

MY TESTIMONY



While I was a student at Clemson University, I used to feel annoyed seeing small groups of students eating together in the dining hall with their Bibles open. Why annoyed? I do not know. Maybe I felt they thought they were better than I was. It used to anger me when students from Campus Crusade for Christ would come to my dorm room with their little gospel tracts and ask if I had been born again. What business was that of theirs? I grew up going to church and was as good a Christian as they were thank you very much! But why did it anger me? Was I aware I lacked something I wanted but did not want?

My junior year at Clemson, two of my fraternity brothers, Bill Taylor and Morgan Mellette, invited me to listen to an audio tape message from a Christian speaker named Josh McDowell. I am not sure why I agreed to do so. Maybe I was just bored. Sitting on a bed in my fraternity house, along with a few other fraternity brothers, I listened. As Josh McDowell described how the tomb stone of Jesus had been sealed and guarded by soldiers at the risk of their lives, yet three days later was unexpectedly empty, with the stone rolled away, I suddenly knew it was true. Jesus really had risen from the dead. All those stories I had heard in church and Sunday School as a kid suddenly became real. At the time, I did not realize I was being born-again. All I knew was resurrection was real, that Jesus was real and offering himself to me, and I was embarrassing myself, sitting on my fraternity brother's bed, tears running down my face. However, it was a good kind of embarrassment.

Jesus came into my life that night in the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity house. It took me another three years to get to that place of quiet desperation and longing when I fully surrendered and said to Jesus, "Whatever you would like to do with my life, you may do." Now, 40 years later, I am grateful beyond ability to express for Jesus coming into my life and for those two fraternity brothers who led me to Christ. "Thank you God, for the resurrection of Jesus Christ!"