

## **A WORD OF TESTIMONY**

Growing up, like so many of my generation, I was taken to Church and sent to Sunday School every week but, sad to say, for me it was something I was made to do and not something I wanted to do.

Looking back now I realise I never really listened or thought about what was being taught.

I was in my teens when I came to live in Portrush. I left school, got a job and as far as I was concerned everything was going well. I went to Church and Gospel Hall meetings every Sunday evening with my Dad but still kept a closed ear to all that was being said. It was not until I started attending a small home Bible Study group of young people that I began to really listen to the discussions on the Bible and through these, I came to realise that, although I thought I was living a good life, the truth was, that by God's standards I was a sinner and needed His salvation. I became really concerned about this and after the study one night I stayed behind to talk to the leaders. They showed me from the Bible the only way of salvation through verses like Ephesians 2 vs 8 & 9 ***“For by Grace are ye saved through faith: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast”*** And ***John 3 v 16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”***

That night I trusted Christ as my own and personal Saviour believing the promise in His Word. ***“Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out”*** John 6 v 37.

At the time, because of my Church based lifestyle, outwardly it did not make a noticeable difference, but inwardly I had great peace and contentment, knowing that my eternity was eternally settled and secure in the Lord Jesus Christ.

That was over 30 years ago and although to my shame I have let the Lord down many times, He has never been a disappointment to me, and I truly thank God for His great grace and mercy in saving me, keeping me and, one day, taking me to be with Him in Heaven.

***George Hutchinson***