

Personal Testimony

My birthplace is Fairfield, a small town in Solano County. I was born on Sept. 30 1965. I was adopted (at birth) into the family of Frank and Helen Zych. Growing up I was a only child although I did have a step brother (Walter), and step sister (Nayomi). They were already adults when I was adopted, so I really had no siblings around to learn from or talk with as a kid —, to find out about life and the problems I might face. My first difficult memory was finding out I was not the birth son of Frank and Helen Zych. I found this out from Helen at age five. I was devastated by this. And by age eight I had already started smoking and getting high. This is how I escaped the reality of a bad home life of no communication, getting beaten physically, and abused mentally.

I do remember many happy times we shared together. But I still held a lot of bitterness inside against them, blaming them for my situation. This led to my disobedience, anger, my abuse of drugs and alcohol, and various crimes. I continued this behaviour even after being committed to a mental hospital for assaulting two police officers while under the influence of an assortment of drugs.

There were several things which led to my crime, (which was taking the life of a family member.) One of them was the sudden death of my step father. I was there the morning he passed away while waking me up for school. This really shattered me. Because one of the things he used to tell me was I'd never graduate, and all I'd ever be was a drunker bum. So his death caused me to use heavily. Plus we had a fight the night before and I wished him dead. So I was carrying around a lot of guilt. And my step mother didn't help any by making me feel the more guilty and shamed.

After being in prison for a number of years, The Lord started calling me in Solano State Prison.

He started with (Mark) a friend (and classmate) in my Vocational Industrial Electric Shop. The man was younger than I but he shared the gospel with me and stated "Hey how you such a nice guy why don't you give your life to Christ you know about him because we had previous talks. But I was too deeply involved with my addiction of drugs. God kept calling though."

Then came another man name (Pete) we never talked much but he shared a book with me called 1994 and according to this book fears was returning. This scared me because I grew up believing in fears and the devil and hell. But I never had personal relationship with God so I really didn't know what to do.

So I asked another man who I knew was a Christian (Scott) some questions. I really don't remember our conversation but I know what he said helped me. Cause I told my celly (Ernie) I was going to change my life and stop using drugs.

While waiting for my transfer to R.T.D. I experienced a lot of condemnation when I used drugs. Then I finally received my endorsement for R.T.D. And arrived there May 20, 1994. I met two men Daniel and Derek they helped bring me to Christ. They had no fancy words, no loud preaching, just the love of Christ extended to me. Then on May 29th 1994 I silently accepted Jesus Christ into my heart as my personal saviour while at the service of Pastor Jack in Chapel On The Rock.

Since that day God has delivered me from my addiction to any form of drug. He helped me stop smoking through much prayer. He has filled a broken heart with his love. Every day with the Lord in my life is better than the one before. He's given me peace, love for others, a family, good honest friends, and most of all a desire to know him and love him back.

I find myself growing closer to him each and every day. I'm learning how much he cares for me. I'm reminded that my walk with him is one of intimacy. Something I've never had in my life before.

He is also kind to me merciful, and answers prayer after prayer. When hard times come I can always depend on him. He's brought me through more than one. I really have to praise and thank him daily for his grace in my life.

I need to daily devote myself and my body to him as a living sacrifice Holy and acceptable Romans 12:1-2. Study diligently his word so I can apply it to my life and have a better understanding of his will in my life. This will help me develop a closer and more personal relationship that I desire to have with God. And help plant, water, a harvest for Jesus Christ. My goal is to be all the Lord wants me to be and finish the race until the day of the Lord.