



TESTIMONY

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As a child, I didn't care about church. In truth, I came to church out of habit, and believed that I could passively "believe" in Christ, let him forgive my sins, and move on with life.

This was in the beginning of middle school, three years ago. I was the antithesis of most everything a good Christian should be, save the "Going to church" part. It's hard to define shining moment when I resolved to become a Real Christian, but I remember thinking very philosophically in general at the time. Thoughts such as, "What matters in the world" and "The world is meaningless without religion" constantly scrambled across my mind.

It was through God's grace that Pastor Bajewski happened to come to our church when I had begun to entertain such thoughts. He showed me that "God and logic go hand in hand," quoted from the man himself.

My Christian life grew exponentially at the beginning of this academic year because of this. I remember just coming to church one Friday and bringing Pastor Bajewski a list of problems I had with Christianity or even theism in general. This was, in my opinion, an important milestone for my Christian life. I had finally begun seeking Christ with all my heart, and owed most of it to Pastor Bajewski.

I had always been blessed with a decent head for philosophy, and I remember being a very large nuisance to my Sunday school teachers because of it. I saw numerous problems in my mind with Christianity, but eventually chose to take no notice of them. Christianity was, after all, a tool to get into heaven. It was a "death insurance" of which I had to pay for by sacrificing a morning every week. Once I took Jesus seriously, though, all my questions, thoughts, and feelings came pouring out of my heart. Pastor Bajewski

was there to scoop them back in.

There were numerous favorable factors in my life that allowed me to become a strong Christian, which, I am sure, I will be thankful for for the rest of my life. My older brother, Richard, was one of the largest, as he gave me an example of a strong Christian and showed me God's grace and love. I don't like to think about where I'd be if it weren't for him.

Pastor Bajewski, on the other hand, was clearly the other gargantuan influence on my Christian life. It was through him that I learned what love really was and came to understand how much love matters in life, and the concept that *God is Love*. I can never be thankful enough to him, whose presence had astounding affects on my life.

Both my brother and Pastor Bajewski were prime examples of Christ in action in my life. They both loved me enormously through all my mistakes, grievances, and injuries. I know I definitely wouldn't be here now if it weren't for them.

God had an amazing effect on how I treat others and how I love other people. I was very clearly a sinner back then, to say the least. When Christ was factored in, I began a total 180 in my life, socially, academically, politically, and theologically. Pastor Bajewski played an amazing role in bringing me to Christ, while my brother Richard has helped me grow as a Christian a great deal. I found out a great deal of how a Christian should live and act through Richard. I think he helped immensely in crossing the barrier of loving others and taking into consideration their thoughts and feelings.

But above all, I think that it was Christ speaking to me through these two people, and that he's found just astounding ways of communicating to me what he wants, and nurturing me and allowing me to grow. Christ's love was and is incredible in how he guided me through my brother and pastor. Through the course of writing this testimony, I've realized how much God has nurtured me and guided me through the bad times in life, and how so many things I thought would utterly destroy me were actually leading me towards a brighter future.