

MY TESTIMONY

I grew up in a two-bedroom apartment, I was one of four children. My youngest sister Kathy and I were the only ones that would accompany our mother for Sunday service and Sunday school. My dad would say, I believe in God, I read the Bible and going to church won't get me to Heaven. My sister Shirley and brother Larry was practically on their own. I was around 10 yrs old when I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, and baptized at Dayton Avenue Baptist Church of Xenia. At 10 yrs of age "this little light of mine" grew increasingly dim, without a mentor in my Christian walk. As I aged my attendance began to falter, attempts were made to bring me back. When I was asked to help clean the church, this was a paying job, where I learned to operate a large floor buffer. At the age of 16, and my first car, my independence got the best of me. I quit my church job and started working for a heating and air business in Xenia. My adult life was full of self and whatever felt good attitude. When I was 34 yrs old, I met Jennifer and shortly after we married. We attended Emmanuel Baptist Church in Dayton, where she accepted Jesus and was baptized at a young age. Emmanuel became our church, where I rededicated my life to Jesus on Nov. 18th 1993 and was baptized Jan. 9th 1994.

I would like to tell you my Christian walk has been without problems, but it wasn't. God has been with me through it all. 1Cor 10: 13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man; God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. Emmanuel had Pastoral changes, and we became stagnant and we stopped going altogether. This is my greatest regret, not just for myself but for my family. God blessed us with a precious child and I dropped the ball. I am speaking to you young parents and parents to be, don't make the same mistake, stay in church, lead by example and put God first. We started attending Shroyer Rd Baptist Church, where we became members. After our Pastor retired and here comes Covid, with all its restrictions, and the preaching was not quite what we were looking for or needed, we began look for another church. Our daughter Carrie and husband Andy with our two grand kids, attend LBC Chillicothe. During a visit with Carrie, we went to a Sunday service, and Pastor Josh was the guest speaker. Our niece Natalie attends here at LBC Xenia, she invited us to church, and we have been coming ever since. Jennifer and I have been married 36 yrs I look forward to living out the rest of our lives serving God and this Church body.

One Bible verse that has special meaning to me, and is my birth dates, Romans 10: 9 That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Steve Keaton