



Malone, FL

I was born and raised by two loving and caring God-fearing Jesus-believing Christian parents. Thank God for that! I was taught all about the Bible, went to Sunday school, church services, Bible studies, and I think I believed in Jesus Christ my whole life. So I have no excuse for all the pain, suffering, sorrow, headache, regrets, misery, disappointments, and incarcerations I have caused on myself (same with everyone else). I know now that Jesus/God does not want any of that for His children. At a very young age, I got envious of the "world" (evil). I desired the money, drugs, women, respect, and darkness, which caused me nothing but pain. But I always knew there was a God, I just didn't want to live that kind of life (the Christian life) because then I couldn't do what I wanted to do. Now I am 40 years old, serving another 30-year mandatory sentence in the Florida Department of corrections. This is my third incarceration in Florida DOC. I have been a drug addict for over half of my life and was the worst kind of person: a liar, a thief, robber, angry, disrespectful, violent, no-good, miserable, and a disgrace. I hated myself and everybody else. Looking back on my entire life, I can see that God has been with me every second of every day, every step of the way. But I got so fed up with living like a fool, so sick and tired of being sick and tired, being miserable living in darkness that I finally surrendered my whole life to Jesus Christ. I begged Him to please help me change me and bring me out of the darkness and bring me into the light. Wow, you really have got to be careful what you ask for!

He filled me with the Holy Spirit! I have never been so convinced about all the wrong that I was doing, thinking, and talking. I feel so happy, so free, so safe, so confident, and so blessed. I can't even get upset or angry or sad if I wanted to. Throughout my whole life, people told me that I was supposed to bring people to Jesus Christ and I would laugh thinking I'm not even walking with Him. But now I know that it is my job, my duty, and my obligation and I plan to fulfill that prophecy. I am truly on fire for God! I have never felt so good. Praise God! He is all I think about, talk about and live for! God is so real! I'm completely locked in for Him. This is the real deal! No faking, no half stepping. This is forever not just a lifestyle. It's eternal. God has changed me so much that now I truly appreciate every day. Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 says, "He set before us, life and death, blessings and cursing, so choose life..." I choose life! I hope and pray everybody else will too! Praise God! **G.N.**

State Farm, VA

It was 1996. Summertime. I had just left a girl's apartment after a night of sin. It was Sunday morning and I do not know why at the time, my feet made a right turn to walk to Springhill Baptist Church in Staunton, VA. I have no recall of my thoughts; I just walked straight to church. I sat up front and I began to feel uncomfortable. As the preacher made his sermon, I was experiencing a deep sorrow in my heart. The pastor made an altar call, and I had only to make a few steps. When I did, I fell to my knees and tears began to roll. I made my confession of sin before God asking

for forgiveness. I was there for quite some time confessing sins I had long forgotten. Afterwards, I had a great peace. My heart was truly tender. I had never felt so vulnerable in my life, but the Lord in hindsight had pre-ordained me to seal me with His Holy Spirit that morning. I had some experiences before that day. Being the son of a believer had its influences, but the Lord God Almighty truly made me a son and adopted me that morning. He poured out His grace upon me and showed me His great mercy where I was worthy to be put to death for all my sins. My crimes were of the highest. Being raised in church by my mother, I cannot say that I was ignorant of Jesus. It was just my mother and I. Looking back, the Lord had prepared for me, and I was completely unaware. After the Holy Ghost came upon me and abolished the enmity that I had for God the Father, He sent me on the path to learn of Him and His ways and has been with me ever since. Our Father in heaven has shown me much patience all my life, and has not forsaken me, not one moment. I have been locked up most of my adult life and of course my struggle has taught me the most important principle we will ever know and that is, we all who are saved are only saved by the grace of God through the redeeming work of Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God. "Being sealed with the spirit of promise, till the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory." All the work that Jesus did here on earth, His crucifixion, death, and resurrection, was all to save me, and not just me, but the seed of father Abraham, all those who believe. God made us

believers. The gift of God cannot be earned, bought, traded or gotten any other way, except God gives it of His own will. My heart is so truly grateful and most thankful. All glory belongs to Jesus, the God of our salvation. Amen. He will return to gather us unto Himself, the marriage of the bridegroom, and His bride to which we will bless and praise Him always and forever. Amen. **W.W.**

San Antonio, TX

I grew up on the northeast side of San Antonio with my father, stepmother, and two of my four siblings. My stepmother was a sadist and would harass and beat me regularly. I grew up angry and rebellious and started a long and extensive cycle of incarceration and drug use/dealing. I became saved in a jail cell where one of my old friends (who was also a gang member) presented the gospel to me. It's not that no one has given the gospel to me before, but it was the way, and by whom and under the circumstances that he did, that my heart was ready to receive it. But that didn't mark the end of my troubles. This whole walk has been a series of ups and downs as the Lord has been teaching me how to walk by faith. I have experience trying to make it by following legalistic rules and failed. I have been afraid of God as king David was (2 Samuel 6:9). I have experienced church hurt, relapses, and the daily pressures that come upon us all. But hallelujah, the Holy Spirit has given me the strength to persevere. Although I am incarcerated now, the growth process in my life has been unparalleled. I have done over seven years on my 15-year sentence, and I must say I'm at peace. I have entered His rest as the Scriptures declare (Hebrews chapter 4). I have a ministry that I'm involved with, and I have been

graced with the opportunity to serve and even appointed by the brothers under the unction of the Holy Spirit to preach at times. The Lord has been too good to me and His mercies abound. Thank you, Jesus! **J. G.**

Dallas, TX

This is my first time in trouble in 40 years and my first time in prison. I grew up in a loving Christian home. I attended church every time the doors were open. I was saved at nine years old. As an adult, I was a Sunday school teacher, sang on the praise team and went as a sponsor/cook each summer to church camp for 19 years in a row. I've lived a double life for years fighting my sexuality. Growing up in the church I knew it was wrong. At the age of 16 I met an older man online in a chat room and ended up driving over an hour to meet him. I ended up being raped by him, not telling anyone until just a couple of years ago. I then went to college and started dating a girl but always living the gay life on the side. About eight years ago my church found out about my lifestyle and wouldn't allow me to attend church camp, sing, or teach Sunday school. It was the first time in my life I was judged and by my own church. I didn't know it at the time and didn't know it until I got into trouble, but I had a porn and sex addiction that was controlling my life. I was drinking a lot and started smoking weed in January 2023. I caught my case in January 2024. It was a year and a half before I was sentenced in June 2025 for a year and a half. I started seeing a counselor that uncovered my porn, sex, drinking and weed addiction. I stopped all of it in April 2024. I arrived at O.S.R. in Granite on July 29, 2025 and I have been going to church services in the chapel. I believe everything happens for a reason in life and this was my

wake up call to get back to God. I put my past in that lifestyle behind me and am trying to stay focused on God! **T.E.**

Aberdeen, WA

My testimony starts opposite of other others. Instead of finding God for the first time, mine is losing God and re-finding Him. I grew up Anabaptist. I was raised Mennonite. When I was 18 years old, I went out in the English world. It was a whole new world for me, and I got taken by all the sin. I would end up drinking, doing drugs, and even ended up selling and doing drug runs. I lost God and didn't care about anyone or anything, not even God. I even ended up getting into fights. One day I was paid to collect money for a dealer, and it ended up as a stinging operation. I ended up going to prison and I've been down for two years now. I am glad I was arrested. I ended up finding God again and accepting Him in my life and His son and my Lord and Savior, who did die for me and my sins. It's like coming home. I was a prodigal son who left and returned home to my father. I don't know if I will ever be accepted back in the Anabaptist church and community once I am released, but I do know I was accepted and welcomed back to God's family with open arms and love. Amen and God bless all of my brothers and sisters.

R.B.

Send your testimony letters to:

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