



Scott's Testimony

In 1996 I was living a double life. I was a restaurant manager by day, but at night nothing was going well at home. Fifteen years of drinking everyday had an effect on everything I held dear. We struggled emotionally, physically, and financially. As husband and father, I was angry and distant most of the time. My source of security was that I didn't drink in the morning and I held a good job. I was okay, though things didn't make sense to me. I had no idea how much my drinking affected all areas of my life.

The day my wife left us, I decided I'd better get some help. After being sober for five months by working the AA steps, I ran into my former boss—Pete told me of my need to accept Jesus into my life as Lord, and asked if I prayed. When I said I did pray, he suggested I ask God if He wanted me to accept Jesus and He would let me know.

Before leaving home for Church the next morning, I asked God to let me know. As worship started in Church, I was overcome with emotion. If I had tried to sing, I would have broken down crying. God let me know what He wanted me to do—at 31! I prayed for Jesus to forgive me for all my mistakes [sins] and for trying to do everything myself. A peace came

over me. The load I had been carrying alone was lifted.

Since then, much has happened. Not all of it has been easy, but I see God's hand in it all. My wife never came back, and after three years of separation, we divorced. I became a single parent—God transformed my relationship with my daughter.

During this time, God opened the door for me to go back to college for my teaching degree. I graduate Spring, 2003.

God brought "The Most Excellent Way" into my life, and I see my attitudes changing toward His ways. I've seen many men, women, and children come and receive and walk in the hope Jesus gives us. Nothing is more exciting than seeing lives changed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Today I rest on *Jeremiah 29:11*: "*For I know the thoughts I think toward you,*" says the LORD, "*thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.*"

I know whatever the Lord has for me in the future will be with Him and to His glory — *if I surrender each day to Him.* ■