

## A WORD OF TESTIMONY

I was born on 15th April 1969 into a working class home and raised in Carnmoney, Co Antrim. A family of four boys, we were well disciplined and my mum and dad worked very hard to keep us well fed and clothed . My parents were not saved and we did not attend church but when I was five years old a gospel work commenced in Ballyduff housing estate which was close to our home. We were sent each week to the Sunday school and it was there we first heard the gospel message .

Mum was saved in 1976, my father had always been very hostile to the gospel and Christians but in October 1977 some months after my youngest brother was badly burned on holidays he too was saved and our home changed forever - praise God.

We faithfully attended Ballyduff Gospel Hall and have very happy memories of growing up among what could only be described as an extended family, who fellowshiped together in church, in each others homes and on holidays. During those years I made a number of professions of salvation and outwardly I lived a Christian life' but I never had any real assurance. My teenage years were spent going to meetings, even getting baptized and on the other hand I was drinking and getting lured deeper and deeper into the things of the world. When I was 20 I stopped going to church and, like the prodigal, headed into a far country.

I commenced full time employment selling cars at that time, and the next eight years were spent enjoying the pleasures of the world, which last for only a season.

In mid February 1997 I began to be convicted of my sin. I didn't have much sleep for the next two weeks as I tossed and turned at night concerned for my soul, and that this might be my last opportunity.

On the evening of the 27th February I decided to speak to my father , I was very confused about my spiritual state before God because of years of empty professions but my father give me wise advice that night. He told me to open Gods word at Matthew chapter one and verse one and start reading, and said if I was serious about salvation God would show me the way through His word. As he was leaving to go to bed, he told me not to leave the room until I got the matter sorted.

At about 3.30am I read these words in Matthew chapter 7 and verse 16, "Ye shall know them by their fruits". For the first time in my life I was sure I wasn't saved and so I just knelt before the Lord and said sorry for my sins, asked Him to forgive me for my sins and simply trusted in the finished work of Calvary.

Tony Moore .