

Testimony of Josiah Robinson

Good morning, I'm Josiah Robinson I'm 15 and I am a pupil at Chipping Campden School.

Many of you probably know me somehow or another and the regulars of this church will probably recognize me as the teen who sits behind the tech desk occasionally.

In fact I have been coming to this church since before I was born so that's over 15 years. I have lots of good memories about church.

I have grown up in a Christian family with both my parents being Christians since before I was born.

I became a Christian in 2002 when I was 10 on a "Warrior Kids Camp Over" which my dad has run for the past 9 years.

It was the year that James PTL (which stood for praise the lord) was asked to speak. I don't remember exactly what happened that weekend but I know that I made that step to say "Yes Jesus I want you in my life".

For the next few years I got to know Jesus a bit better but it was not until last year (2006) that I really started to get so close to God.

Last year I went to Soul Survivor with Vicky Dunlop, Paul and Nellie Crouch and a group of youth from Cornerstone. Soul Survivor is a week of worship and teaching aimed specifically at young people. There were thousands of young people there. During the worship sections I felt closer to God more than I had ever before.

When I came back I was feeling much more in touch with God than I had before. I then started to go to the cell group lead by Brenda and Edmund. This was really good because it meant that I could get to know some Christians I didn't know already know, as well as getting to know Christians I already knew better.

It also helped my faith in God to grow and my relationship with him to get stronger.

Last Christmas I went on the New Years Eve house party with some people from the cell group. I connected with God a bit for the first couple of nights during the worship but one night I could just not connect to God. This was confusing and so I just spent the evening praying that I would put aside all of the things that were getting in the way.

The next night there was a really strong presence of the Holy Spirit and I just couldn't stop worshipping that night and you can ask anyone who was in my dorm for the house party. And even though that has died down a bit now but I have been much more in contact with God living with him more than I used to.

So what's different about praying now than praying before I was close to God?

When I used to talk to God as if he was a good friend of my parents but now I pray to him as my own friend.

But it's more than that because I know that I am talking to somebody who is really powerful.

And in times of worship when I am operating the sound desk I used to just sit there and not really do anything after I had set the levels for each song but now I set the levels at the start of each song and then worship.

I would like to explain what it feels like to know God close but it is so different to anything else that it is difficult to describe.

But if I could explain it properly I am sure that I would use words like:

Good, exciting, strange sensation, alive, emotional, secure,

Why am I getting baptised?

Well for the last few baptismal services I have felt like God was telling me that he wanted me to get baptised. And then when Phil was speaking on baptism one service I really felt God saying to me that I should get baptised. And also because I believe Jesus died for me saving me from evil and took my sins away.

Thanks

Josiah