



I came to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Savior after several near-death encounters and from a kidney stone problem from birth. The events below will show how God saved me from all these tragedies so in the future I would come to know Him. God also used these events to turn my heart toward Him over time.

I was born in 1947 with a stone in my left kidney which gave me much trouble in my first 18 months of life. Then my doctor decided I needed to have the stone removed, so surgery was done. I almost died from infection and a fever of 106 degrees. They packed me in ice to bring the fever down. By the grace of God I survived.

When I was 3 years old I was running in the house with a table fork and fell. The fork went into the upper part of my nose between my eyes and close to the brain. The doctors operated and saved my life. I survived again.

At age 6 my family, which included my dad, mom and sister, were hit head-on by a drunk driver who was doing 70 miles per hour. No seat-belts in those days. We survived the crash but all of us had injuries, with my mom having the worst, having slid under the dashboard. **I survived yet again.** 

In 1956, in the third grade, I was running on the playground and hit some low hanging bars head on and split the top of my head open. I had a 6-inch-long crack so that my brain was showing. I almost died at the scene, but God had other plans for me. I survived.

What about those kidney stones? Well, from 1948 to 1968 I continually passed small kidney stones every three to six months non-stop, but they never got big enough to have surgery; just provided much pain. However, at age 20 I began to make big kidney stones and the surgeries began. The surgeries included cutting me open from the armpit to the belly button so surgery could be done on my kidney. Recovery time in the hospital was one to two weeks, and I had limited activity for the next six months. I had a desk job and was allowed to work.

**Beginnings of my salvation.** In 1971, at age 24, the doctors said my kidney situation was bad enough that I could die in the next six months. I began to remember all the above accounts of my life, and I started to ask myself why has God kept me alive all these years to possibly allow me to die now. Well, after looking back over my "24" years of life I see now that God was trying to get my attention, but I couldn't see it at the time. With the doctors saying I might only have six months left to live I began to really think about what was on the other side of this life, and I knew nothing of it. At my job I had become friends with a born-again Christian. He knew I was really sick, so he began to tell me about Jesus and His offer of eternal life. At first I was listening but not responding, but in a couple of months it seemed what he was showing me in the Bible began to make sense. I began to go to church with him and his wife and continued to study the Bible with him. He showed me in the Bible that before a Holy God I was a sinner and that Jesus went to the cross to pay the price for my sins. He shared with me that the only thing I needed to do was to accept Jesus Christ as my personal savior and I would be forgiven of all my sins, and He would give me eternal life and the promise to live forever with Him.

**How I was saved.** On a Sunday night after church, October 3, 1971, at 10 p.m., I called my Christian friend to come to my home and pray with me so I could accept Jesus Christ as my personal savior. He came, and we kneeled down in front of my couch and I prayed and asked Jesus Christ into my heart and life. I didn't die as the doctors thought, but it was God who brought me to that low point in my life so I would look up to Jesus and receive Him, God the Son, Jesus Christ, as my personal savior and be eternally secure in Him.

**Life after I was saved.** After accepting Jesus Christ as my personal savior I've never looked back. Today, in 2013, I am 66 years old and have served the Lord 42 years non-stop. I've been used of the Lord in many avenues, and I am still serving. I have had "44" kidney stone surgeries since being saved and in 2006 I almost died of West Nile and I am now a tri-pelagic in a wheelchair from that disease. I can, by the Lord's Grace, still use my voice and one hand for the Lord. The Lord has been so gracious to my wife and myself.

# Will you ask Jesus Christ to be your personal Savior?

# What is our problem before a Holy and Righteous God? We have sinned.

Romans 3:23: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

### What does God ask of us? To receive Jesus Christ as our personal Savior?

<u>Romans 10:9-10:</u> "If you **confess** with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe in your heart** that God has raised Him from the dead, **you will be saved**. For with the **heart** one believes unto righteousness, and with the **mouth** confession is made unto salvation.

# More Help?

Contact this website for more information and help in answering any questions you might have.

# Editor's Note:

On August 8, 2006 Mike became sick with "West Nile". He almost died in the first two weeks, and became paralyzed, possibly for life. You can read about his struggles with "West Nile" under the category "**Real Life Experiences**".