

## STORIES OF GRACE

Members of our church family share their stories of Grace.

*Sanford Smith*

I grew up with the tutelage that if something is true it could be repeated with the same results time and time again. This ONE thing hindered me for years and years in my belief in God. This might seem like a lame reason to you (and to me it does now) but I was raised with physics, biology, organic chemistry, algebra, calculus, more organic chemistry, anatomy, and other science courses as my program of study.

In 1978, at the age of 20, I started to attend West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia with the intent of majoring in chemistry. I was exposed to many different religions which was good because I was searching. I took a course in Buddhism and another in Taoism.

I guess I did believe in a God, a supreme being, but I was not very sure about the Bible and Jesus. Again, that whole science background got in my way. Why couldn't anything be proven?

At the Student Union Center, a central gathering point for students booths were set up on a weekly basis. These not only dealt with religion but with music, politics, armed forces, you name it. There were ones there for Hinduism, the Army, Wicca and many others I can't remember.

The one that reached out to me was Campus Crusade for Christ. One of my friends got involved with that one and started to minister to me. I was hooked. I started to go along with him to prayer meetings and Bible readings. It was great. I just could not get over the Bible readings and what relevance they had to today's world, even though they were written thousands of years ago. And the awesome fact that Jesus died on the cross to save me!!!

I went from absolute belief in chemical reactions, like when silver nitrate solution is poured over a solution of sodium chloride, a white precipitate of silver chloride will always form. ( $\text{AgNO}_3 + \text{NaCl} = \text{AgCl}$ ) This will always be observed!

I stopped questioning the whys, and started praising God for the results. I just accept God as the REASON!

