

Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation. To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. (2 Cor. 5:17-20)

*She told me* that she and her friend, Mary, were praying for me that I would do the same.

*I told her* that I thought I was going to heaven because I was a good person.

*I was nice* to people, went to church regularly, obeyed the Ten Commandments and I went to confession.

*Rita told me* I was going about it all wrong. She said *I needed* a personal relationship with Jesus:

So, Rita and her friend, Mary, asked me if I would meet with the pastor at their church. The date was August 12, 1990.

*I agreed* and during the meeting the pastor explained to me:

Why *I need* Jesus in my life and what *I needed* to do to ask Jesus into my life.

He told me *I needed* to admit that I was a sinner because the Bible says:

“All have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).

The *only way* back to God is through Jesus Christ.

*I needed* to realize that being a good person wasn't enough.

Because it is by God's grace and our faith that we are saved, and *it is a gift* of God:

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.” (Eph. 2:8-9)

*I needed* to believe that Jesus died for us sinners:

“But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet

sinners, Christ died for us.” (Rom. 5:8)

That our sin is forgiven by *the shed blood* of Jesus:

“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)

*I needed* to put my *faith* in Jesus alone for my salvation:

“And they said, Believe, on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.” (Acts 16:31)

and

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.” (John 14:6)

After the pastor explained why *I needed* to do this, *I prayed* with him and accepted:

“Jesus as my Savior!”

*Now the difference in my life is I know for sure I am going to heaven, instead of:*

“I think so.”

*Now I want to go to church and read the bible, instead of:*

“I have to.”

*Also, I want to be a good person because:*

“I am now a child of God.”

**Is life easier for me now?**

**No, not really, but:**

*I know that Jesus is with me during my life’s journey, and*

*I know that I am going to heaven.*

**I also want to say that God gave me another chance. About 40 years ago I was in, a very serious, car accident and was the only survivor out of four people. My neighbor told me that God wasn’t done with me yet.**

**At the time I wasn’t for sure what he meant by saying that, but now I understand:**

“The Lord is ... not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”  
(2 Pet. 3:9). Praise God!

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness — Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works — Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour.”

(1 John 1:9; Tit. 2:14; 3:5–6)

If you have not yet been saved *believe* in Jesus, that he died for your sins, paying your sin debt that was owed to God, that he was buried taking your sins away, and that he was resurrected victorious over Satan, sin, and death. Proclaim Jesus as your Lord and surrender your life to serve and follow him.

“Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.” (Isa. 1:18)

Mark’s testimony appears in the book: ***We Agree! The Tomb Is Open, CHRISTIANITY Vs. CATHOLICISM*** by Gary available at **Xulon Press**. View, read, share for **free**, “linked” online book at: [www.thekeysofheaven.com/online-book/](http://www.thekeysofheaven.com/online-book/)

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**MARK LENNARTZ**

## **MY CHRISTIAN TESTIMONY**

*My name is Mark, and this is how I have become a Christian.*

**I was born and raised in a loving caring Catholic family. My parents raised me the best they knew how.**

**They took me to church every Sunday and always told me that I had to go to church to learn about God and the Catholic faith.**

**On November 22, 1985, I married my wife, Rita, who was also Catholic.**

**Sometime in March of 1990 she came to me and said that she turned her life over to Jesus Christ and she felt as she was now, a whole new person and she knew she was going to heaven. I thought to myself “good, maybe she will settle down a little” because she lived a more outgoing lifestyle than I did.**

**Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:**

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