

## A WORD OF TESTIMONY

### “No small print! “I’ll take you as you are”

I was the eighth child in a family of four girls and six boys. We lived in a little house off the Shankill Road . Both my parents were saved and from an early age. I was sent to Sunday Schools, taken to meetings and children’s meetings, which I loved. I can remember the songs and verses like, I Am H.A.P.P.Y. & We Are Going To A Mansion On The Happy Day Express. One song always stayed with me.

I’ve a soul to be saved,  
May this truth be engraved,  
On my heart and mind while I’m young  
Oh how awful the cost  
If my soul should be lost  
In hell if I die I am...

When I think of the faithfulness of the teachers it puts me to shame. As I got older my new friends didn't go to the meetings, so I didn't want go. My sisters used to drag me to the front door and Mr. Kane took over from there, with a crack on the back of the head with his Bible. I remember thinking when I'm older no one will tell me where to go and what to do.

As a boy growing up I lay in bed at night afraid to sleep knowing I was not saved. I would check my mum and sisters were still there in case the Lord had come and I was left behind. As I got older I came to the conclusion, I was going to hell.

I left school and home to train as a chef, I liked the work and it took my mind of my need of salvation most of the time! At least no one told me what to do. I joined the army for a short time (199 days) and I was drinking. I couldn't have the sergeant major telling me what to do so I left and went back to being a chef in London.

I got married and had three children. Although I was not saved I made sure my three children were given the chance to know the Lord. I still thought that I was going to hell but I didn't want to be responsible for taking my children with me so I made sure that they went to Sunday School Meetings etc. When I heard of other people getting saved I was so happy for them.

I worked with a chap in a night club and he went to a meeting one night, he enjoyed it and wanted to go the next night, which he did and got saved. I was so happy for him. He didn't want to come drinking any more or work nights. I told him the Lord would look after him. I spoke to the boss and he gave the chap a day job although we didn't open during the day.

I went occasionally to meetings and enjoyed it, but I presumed that the Lord would not save me. I still thought that I was going to hell.

My wake up call came very painfully when my son was rushed to hospital with a killer strain of meningitis. Two specialists told me to get my wife as my son was about to die. I remember I couldn't breathe with the shock, all I could think was, I had turned my back on God's Son, now He had turned His back on me. I was in turmoil, I went into a disable toilet, got on my knees in tears and begged God to spare my son. I never said I would get saved, I said there would never be a day I would ever forget it. I got up, washed my face, and went for my wife.

We went into the I.C.U. the specialist said my son has 30 minutes to live. He looked surprised when I told him my son wouldn't die. I knew that the Lord had answered my prayer. I'll never forget how the doctors couldn't understand how this boy didn't die. I knew that the Lord had spared him. From that day I got my priorities in order, I stopped drinking and gambling and went to any meeting that was on, yet I couldn't feel anything. I thought that I would never be saved, I was lost. I kept thinking God spared my son but He didn't spare His own Son.

Pastor Garrett had given me a tract about the Israelites coming out of Egypt. There was a phrase “When I see the blood” I couldn't get it out of my mind. That night, 10th February I went out for a walk, it was about 11.30pm. I had been to Portrush Baptist the week before, Billy Kennedy was preaching. He said to me as I went out, “George, cash the cheque, unless you take the cheque to the bank, it's just a bit of paper”. My problem was I was depending on my feelings, I didn't need to work at it for Jesus had done it all. I was full of doubts from satan and was about to give up when I remembered a chorus “Trust In The Lord And Don't Despair He Is A Friend So True, No Matter What Your Troubles Are, Jesus Will See You Through”

I went home and in the bathroom I got on my knees, I told the Lord that I was a sinner and didn't want to go another day without Him. I asked Him into my heart and knew nothing but the blood of His Son could wash my sin away. I decided, no more depending on feelings, I was taking the Lord at His Word, “Come unto me and I will give you rest”

Friend take it from me there is no Small Print, three days later all my passed sins came back to haunt me, but for all my past sins the Lord says “I will remember them no more”. Friend don't depend on thoughts or feelings, just take the Lord at His Word.

*George Mc*

*Knight*