

Sarah's Testimony

Well I have been brought up in a Christian family, which is a great privilege and because of that I went along to church every week and went to the kids groups and all of those sorts of things. I have heard all the Bible stories and I just thought of them as being stories.

I came to church every week and as I got older, I went to Freestyle my youth group, so if anyone asked I was a Christian.

Last February, my family and I went skiing with an organisation called Oak Hall, which is a Christian organisation.

One evening a guy called Jon asked me if I was a Christian and my immediate reaction was yes, but if I was honest I wasn't leading a Christian life at all. I explained I went to church every week but did not really live my life as God wanted me to.

He said to me, 'Do you go to church to see your friends and during the service count the panels on the walls or stare out of the window instead of listening to the teaching?'

That is exactly what I was doing and I was turning my back on God. I said to Jon that I did believe the Bible stories, and he asked me, 'So you believe that God created the world?'

That made me think, because for the last few days I had been skiing down these amazingly beautiful, immense mountains and by just saying a word God had actually made these for us to enjoy. How powerful and incredible is God and I realised I needed to turn back and put my trust in him as he has made such a huge sacrifice of giving his Son to die on the cross so that by God's grace I can be forgiven, and made free from all my sin.

We prayed together and I felt God's presence with us. Jon said that he would pray for me every day and that challenged me to pray as I never really prayed very much.

A few months later I was at Church camp and during one of the meetings Nathan said to us that 'Every time we sin or do something wrong we are hurting God and making him upset.' When I thought about all the times a day I sinned, I realised that I must be hurting God so much but yet he still continues to love me. I wouldn't want to hurt a friend let alone my Creator.

So I want to be baptised today to say that I want to live my life for Him and to repent and say sorry for all the times that I have hurt Him.