

Naomi's Testimony

Going to church and hearing about Jesus has always been a part of my life. From all the bible stories I was told as a child, to going to different Christian youth groups and camps, also the fact I come from a Christian family. I can't tell you the specific moment I became a Christian. This is one reason I didn't get baptised sooner. I was always waiting for a pivotal point in my life, where everything would change. You hear these amazing stories in the bible and from people around today, where they have some kind of epiphany. Like an incredible vision of Jesus on riding a horse, with clouds and bright lights or get healed from cancer, something like that. I even tried to command my bath water to be still but it always kept on splashing around.

I would go to our churches camp and also to a family holiday to Saltmine another Christian camp, where it seemed easier to act like a Christian. As I listened to the preacher some of these bible stories I had heard over and over as a kid started to become much more real to me. They weren't just kid's stories anymore but actually historical events. Even though these holidays were only once a year; it was a chance God used to call me back to him and help me realise how much I needed him.

One point in my life where these biblical stories really came clear and took an effect on my life was from taking part in the Mark experience. Getting the chance to act out Jesus life, seeing him tormented on the cross and the fact it was me that put him there.

People may ask me questions about God and how I know he's real. And some questions I personally will never be able answer. But I know in my heart there is a God who loves me, and as I look back over my life, I can already see how He is looking after me. Just this summer when I didn't get my first choice at university and now I'm in Reading where I'm so happy.

I could ramble on about all the big and little things He has done for me and how I've seen Him work in my family's life as well. This is the reason I'm getting baptised today, not only to follow in Jesus footsteps but because of the stronghold I have in God and the fact I'm His and He will always be there for me. Whether it's feeling His presence when I'm on my own; or the support from past youth leader and my family. Especially my mum, who is one of the biggest Christian influences in my life.

Instead of a sudden revelation my faith has grown as my understanding of God and what Jesus did for me on the cross becomes clearer. Although sometimes this was a slow process as going my own way at first always seems like a clever idea, but like the epic stilling of my bath water, things happen in God's time not mine. I have faith in God as he gradually reveals His future plan for me. And I want to thank God for all He has given me in life and I pray my faith and passion for Him will carry on growing.