

## **Vocation Story - Josh Bradshaw**

Although I had been around amazing faith my whole life I only came to a truly surrendered faith in Jesus as a late-teen when I was on my way to University to study Law. My initial plan had been law because I found it interesting and the lawyers I knew seemed to live the high life I wanted, yet as Jesus began to transform my heart it was God's desire for justice and His bias towards the poor and oppressed that spurred me towards law.

It was while I was a student that I was given the opportunity to get involved in leading ministry and ministering amongst the students on campus. During this time I began to realise that although I loved the law, I was far more passionate about what was happening in the lives of students coming to faith in Jesus and through this process I felt God calling me towards full time ministry.

Following university, I pushed the door of this calling by taking a year out to do an internship programme at a church. It has been a common trend in my vocational journey that I think I know better than God, and so I said I'd do an internship but then go back to law. God then called me to stay in full-time ministry and I said fine but I won't be ordained as I could come up with so many objections and disqualifications. God then asked this of me and I could run no longer.

I began the vocations process whilst still working in an incredibly encouraging and releasing church that I'd gone to do the internship at. I went to BAP and to train aged 23 and was ordained at 26. God still has so much to teach me about calling, but my journey to that point taught me some wonderful things: to trust that God's plan for you, however different to your own thoughts, will bring you a fulfilment like no other; to trust in the people God has placed around you that speak into what the Lord might be saying to you; and finally to know that you don't have to see it all mapped out before you but to go on a door-pushing adventure with Jesus and see where He takes you.

