

## Estella Mackliff Testimony:

My testimony begins in the Christian home I was raised in. I had two loving parents who shared the gospel with me from a young age. I remember discussing heaven and hell when I was very small, though I don't believe I had much theology in mind at the time. From then, my mother continued seeding scriptures into my life. I specifically remember her advising that I read Psalm 23 for myself. I was reluctant, but eventually I had the conviction in third grade that I ought to start reading my Bible, beginning with the Psalms if I recall. I waned in this habit until 5th grade, when I picked it up once again and, with some exceptions, continued with it. I remember praying the salvation prayer multiple times during my childhood, worrying my conversion may not have been genuine the first time or two. In high school, I began journaling about my Scripture readings and used a couple devotionals I had gathered. It was during this time that I was baptized. However, in all this, I find it difficult to pinpoint my exact time of conversion due to a pattern of sin I entered into in college. It is this particular pattern that makes me somewhat doubtful of the sincerity of my conversion up until that point, since, while I was regretful of my sin, I continued in it over a long period of time. Thankfully, I know the Lord is gracious and merciful, and has forgiven me. I now have a greater desire to live faithfully as a woman who bears the name of Christ.

In my current walk, I have recognized God's ever-present faithfulness, particularly within the past few months. He has shown me what it looks like to trust Him when difficult circumstances arise, and how much He wants me to spend time with Him. I have also seen Him faithfully guide me into greater boldness for the gospel with Scriptures. Another point of His faithfulness has been Lighthouse Church itself. Before ceasing attendance at our former church, I was complacent with our habit of attending church to listen to a good sermon and leaving. However, after my husband prompted me to obey him by trying out other churches, I somewhat reluctantly agreed. I am now so grateful we did. Not only has God led us to a place we both feel we can call our church home, with incredible, in depth preaching, but He has given us a body of believers that we feel are passionate about community and that we can join in growing in our relationships with God. I hope to serve in the children's ministry once a member. Thanks be to God for His faithfulness.