

A Cross Overlaying the Moon

by Colleen W.

When my dad picked me up at the airport, I felt embarrassed. I was bloated from drinking too much, with nothing but what I carried in my duffel bag. I had wanted to get married and have a child, but instead I was back in New York, dragging a small black dog on a leash.

A cycle of addiction

I grew up in a multicultural neighborhood in the suburbs of New York. My parents were on and off again alcoholics. The eldest of six children, I became the one everyone leaned on for support. I cleaned, shopped, cooked and changed babies. Suffering a lack of parental support growing up, I was left emotionally craving love and attention.

By the time I was 16, I had enough. I gave up trying to be the responsible one and started drinking and smoking. I was soon caught up in my own cycle of addiction. Nothing mattered, except to escape from my circumstances.

An unchanged life

I tried to pull my life together and pursue my acting dream. I took some acting courses, but kept drinking and eventually dropped out of school to live with a man I thought I loved. We traveled up and down the coast, selling second-hand goods. When we didn't travel, we marketed marijuana.

One time, after a drinking binge, my boyfriend beat me up. I didn't have the resources to make it on my own, so I took my small black dog and went home to my parents. I stayed with them for a year and started working in a hair salon. Through an Alcoholics Anonymous program, I sobered up.

One of my clients invited me to attend church. I went and I prayed to accept Jesus into my heart. I continued to go to church but I kept on with life as usual.

The fear of God

Eventually, I married an independent filmmaker, whom I thought would make all my dreams come true. After our first movie together, our marriage became a nightmare and we divorced.

My ex-husband immediately began to see other women. One night, after seeing him with his latest date, a strong wind blew through my room. I got up to fix the blind and saw a huge cross overlaying the moon. Struck with the fear of God, I instantly dropped to my knees, asking Jesus to forgive me for my sins.

A lifted burden

I called a friend whom I knew had Jesus in her life. She invited me to a women's prayer meeting. Shortly after, I was able to forgive all the people who had hurt me, just like Jesus had forgiven me. My burden was lifted.

Jesus has put in me a burning desire to tell others about Him. I minister in churches, preach and teach them to reach the lost, addicted, poor and needy people in their communities with the Gospel message. I am also working part-time as a hairdresser in the entertainment industry. As for my acting ambitions, I know that I can trust God to use me as He wishes.

Take a look at your life. How would you describe it? Contented? Rushed? Exciting? Stressful? Moving forward? Holding back? For many of us it's all of the above at times. There are things we dream of doing one day, there are things we wish we could forget. In the Bible, it says that Jesus came to make all things new. What would your life look like if you could start over with a clean slate?

Living with hope

If you are looking for peace, there is a way to balance your life. No one can be perfect, or have a perfect life. But every one of us has the opportunity to experience perfect grace through a personal relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

You can receive Christ right now by faith through prayer. Praying is simply talking to God. God knows your heart and is not so concerned with your words as He is with the attitude of your heart. Here's a suggested prayer:

Lord Jesus, I want to know you personally. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life to you and ask you to come in as my Savior and Lord. Take control of my life. Thank you for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Make me the kind of person you want me to be.

Does this prayer express the desire of your heart? You can pray it right now, and Jesus Christ will come into your life, just as He promised.

If you invited Christ into your life, thank God often that He is in your life, that He will never leave you and that you have eternal life. As you learn more about your relationship with God, and how much He loves you, you'll experience life to the fullest.

Contact Colleen Wheeler at contact@LOTHM.com and let her know that you received Jesus today!

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