

Eric Cockman - Testimony

I had the blessing of growing up in a Christian family. All of my earliest memories are all related to church. My Great Grandfather was a preacher and so is my father. So, church has always been a big part of my life. At the age of 5, I went forward during a VBS service with a bunch of my friends and got "saved". I didn't know what I was doing but everybody was doing it, so I did too. At this time our family was in a Free Will Baptist church, and they believe that you can lose your salvation. Because of this belief I always doubted what I had done as a child and would always repeat the "pray after me prayer" to try to make sure I was really saved.

When I was around 15, we got into an Independent Baptist Church and learned the doctrine of eternal security, and that it is Christ that keeps us saved. It is not something that we do. During this time, we also started hearing good, sound preaching about salvation and knowing that you are saved and the change that happens after true repentance. Unfortunately, because of my pride I would try to convince myself that I had been saved. Putting trust in being the preacher's kid and the fact that I had always been in church. While attending a tent revival on Sept 24, 1992, when I was 19 yrs old, I finally surrendered my pride and confessed that I truly was a sinner in need of salvation and repented of my sins and received Christ as my Savior. The Preacher was preaching in Matt 15:30-31, where Peter begins to sink and he cried out to the Lord to save him, and immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and saved him. That's what happened to me when I truly called out for salvation. The doubts that I always had were gone, shortly after salvation I was baptized at the Baptist church that we were attending. At 21, I was married to my wife Lorie, we have 4 kids and 5 grandkids. By God's grace and mercy, we have always stayed faithful to God's house and have raised our family by God word. Not perfectly but always striving to follow the Lord and be faithful to his house and his word. I can testify that God has always been faithful to his promises.

We have been attending Lighthouse for about 4 months and are excited to get plugged in to the ministry. One of the things that we love about the church is the real desire to grow people in the Lord and not just get people to attend.

One of my favorite verses is Psa. 1:1-3 Blessed is the man that walked not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

I can testify and God has proven himself faithful to this promise.