

Mark Berry – Testimony

Growing up I was fortunate to be raised in a Christian family. Both of my parents were very active in the church and other Christian associations their entire lives, so I was familiar with Christianity. Even so, I did not become a Christian until in the sixth grade when I attended a Christian camp that summer. Up until then I had attended Sunday school and Sunday and Wednesday services but had not accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. My attitude was that I had a Christian family and attended church so therefore I was a Christian. At the camp I explained this to the counselors who then explained to me that a Christian family, going to church and knowing that Christ had died, was buried and arose did not make me a Christian. I still needed to accept Him as my Savior and turn my life over to Him. Otherwise, I would not be going to heaven but would be judged to go to hell for eternity. I then accepted Jesus as my Savior and several months later I was talking with my parents about my needing to make a public statement of my faith in Jesus. After talking with my pastor, I was baptized by immersion the following Sunday morning church service.

We have been coming to Lighthouse for almost three years. The church I was attending was the one my wife Mindy and I were married in. There were a number of other churches we attended over the years and then wound up back there prior to attending Lighthouse. The church had become a “feel good” church and did not want to make waves and refused to deal with issues that were social or political. There were those in the pulpit that referred to us as “Nationalist Christians.” There wasn’t much “meat” to most of the sermons.