

I grew up in a very controlling household. Both of my parents were strict, but my father was much more so. I was, for the most part, a parent's "dream" child; obedient, straight A's, nice friends, and in high school, I was involved in activities from National Honor Society, Student Council to Drill Team. And a lot in between. I attended church with my mom weekly, was involved in youth activities and in early adulthood served on the church Board of Trustees. And yet, I never grew up knowing Jesus was sinless, and I know now my church was very liberal; the teaching was NOT good, and was very political. I didn't have a personal relationship with the Lord at all. At the time, though, I literally had no idea what I was missing. I met my high school sweetheart in my junior year of high school. He was even more controlling than my father. Being used to this; I didn't think a lot of it at the time. Control was a normal dynamic for me in a loving relationship. I married my high school sweetheart after more than eight years. He was Catholic, so I left my Presbyterian church to join his faith; but Catholicism was a largely hollow and meaningless experience for me. When my husband died some years later, I floundered; looking for hope anywhere and everywhere. I tried to pray, it didn't help. I tried reading the Bible, which also didn't help and I didn't seem to understand it very well. I met with my priest who said he envied my protestant upbringing because spontaneous prayer was not something Catholics really did. I was crushed by that statement. My priest couldn't help me either. I tried a few churches, nothing seemed to reach me where I needed to be reached. One day, a friend gave me a Lon Solomon CD and so I decided to try a McLean Bible Church service. I walked into the service and heard a sermon by Lon Solomon on "God's Unconditional Love" and it hit me right where I was. I had never felt that unconditional love from anyone in my life. I wept, and gave my life to Christ on the spot and have never looked back. I met the Lord Jesus Christ at McLean Bible Church. The Lord used Lon Solomon to reach me and I am forever grateful.

Anonymous