

Salvation Testimony – Fera, Kyle

I grew up in what I would have called a “Christian home,” although my understanding of what it means to be a Christian has changed dramatically since then. Our family attended church when we weren’t traveling or playing sports. My parents are wonderful people, but church was not a priority for our family, especially as I got older. When I was 12, my dad led me through the “sinner’s prayer,” but that moment really became the beginning of many years of questioning my salvation. Nothing truly changed in my life. My idol was professional golf, and I didn’t want anything to come between me and my dreams. My high school and college years were rather dark, and I had little concern for my sinful lifestyle. For the first 30 years of my life, I was a false convert. I professed to be a follower of Christ, but in reality, I was pretending to follow Him because I wanted to appear morally good.

I was 31 years old when YHWH saved me. Our first of three daughters, Reagan, was born on August 12, 2017. The night she was born, I was sitting in the hospital room staring at her as a new father and praying over her. I asked YHWH to help me lead her to Christ. When I finished praying, I was convicted with a simple question: How could I lead my daughter to Christ if I had never even read the Bible? This was the beginning of my pursuit of truth. I began reading the Bible every day and became relentless in studying Scripture, watching sermons, and listening to biblical podcasts. Then I read Romans 3:10–12, and it hit me like a ton of bricks. I had spent my entire life believing I was a “good person” and that because I was good, I must therefore be in good standing with God. But Scripture exposed me. I quickly realized that I was a fraud. I went to church with a Bible in my hand, but lived like a hypocrite, pretending to be in Christ while ultimately living for myself and my own dreams. Around that same time, I listened to a sermon by Paul Washer on Matthew 7:21–23, and those words forced me to examine whether I truly knew Christ or merely professed His name. Within a few short months of that night in the hospital, I heard and understood the Gospel in a way I never had before. The Holy Spirit removed my heart of stone and gave me a

new heart. He gave me a birth from above! I was born again, and my life completely changed.

I now understand what Scripture means when it says that we become a “new creation.” Before salvation, I despised reading, but now I can’t stop. I love reading His Word, studying it, and talking about Him. After my conversion, I told my wife, Emily, “I want to learn the Bible the way pastors know the Bible.” My first year as a born-again believer was also very difficult. The people I had surrounded myself with were far from Christ, and as my desires changed, I realized I could no longer continue living the way I had before. I lost all my friends, but I also began to understand what it meant to follow Christ and detach myself from the things that once defined me. When the Holy Spirit convicts me of sin, I am now sensitive to His conviction, and He continues to sanctify me. Today, as a husband to Emily and a father to three girls, I am committed to leading my family biblically. We love our local church, Berean. We worship YHWH together as a family throughout the week, pray together, and seek to live out the fruit of the Spirit. We live in community with brothers and sisters in Christ who pour into us, and we seek to pour into them. We are intentional about making disciples who make disciples. Looking back on where God has brought me, I now have a growing desire to serve Him as a Spirit-led teacher. Slowly learning how to faithfully teach and preach His Word in a way that shepherds the souls of God’s people. I spent the first 30 years of my life pretending to know Christ, but by His grace, He opened my eyes to the truth of the Gospel, gave me a new heart, and made me His own.