

New Member Applicant Testimony

Bryan Just



I had the privilege of being born into a Christian family and raised by godly, believing parents. I do not specifically remember the first time I “prayed the prayer,” but it was during a Sunday school class when I was around five or six years old. While I did not have a mature understanding of Christianity by any stretch, as a child I understood that I was a sinner and that Jesus was the only one who could save me. I was involved with the church throughout childhood and was baptized in my early teens. Because of how much time I spent in the church, along with my parent’s teaching at home, I ended up getting pretty knowledgeable about the “facts” in the Bible. Applying it, however, was a different story. Spiritual growth has been a much slower process—a slow, uphill climb, rather than distinct “leaps forward.” One reason is that, while I was always part of the church, I often struggled with doubts, both of the “Does God exist?” variety, as well as “If he does, how can I know I am saved?” This eventually led to me to rededicating my life to God in high school. By God’s grace, these doubts have never been enough to drive me away from the faith. Though at times they seem overwhelming, God always seems to find a way to pull me out of them and use them for my growth. Whether through the guidance of a mentor, a passage of Scripture, or the words of a hymn, God tends to break in when I most need him and remind me that he *is*, and that I am his.

(Rebekah Just testimony on reverse side)

New Member Applicant Testimony

Rebekah Just



I grew up in a strong Christian home with parents who emphasized teaching God’s word to my sister and me. At four years old, I accepted Jesus into my heart and was baptized the following summer. From then on, Christianity was the natural thing to do. It was my childlike fire insurance with little impact upon my life other than the Christian traits my parents had already instilled in me. This didn’t change until I was 13 years old, when my older cousin was killed in Iraq. After hearing his testimony repeatedly throughout the military funeral process, I realized there was something I was supposed to do with my faith. From then on, I began engaging in personal Bible reading and prayer and started taking ownership of my faith. I can’t claim that my spiritual growth has always been consistent, as there have been many dry and apathetic times over the years, but I know God isn’t done with my spiritual growth yet.

(Bryan Just testimony on reverse side)