

Testimony of Paul Askew

I grew up in a Methodist Church. I never learned how to be saved at the Methodist Church, it was never talked about. My parents left the Methodist Church when things were not been done the way they should be. Somebody invited us to go to Buckley Road Baptist Church. The Bible was taught there and learned that you needed to be saved to go to heaven. I was around 12 or 13 years old and one Sunday morning I went forward to be saved. Norm Gore showed me from the Bible how to be saved. I thank the Lord for this day in my life. When I was 15 years old we moved to Indiana for my Dad to have a job. I was always involved with church but not always serving the Lord the way I should. After a neighbor complained about my landscaping business I moved back to New York. When my dad retired I built a small greenhouse to grow nursery stock in. Dad wanted to grow some flowers so I ordered some plants for him. He loved growing plants. One day when I was at work I was called off the job and was told I needed to go home. My dad had a heart attack while driving and went off the road and died. This was something that we would have never expected to happen. We never know when the Lord is going to call us home. After this it was just me and mom here and I put another greenhouse up and mom loved growing plants. I was going to church but not serving the Lord the way I should. In the mid 90's I opened up a garden center but had a lot of struggles with this. In all honesty I believe this was not the Lords will for me and it was what I wanted.

Mom loved working in the greenhouses and I believe this is what kept her alive so long after dad had passed away. One early spring day I came up to get the laundry in off the line for mom around 3 pm, did not know that would be the last time I would be able to talk to her. I called mom on our 2 way radios around 5pm and she did not answer. Waited till 6pm and she

still did not answer so I came up to the house to see what was wrong. I found her in her bathroom gasping for breath, she had a severe stroke. She was taken to the hospital and we ended up pulling life support off because too much damage to the brain. This was the hardest week of my life watching mom die. I had taken care of her for 20 years after dad had passed away. Something I will tell anyone that still has their parents, is to thank them for all they do for you. I did not thank my parents enough. When I get to heaven that will be one of the first things I will do is thank mom and dad.

After moms' death I got very discouraged and let things go with my business. Was not putting all my faith in God as I should have. We always need to be ready to meet the Lord; we never know when he may call us home to be with him. There were many days I had thought of ending my life. I know this is not what the Lord wants us to do. I decided to try attending another church in the country, this was one of the better things I had done in my life. Pastor Lagoe and pastor Kinney were a real encouragement to me. The messages here helped me draw closer to the Lord than had been in a long time. There is no reason I should even still be alive, because I fell asleep driving so many times. The Lord had his hand on the steering wheel so many times for me.

I tried to sell my business and thought a young man was going to buy it and moved to Virginia and was working there. It was a real pretty place to live and found a good church to attend. The sale fell through and ended up moving back to New York. Was working the greenhouses growing hydroponic lettuce, but did not have enough sales to really keep it going. Got very discouraged in March of 2018 and was not paying attention to what the Lord wanted me to do and decided to end my life. It was a very snowy day and decided I would walk through the woods and jump in the creek behind my house. Sat there for quite a while and could not do it. Came back home and called pastor

Lagoe and he did not answer his phone. I left a message that I wanted to end my life. I decide to go and try jumping in the creek again. Did not do it and laid in the snow a very long time until the state police found me. After being in the hospital in Syracuse under 24- hour surveillance they moved me to a mental ward in Rome New York. Pastor Lagoe was very mad at me for doing this, he had the right to be. When in the mental ward the Lord brought me to my senses and I asked him to forgive of what I had done. I was able to have testimony to all the nurses and doctors there. Spent most of my time in my room reading the Bible. I was released after only three days there. This was the Lords will for this to happen, because the doctor said that was not normal. Nobody in their right mind would want to be in a place like that. The lord has been so good to me even when I have made so many mistakes.

In April of 2018 the business was not making enough money to keep things going. The Lord was still suppling my needs as he always did for me. I decided to put the business up for sale again. This time I told the Lord I would go where he wanted me to go and do what he wanted me to do. I put everything that I had in the Lords hands and wanted his leading and direction in my life. Started looking for a job closer to my sister and brother in the Midwest. Had two companies that wanted to interview me. One was in Indiana and the other was in Minnesota. Talked these offers over with pastor Lagoe and prayed to the Lord on what direction to take. Decided to take the job in Indiana. When I went there for the interview they had all kinds of crafts and signage around their shop with things talking about God. Thought they might be Christians but found out very fast after working for them a short while they were not Christians, but they did go to church. They blamed all their problems on their managers for the reasons why the business was not going well. The Lord will judge all of us for what we do and how we act. I worked very hard for them and many hours there even on Sundays when it was supposed to be my day off.

The reason the Lord may have sent me to this job was to be a testimony to the employees. When leaving work one day one of the employees and I had gotten into a discussion about the Lord. I was able to share my testimony with her. This was an encouragement to her and thank the Lord for this.

On September the 1st one of the employees and I were loading a large tree on a customer's truck. Did not know I had hurt my back until two days later. Had x-rays done and had a number of issues going on. Was told I should not be picking up anything heavy. Went back to work after several days off. The one day my left leg went totally numb. The owner's wife said she had a waiver she wanted me to sign and left it on my desk. The waiver was they would not be responsible for me on the property, refused to sign it and decide it was better to quit than be fired. Now being out of work, no insurance and having health problems. I have found out many times when we put our faith and trust in God how he will supply our needs. Not only did I have all the pains in my back and leg, but then ended up with shingles. The Lords has allowed me to get insurance and some treatment with doctors. He is suppling my needs each week with finances that I have not expected. After going to physical therapy my pains are finally about gone. I figure I will have to live with a numb leg but this is ok if this is what the Lord wants. The owners where I had worked lied to workers comp about my situation with my back issues so I was denied any compensation. They are the ones who will have to live with what they have done. The lord has been so good to me with everything he has done. I am waiting on him for what he wants me to do next. I know he has a plan for me otherwise I would not still be alive.

My life verse: Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. Jeremiah 33:3

Romans Road Map to Heaven

1. As it is written, there is none righteous, no not one. Romans 3:10
2. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Romans 3:23
3. But God commendeth his love toward us, In that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8
4. Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned; Romans 5:12
5. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 6:23
6. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10: 9-10
7. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Romans 10:13

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Pastor Dan Kemp

Hello, my name is

Paul Askew



***And
This is my
Story...***