

Salvation Testimony – Jeff King

I grew up as a “good boy,” but I was not a believer. As a child, my parents occasionally took us to Sunday School, but we attended church sporadically. Jesus never impacted my life except for Christmas and Easter, and then, he was only a neat story. After we moved to a new house, I met friends who told me, “You cannot get to heaven unless you are saved.” I did not know what saved meant, but I wanted it. They told me about hell, and I did not want to go there. One night, I dreamt that I was in a line to go to heaven, and God was asking each person a question. If they answered it correctly, God would allow them into heaven. If not, they would go to hell. God asked me, “What is $2 + 2$?” I immediately answered, “4.” He told me that I was wrong, and I woke up frightened because I knew that there was nothing I could do to get into heaven. Around that same time, my brother and I were invited to a Five-Day Camp. At the camp, they taught Bible stories and told us that sins were things we did that disobeyed God. They said we all had sinned, and that sin would keep anyone out of heaven. I knew I had disobeyed my parents sometimes and lied. I knew that God would not allow me into heaven, just like in my dream. Then, they told the story of Jesus and His death, burial, and resurrection. They said that Jesus took our punishment, and if we believed that He died for us to take away our sin, He would save us and allow us into heaven. That day I believed and placed my faith in Jesus and what He did to save me. From that time, I knew that Jesus saved me and that I would spend eternity with Him, but my life did not always show it.

When I went to college, I placed other things as more important in my life. I began drinking and living sinfully. I knew it was wrong and felt guilty and would repent, but my life was like the Israelites in Judges with the cycle of sin, chastisement, repentance, and then a time of feeling close to the Lord.

This was my life until in 2000 a work friend invited me to Berean and I began to get mentored and disciplined. The Holy Spirit has been working within me to change me and break free from the cycle that I was living. Now I seek to honor the Lord in my life, and my purpose is to praise and glorify the Lord in all that I think, say, and do. My focus is to lead others to the Lord and come alongside them to disciple them to be strong in the Lord and not go through the terrible cycle that I did.