

Engaging Stories

of God's Grace

Fall
Edition

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HE LIVES

Words and
ALFRED
Arranged by S

Morziale $\text{♩} = 80$

mf I serve a sin - en Sav - or. He's in the world to - day - - -

W - ing what - ev - er men may say - - - I see His hand

hear His voice of cheer - - - And just the time I need Him - He's

He lives - He lives - - - Christ Je - sus lives - to - day - - -
a tempo

People wonder if God is "real" today. Our testimony is overwhelmingly, "He is!!" The old hymn stated it this way: "You ask me how I know He lives, He lives within my heart."

The stories here are meant to engage all of us by hearing how God is at work in the lives of His people. Our prayer is that you may know Him better and be encouraged in your pursuit of Him.

Pastor Pat

Recently, when I was at my hairdressers I asked the Lord to give me an opportunity to talk to her about God. As we were talking she was saying that all her kids are grown and she has a lot of time on her hands. I asked her if she liked to read. She said she did and her kids had even gotten her a Kindle recently. We talked about what kind of books she liked to read and I mentioned I had a couple authors that I really enjoyed. I offered to drop off a couple books for her to try to see if she would want to order books from those authors on her Kindle. She said sure. The books I ended up dropping off were written by Christian authors and I am looking forward to discussing them at my next appointment. I was so excited for the opportunity God gave me to share with her and in a way I never expected.

-Anonymous



I have been praying for my sister's salvation for sixteen years since becoming a Christian myself. I have also been praying for a successful treatment of her neck and tongue cancer, and relief from the incredible pain she is going through since being diagnosed with it a few months ago. I was over visiting her recently and was heartbroken to see the agony of her pain, non-stop nausea, weight loss and lack of sleep. I felt like God wanted me to pray for her while I was with her, but I ignored the feeling as she had never wanted to talk about God in the past, and I don't like praying out loud.

As I was walking out the door after my visit I heard my sister sobbing inside. I stopped dead in my tracks with tears in my eyes. I knew I had to go back in! I didn't know what I was going to do or say but asked God to give me the words.

I sat down with her, held her hand and told her how much I loved her and wished I could make her cancer and pain go away. I then began telling her about the faith and hope that I have in God, and my relationship with Him. I spoke about the really bad time in my life when I realized I needed God and invited Him into my life. I shared with her my worst sins, and how they were forgiven because of what Jesus did for me on the cross. I tried to explain why these terrible things happen in life because of a fallen world. These words seemed to calm her. She was open to what I was saying. I told her that she could have this hope too.

I never pray out loud with people except for grace at meals but knew I needed to now. I prayed for God to help relieve her pain and discomfort, cure her cancer, and to reveal Himself to her in a way that she would know He was real. I told her that I would get her a Bible and we would talk soon or anytime she wanted.

She was more relaxed as I left her. I thanked God for giving me a second chance that day to share my faith with her. But I felt that I may not have been as understandable as I wanted to be with her.

I picked her up a few days later to take her to Roswell for her radiation treatment. I was anxious to see how she was doing and what her thoughts were about God. I was pleased to see she was feeling much better. Her new pain meds were working well. Along with less pain, she could now eat and drink a little and even sleep some.

My sister told me that she was so grateful that I had come back in to her house a few days ago. My concerns about my shortcomings on our talk about God were dispelled. She told me that she knew God was real to me by my honesty and passion about what I had said. I gave her a Message Bible, and we talked some more. I prayed with her again. At the end of our time together, she professed a saving faith in God through Jesus Christ. I was elated and so humbled.

God wanted to use me to help bring my sister to faith but my original resistance to Him almost caused that not to happen. We are taught to share our reason for hope and faith in God whenever the opportunity arises. Don't shy away from that great honor as I almost did. God will help you say the right thing.

Russ Lockie