

## Cindy's Testimony

Our dad was a "do as I say not as I do" kind of guy. He was always drinking and running around on Mom. Mom suffered from mental illness, and spent all her time chasing Dad. I spent all my time trying to cope with all the madness.

I started smoking pot at age ten. Then I stole meds (speed) from friends who had asthma. At 12, I advanced to dropping acid, LSD—virtually anything that I could to escape the pain of home life, and the pain of being molested by various extended family members.

I got pregnant at 14. The abortion further destroyed my life. The guilt, shame and embarrassment it caused me and my family was almost unbearable for all of us. It sent me into deeper and harder use of drugs, alcohol, and sex ...

There were three Christian girls at school who were *different*. They were always kind to me. They kept telling me about their Jesus—how much He loved them and how much He loved me. But I knew He couldn't and wouldn't want to be mine too!

They invited me to a free concert. I thought, "Cool, I'll get stoned and go." As the music started, I felt the Holy Spirit move through the auditorium and through me. Then Greg Laurie shared about his life and his conversion — how much Jesus loves him, and loves me too and wants to forgive my sins. I accepted Jesus into my heart and left the concert still high, but on Jesus!

Even though I strayed early on, God never left my side—seeing me through every trial and every victory.

With the support of Christian friends and "The Most Excellent Way," constant fellowship with the Lord, attending Church regularly, studying God's love letter (the Bible) every day, I now live the victorious life.

Two Scriptures have helped me through some rough times:

II Corinthians 10:5 —
"We demolish arguments and every pretension
that sets itself up against the knowledge of
God, and we take captive every thought
to make it obedient to Christ."

Romans 12:1-2 —

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy,
to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—
which is your spiritual worship.
Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—
His good and pleasing and perfect will."

God bless! and God bless "The Most Excellent Way."

Cindy and her husband, Bill, were "The Most Excellent Way" Ministry & Meeting Leaders at Calvary Chapel Atascadero, CA for many, many years — producing much fruit for the Lord! ■