

Michelle's Testimony



Hi my name is Michelle Kouzi. I grew up in an orthodox background. I always believed that God existed but I never took complete trust in him with my life. I always thought I can fix things on my own and I can change myself. I never really

thought of hell and always thought I was a 'good person' compared to everyone else, which was the biggest trick the devil played on me. I also thought I can just pick and choose what I want to follow from the bible and use it like a menu. Now I realize God doesn't compare me to everyone else, he compares me to Jesus Christ's perfection.

I never really understood the true meaning of Jesus dying on the cross. I always knew that it had happened and what people told me about it, but I never really understood it.

When I was about 16 it all began. I came from a home where we thought we knew God but we were all empty inside. Therefore I felt my life was worthless, and that there was no point of me being here on this earth. I didn't care about myself and what will happen to me. So whenever I went out I wanted to let go and have no responsibility, thinking that will make me happy. Which in fact, whenever I went partying, drinking and clubbing with my friends, I might have been happy for that night but the next day, everything is back to normal again. I never was able to feel true joy. Just that very short moment of being happy then it goes. I then thought if I keep busy I won't have time to think about my miserable life. So I got a second job and worked from 7.30 in the morning till the middle of the night, trying to give myself no time to think about how dead I was inside. Once again that didn't work. I was thirsty to fill that hole in my heart but none of the things of the world fulfilled it.

My self esteem issues from the pressure of the world, made me hate myself, my body and how I looked. I was never happy and content with myself and my appearance. I kept trying to find things that I can fix on myself. But I came to see, that the more I tried to fix, the more things I found that I didn't like. I eventually got really self conscious, that I couldn't look at someone in the face when talking to them, and I didn't want them looking at me.

When I hit my 20 years of age I preferred to always stay in my comfort zone at home. I became bitter and pushed all my friends and family away, and very rarely I let anyone new into my life. I hated talking to people and didn't like them talking to me.

Throughout my life I was always one of the stronger ones in the family and I tried to always fix things and help my family. Putting all my energy and strength towards trying to help them, thankfully kept me away from much evil in the world as all my thoughts were consumed about how to help my family. But by this point there was so many, that I had broken down and to my surprise I couldn't carry anything on my shoulders anymore.

Then one day all of a sudden my mum became a whole new person, she became always happy at home and dealt with all troubles really well. It shocked me. I didn't know what had happened to her that changed her in one day; all I knew was that I liked it. God came into my mum's life and changed her in a way that I never thought was possible. But God is great and anything is possible with him. What I've been trying to do my whole life, God did it with the click of a finger. Matthew 11:28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

After this my mum and Jackie tried talking to me about God but I was getting irritated and I didn't want to hear it. Danielle and I were always very close together, and we used to spend every Saturday shopping

together in the city. Then all of a sudden she wasn't interested in shopping and all she wanted to do was read the bible. It wasn't until she was offering me a selection of her new thousands of dollar dresses to wear to a birthday did it really hit me that something supernatural happened to her. Outside I was acting normal but inside I was freaking out and I didn't want to ask any questions in case she'll change her mind. I knew that there was no way that she could have changed herself like that so quickly, and experience this true joy without the usual things that seemed to make her happy. She had still never even gone to this church yet. At this point I didn't own a Bible and I didn't know much about God, all I knew was that there was something out there that I had to accept.

Now that I knew there was an escape I started to get worried, telling myself "no, maybe I'll give my life to God later not now" I used the excuse that I didn't have time and wanted to finish my safe work first. Looking back I can't believe that I set aside the greatest gift ever and didn't want it until later.

That day on the 8th of April 2012, I was sick and tired of my sins and what they done to my life, so from the bottom of my heart I repented of my sins and told God I was ready to have him in my life, he came into my life that very second. God didn't wait a second to save me, and change my dirty sinful nature. God was so loving and patient with me, and he still is, even though I continue to keep making numerous sins.

That second I told God I was ready, I felt a big weight load lift off my shoulders and felt the Holy Spirit come into my life. From that moment on I have never been happier. I know that I won't ever look back and miss any partying or any part of my social life, because everything in the world only made me happy for a split moment, but brought me down in my life so much. God has given me the most amazing gift. Galatians 5:22-24: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance:

against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. Ever Since I accepted Jesus in my heart and I received this gift, I haven't had a drop of alcohol or stepped foot in a party or club. I no longer need those things to give me that very short feeling of happiness and I can confidently say that I NEVER will turn back to them because I now have true joy.

I now finally know what it means that Jesus died on the cross for us. It was a gift that we can choose to accept, for our sins to be forgiven. He suffered and was tormented to save me, and everyone else. For Ephesians 2:8-9 says "for by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.

I am now a woman that lives for God and not the devil. The world fooled me to think that the prettier I look, and the more seductive I dressed, will make a guy like me and make me feel good about myself, and that will solve all my problems. I tried doing things on my own by dressing inappropriately, which just dug me in a big whole.

What a con that all was, because that made me fall right flat on my face. I now dress not to seek any attention at all from men but now I dress for the glory of God for I now seek His attention alone. I thank my heavenly Father for opening my eyes and helping me see that dressing the way he wants me to, is always the best for me.

Serving God and growing more in his faith every day, is my life now. I have learnt that what this world has to offer you is nothing compared to what God has to offer. Now I understand why I went through all these troubles in my life. God had a plan for me. He knew that him allowing all these hardships in our lives, will make my family come to him now, and I thank him with all my heart that he allowed me to go through all of it. It was worth every second because now I have the Holy Spirit in me, and he has given me true Joy and peace, that I have never had in

my life. I trust in God and his plans for me. I am not worried or fearful because I know God will protect me and all good and bad that happens in my life is all part of his wonderful plan, and what plans he has for our eternal life. I can now honestly say that I can live in a shed with 2c and still be that happiest woman on earth, as long as I have my bible with me. Thank you God 😊

To see my families testimony search for these names:

Jackie Kouzi (Sister)

Mitri Kouzi (Brother)

Danielle Kouzi (Sister)

Olga Kouzi (Mum)