

My Testimony

From when I was small, my parents and my gran have taken me to church but it was never something that I did anything about or realised was important to me. As a teenager I continued to go to church and youth group for completely the wrong reasons, the friends I had there.

However this caused me to constantly debate in my head many questions about Christianity and the world which lead me to think about the issues for myself for the first time.

At this time I hated the person who I was, moody to all my family, unhelpful and snappy and no matter how I tried I couldn't get myself out of this horrible state.

It was when I was 15 on a church weekend away that I realised that God was real and what he did on the cross for me was important and true, and I couldn't just sit there any more and think 'that's nice', I had to respond. It wasn't just my churches or my family's faith, it was my individual responsibility also.

This began to transform me as I started to believe and I got confirmed.

However I did not live the fact that I was Christian out in my life though I claimed to be. I didn't follow the teaching of the Bible, but was picking and choosing what I obeyed.

I don't think I really understood the Gospel message until I came to university.

I realised that sin wasn't just the actions I do, but the attitude I have towards God where I tell him to get lost and put myself first and I saw my true need for the cross and how amazing it is that Jesus died there to bring me to God.

I also came to acknowledge the authority of the bible as Gods perfect word which I should try and follow without exception, and not human words.

This realisation has led me to be thankful and try to give every part of my life to him not just picking and choosing as I did before, but trying to depend on him completely.

I am so excited growing in my relationship and serving him for the rest of my life and giving him all the praise he deserves.

All this was only achieved by Gods amazing Grace, that he opened my eyes to see his truth when I was blind for so long and still would be were it not for his mercy and love.

I want to be baptized because it is a biblical practice and reflects what I have come to understand recently in that I go under the water and under gods wrath which is what I deserve and yet he picks me up through Jesus and gives me new life.

Laura