we were praying, thinking how is this going to get answered? It isn’t an answer that we have what we have, but God knew that it was going to happen and we have relief at the moment from so many people visiting our home. So, yeah, it … it was an easy transition and a grateful one as well. It would be interesting to see how long it lasts and how we would transition back to church as we knew it or maybe some things would have to change, I don’t know.

INTERVIEWER: Are you still mainly a group of foreigners? Are you still using English?

CHRIS: Yeah. There’s been probably only once or twice where we’ve had visitors who don’t speak English so we’ve translated on the spot. But we’re mostly ex-pats still. Two or three native [-ians] but with very good English. So at the moment English is, yeah we do everything in English. Once or twice we’ve done a song in [language] but not as much as we’d like to. But then being full-time teachers and family, we don’t have much time to invest into what we do.

INTERVIEWER: so in the town, are people generally religious? Non-religious?

CHRIS: OK, yeah. By British standards I would… I’ll just give a bit of demographics… I’d class this place as a town by British standards. [population stats] but it’s the [x] largest city in the country. We have an internation – well we did have an international airport, it’s not running at the moment… just flights from China bringing masks, those big transport planes. But, em, church-wise, yeah. There’s probably only three what we would call reformed or evangelical churches in the city. One is a kind of Presbyterian background: on a given Sunday there’s probably about 100-150 people there, so it’s quite large. Then there’s a smaller kind of Pentecostal church that’s maybe 50 people on a given Sunday, maybe 75. And then a smaller Baptist church, I think they only have about 25 people. So… plus the Catholic church. I’d say in terms of churches, Christianity, maximum 500 people would attend a public service or worship service. So half a per cent. Yeah. Historically they did… when Communism fell there was a big influx of missionaries from the US and Sweden as well. And there were big tent meetings in the city centre where the current shopping mall is, there used to be just a patch of grass. And they had big tent meetings. So there was a lot of Christianity that kind of exploded in those years after communism but then I think things have settled down. Materialism, capitalism is here in its glory. And you know, there’s not that much interest. You know the [-ians] are an interesting people. If you, I remember seeing loads of statistics before we moved out there about the [-ians] being up there as the… there are different ways of terming it … I think there was a, there was, the Independent newspaper had something once as either the top atheist country in Europe or the top that didn’t believe in God and we were up ahead of [other country] and other European countries. But, it you quiz a [-ian] person on their belief in God, they’ll actually be quite insulted that you think they’re atheist, or that you think the nation is atheist. They’re more agnostic. They believe that there is something out there; they believe in something spiritual. There is quite a lot of interest in Easter religions. Somebody said it was probably Brad Pitt’s seven years in Tibet that got people interested in Buddhism and yoga. But it is very fashionable that kind of thing here, New Ageism and… a fair amount of card reading and things like that. So they are, they are a spiritual people. I think the forty years of communism repressed that but it didn’t kill it. It’s still an interest. And historically [mentions local figure]. So it’s got an interesting Christian history.

INTERVIEWER: So would you call yourself a missionary? And what do you understand from that term?

CHRIS: I wouldn’t call myself a missionary. I can say that because I can compare myself to American friends who’ve lived here and worked here. They called themselves missionaries. They were supported and paid for from the US. I’ll be honest, I don’t think they did much. I don’t see any fruit from what they’ve done. And now they’ve all gone home. So I would call myself an everyday Joe Bloggs who lives and works and is a follower of Jesus. I find the term ‘missionary’ unhelpful for modern [-ians] because they see missionaries as people who come from abroad, bring money, do things, go home. And they think the missionaries are the people who are meant to do the job that Jesus said ‘go into all the work and make disciples.’ And they don’t see the realisation that actually that includes them: they are to be missionaries. Although they’re not going to get a nice salary from the States for doing it. You know, it’s their role to make disciples of Jesus in their city or wherever they live. So I … yeah, I think the term ‘missionary’ in my context … actually, this is an interesting thing for the [-ian] context… I don’t know if you’ve heard of [historical Christian group/movement]? Well [name of group] is a region in [country]. And they were persecuted; they lived in [European country] for a bit and then they went around the world starting churches. They were missionaries. Now the [-ians] understand that they sold themselves into slavery so that they could get to where they wanted to go. And so when they see Americans coming in with their cash and not really doing much, they… these are the conversations I’ve had… they compare it to their ancestors who sold themselves into slavery. So, yeah, the term ‘missionary’ can be a little bit unhelpful here. Especially when they see the wealth that the Americans bring with them compared to what they have.

INTERVIEWER: How has it been living in a different culture?

CHRIS: It’s interesting. I think God prepared me for it. So we’ve been married nearly 20 years and we’ve been living here 6 years. So for fourteen years building up to moving here I was well aware of the [-ian] culture. We visited here twice a year for the fourteen years building up to moving here. I worked with [-ian] people, I was friends with [-ian] people. So yeah, the culture was familiar to me. What wasn’t familiar to me was [first country] culture; so that six years before we moved here was a lesson in cultural awareness, assimilation. I felt very [-ian] by the time we left. And moving here, yeah, you realise it’s a bit more [-ian] than you thought it was. Different things – I’ve got some funny stories from supermarkets where cultural differences, you realise them more when you live here. But it was an easy move. I think the fact that I teach English as my job has meant it’s a bit of a … a less… well it was an easy move in that sense. My working week is speaking English.

INTERVIEWER: How do you go about taking major decisions?

CHRIS: OK. So, we’re talking moving countries, changing jobs?

INTERVIEWER: Yeah, those kind of things.

CHRIS: Historically… there’s marriage as well, that’s a big one. Yeah, I wait for what I think to be guidance from God. I learnt once not to confuse what you think God’s saying to you from what your heart tells you because in my opinion your heart is louder than God’s voice. So I usually have to test things a number of ways. So prayer, followed by God speaking in terms of the circumstantial or… so I’ve already… the biggest example I think is the move here. It was the email with the specific town; it was the connection with my daughter’s dream about riding horses – the city coat of arms is half a horse, I forgot to mention that - …

INTERVIEWER: has she found a white horse?

CHRIS: We have a lovely photo of her riding a horse. The place we moved to when we first arrived, we rented for ten months on the other side of the city and there was a horse-riding place just on, pretty much on our, well five-minute walk from where we were living. So we’ve got a lovely photo of her riding a horse. But yeah, I forgot to say the city coat of arms is half a white horse. And then of course the job provision. Everything seemed to fit together. It’s always been that sort of thing.

Sorry just had an incoming call…

Moving to [first country]… that was exactly ten years following my time in [first country]. I forgot to say as well, that wasn’t my only trip to [first country]: I had five trips within the space of a year. The way things worked out with my course I had to go back there more often. Plus I got another free flight, there was a huge mix up with the airline so I took that up and just went to [first country] on my free flight. So in the space of one year I went to [first country] five times and I’d never been there before. So, em, it… it’s kind of praying to God and then things fitting into place after that.

INTERVIEWER: so, presumably you are supporting yourselves financially?

CHRIS: Yep

INTERVIEWER: Do you have support from the UK, from the churches?

CHRIS: only, not financial, only visits and invitations to conferences, but no, we’ve never felt the need. We might take up an offer that might my wife will go one day a week… a church in the UK might pay her Friday, for example, so that she can spend time building what we’re doing here and investing time into that. Because yeah, you do feel the draw of work, family, and what you can invest into what we’re doing. So it’s very organic I would say. We’ve arrived here as a family unit to do jobs, and then we felt the call from God to start a church and we’re working it out as we go with help from friends in the UK.

INTERVIEWER: do you have a plan for the future? Do you know how long you’re likely to be there, or if that’s forever?

CHRIS: foreseeable future we’re happy here. Certainly here for the duration of our children’s education. Wouldn’t say, wouldn’t rule out another move, but I’m not seeking one and, em, at the same time I think we’re here for good.

INTERVIEWER: Tell me about working in team.

CHRIS: I need that. I … I don’t see myself as a leader in the conventional sense so I do need a lot of input. I’m more of a … I like to ask people what they think and come to a decision based on team. We’ve got two other people here with us that we have a team that we lead with and we pretty much run everything by everyone and make a decision together. And I prefer that way of working. I don’t like the thought of having to be the one person with all the answers.

INTERVIEWER: My last question is how and how much do you use social media?

CHRIS: For church or personal?

INTERVIEWER: Both.

CHRIS: I don’t use social media much any more for myself, just catching up with people. I got bored of making posts and posting photos and things like that. But it’s a helpful way for me to catch up with friends who are a long way away. I will use messaging platforms for communication though. We have a church facebook page, we will post something roughly once a month just for information, just to make ourselves public that people know we’re about. We will use… we’ve set up a private prayer group. My wife will post things to that for people to pray for us. That’s about it. It’s only Facebook. We wouldn’t use Instagram or Twitter. Or we don’t. We’ve just chosen to use Facebook. We don’t have time to be posting onto every different platform. But it serves us well I think. It gets the message out there. Once a week we’ll send a message out on – we have a church Facebook Messenger and we will send a message out once a week, just confirming venues and things like that.

INTERVIEWER: OK. I think we’ll leave it at that.

CHRIS: Perfect timing. I’ve got a call….