

Luke Andrew Miller's Testimony

Like most people in this area I was born into a catholic home. I attended catholic school as my mom thought it was wise for the nuns and priests to keep me in line as my dad passed away when I was one. Throughout school I was pretty sure that I was at least going to purgatory, maybe get into heaven if St. Peter was in a good mood.

I was told that as a little baby I was baptized into the catholic system which took care of all of my original sin, which of course is not in found in the bible and would make the blood of Christ of no effect.

Like a good catholic boy I had first communion, penance where I confessed my sins to a priest every month or so then confirmation which I was forced into, all of which made the blood of Christ no effect.

All through the school years I prayed to St. Anthony for lost items, St. Francis for animals and our pets, St. Christopher for safe passage by car and of course Mary because she was my in to get to Jesus as he was too important to hear my prayers. Plenty of statues and medallions, bath tub Mary's, St. Blaze's throat blessings, rosary beads and all the pomp and circumstance especially around the holidays.

The so called great thing was that I believed in God, my puppet and not only that, he was one God, and many people could get to him through their blind faith using there vain religion. I had no clue that the bible said **James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.**

Now I heard the gospel a few times before but I did not hear. I berated the holy rollers and never knew what Jesus did or why he came. This is after 12 years of catholic school.

One day I heard my mom telling my sister she is in a cult, of course I wanted to hear more about this as I thought there would be some entertainment about to start and I didn't want to miss it.

My sister whose name is Grace, and I do see the irony here, she proceeded to tell about this new religion, but it wasn't religion at all. I listened that day, and for the first time my ears were opened and I heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. She told me he is the only way to God and why he came to die for my sins and there was absoulty no work I could do to earn my way into heaven. One thing was for sure I knew I needed Jesus and that very moment I believed with the measure of faith given to me through Grace as **Espahsais 2:8-9 says "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."**

From that moment I was now a child of God, and Christ was my mediator. A few days later I recall I was playing basketball with my friend and told him on how I was going to heaven because Jesus died for my sins and he is my savior and he could know him to.

How can you not tell people about Jesus, I think I would burst... boy he thought I was wacky but so began the journey with Christ. I didn't plan on being saved that day nor was seeking Christ but as **Isaiah 65:1** says **"I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name."**

A few months later my first job out of college was at IBM in Burlington VT where my mentor was a born again Christian who mentored me for about 3 years. That was not luck but the providence of God my Father to allow me to grow. I began to read the bible and renew the mind. And aspects of life began to change. As I walk more and more with the Lord I see new sins that must be delt with in my life, and he is faithful to do such. I now crave truth as it is so rare but is found in that greatest book, the mind of God the bible!

Tired of being disobedient to God, and to be faithful in the little, I am going to be baptized into Christ such that I can have a good conscience toward him, how else could I? If I disobey the conviction of the Holy Spirit to do so?

My relationship with Christ is the greatest thing that has or will ever happen to me, for all of this time and eternity. My mother and brother are now believers all from the Grace of God from the mouth of my sister Grace.