

## **Sophie Willis – Testimony**

Before I trusted in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, the most important person in my life was myself and people I had idolized due to lost focus on who really matters (God) and a disregard for his commandments. Based on Scripture, the sin in my life was the same as that which God views as sin and the penalty for such is separation from God and if left that way, eternal separation and death. Knowing that Jesus Christ came to earth to be crucified, risen again, and to be a perfect, eternal, and innocent sacrifice for our sins, he is a means for our salvation, forgiveness of our sins which we repent for, and a means through which we can have a relationship with God. His purpose for coming to Earth means that as much as I have sinned and fallen away from God, Jesus Christ's example and saving actions allow me to be saved, pardoning me from my sins which deserve punishment. I realized I needed to be saved when I was constantly unhappy and felt guilty for my repeating sin which caused me to wish I was not here. This feeling of helplessness for the irreversible sins I've committed brought me to the point of surrender to God. I truly repented which to me means taking responsibility for your sins and stop letting patterns repeat themselves which I learned about through my church family who spoke about the weight of sin and shared testimonies that helped me realize if I truly repented, God would understand and forgive me. After many times of saying I would and never taking action, I have finally really truly repented and fully surrendered my life to Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior around November 10th, 2025. Gary DeWitt II's love for God was an example and encouragement that helped lead me to where I am at now. Before I surrendered and accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior I was scared of God and avoided him but now I have a healthy fear and love for God which has increased significantly once I realized how caring, merciful, and good he is to sinners like me. Jesus Christ is my Savior and Lord and the one who I will dedicate my life to for his merciful and saving sacrifice which through him I am saved and I love him for his love that I don't deserve. As a believer the most important person in my life is God because he is the reason I'm still here and his love is inspiring. Now, the most important thing I do each day is focusing on God, evaluating and being intentional about every thought, word, and action, constantly communicating with God through prayer and reading. To serve God I read the word, pray to him, and try to find ways I can serve others. Before I was saved, I used to pray and read the word very little and I indulged in screens that I idolized. But now I pray more often, read my Bible and study it and I try to use the screens for God's glory through reading Scripture or related commentaries. God has blessed me with peace about my situation which I was never able to feel before I was saved. I have been blessed with so many friends who are strong believers who encourage and inspire through meaningful and edifying conversations to grow closer to God. Foundations has helped me by laying out the fundamentals of the faith, helping me hone in my focus on everything God has done for me and the action that needs to be taken to get closer to and be more like him. To encourage others to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ I will be faithful and live a life that serves as a witness to others as Christ has done for us. Romans 12:12 is a meaningful passage that has helped me in my walk with God.