

## My God Story

I grew up in a Christian home and was very active in the Methodist church, but at age 16 my father had a heart attack. I prayed fervently for his healing and had no doubt God would heal him, but when he died, so did my belief in God's existence. This led to almost 35 years of broken relationships, anger and lack of forgiveness toward others, a lifestyle far from Christ's example, and a growing depression and despair which culminated seven years ago in my wanting to take my own life.

This story is not about despair, but about God's amazing love, grace and forgiveness. One evening in April 2001, at the lowest point in my life, I prayed a simple prayer. I told God my life was a mess and asked for His help. I finally took the loving hand that had been extended to me for so many years, and that night my life was forever transformed. All anger and depression were lifted, I asked forgiveness of everyone I had hurt and excitedly returned to worship and study of God's word. Talking with God once again became a part of my life.

Never does a day pass when I don't thank and praise God for hearing my simple prayer seven years ago and loving me so much that he forgave me after so many years of rejecting Him. I was so totally lost without Christ, but He gave up His very life so I could be forgiven and have a new life with Him. I will forever be in awe of his amazing love and grace. I now experience the joy and love that can only come through a relationship with Christ Jesus. Proverbs 3:5 is a verse I love and use as a guide in my life - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will direct your paths." Oh how the Lord directed my path! I now pray for His guidance in how I can best serve Him and that His will be done.

Becky