

Alissa Gabbard – Testimony

I was saved and placed my faith in Christ when I was 7 years old and then baptized at my childhood church shortly after that, but I didn't have a mature understanding of my faith. When I was 15 at church camp at Bill Rice Ranch, I heard a sermon from Evangelist Matt Downs that spoke to me.

He was talking about sin and how to truly know God is to trust and live for Him and how the only way to be forgiven is to repent and place my trust in Christ. I knew in that moment that I needed to recommit my life to Christ, seek forgiveness for my sins and start living for him. That night a counselor sat with me and prayed with me as I recommitted my life to the Lord. After that I have kept God as my focus and leader. Even still, I fell out of church in my early adulthood. I still had my beliefs but was living and acting more worldly than I should have. I met my husband in 2015, and we both shared a desire for the things of God but never truly embraced Him together as a couple. Then about 3 months ago I started praying and saying to God that I wanted to get back in church but didn't know where to start. I knew I wanted my husband to join me, but I also knew he had some problems with drinking and didn't want to be in church.

I kept praying for him and for God to help him. It wasn't long before my brother-in-law invited us to his baptism and he and my husband talked for hours. Then we came and visited Lighthouse and heard Pastor Josh speak and he said "I really like it here, can we keep going?" I was so excited and said "yes, of course!" He then got saved and it has completely changed our lives for the better. My personal relationship with God has strengthened as well as our marriage. My husband has grown as well. We have chosen to have God as our focus going forward. I have recommitted my faith to Christ and am determined to serve God in any way He guides me.

Psalms 66:20 "Blessed be God, who has not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me."