

Testimony of Trevor Long



My childhood was quite church based with choir, Sunday school, cubs, scouts etc. After my teenage years in the sixties where church was not on the agenda I met my wife and very shortly we married and set up home and had our first daughter looking back although not having much money things came together. In 1974 we made a trip to Canada to see my mum and it was on the return to home that I became ill with loads of physical symptoms the worst being a constant need to the toilet (much later it was discovered I had IBS irritable bowel syndrome). At the time there seems no explanation and a real sense of depression and weakness and feeling constantly worn out. Exhaustive tests, pills and medicines followed but my wife kept me afloat, never letting me despair or fall into self pity also my love for my family and working to support them proved a hand hold to keep going.

Life continued and my second daughter was born. It was the visit of our health visitor in October 1976 that proved the turning point. She took me aside told me I was causing my wife great anxiety and suggest pulling myself together and offered me a book to read (Positive Thinking). This advice which I thought really, really annoying at the time, was to be the best. To be honest I would have bathed in cold custard or anything else to feel better.

That night Yvonne was out and after settling the girls down, I relaxed on the settee with coffee and cigar and opened the book. After just a page this marvellous, wonderful, warm feeling of absolute health welled up through my whole body, healed. What joy! I leapt to my feet, threw my arms in the air, then knelt to my God, thanked him and promised to follow him.

It was for me a further 10 years of learning Gods ways that I stood in my local church and promised to follow JESUS (confirmation). My symptoms did not disappear but was far above the problem and to this day I have trusted in the power of our Lord to sustain me. Since then it is my joy to share with others that by trusting in Jesus they can find new life, begin with a clean sheet. To put it in Christian jargon 'Repent of your sins and ask Jesus into your life'. It's quite a message but one that has life changing consequences the joy is in the telling but who knows what will happen to the one who hears and receives.

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