

Growing up, I never went to church, my parents talked about God on occasion, but we weren't a Christian household. I believed in God because of the circle of life and the balance of nature, it's too perfect to be a coincidence. But I didn't know about Jesus and I didn't think about religion in my everyday life.

Then, about four years ago, I started listening to podcasts on finance and politics. I had to, I was making money and didn't know what to do with it and politically, people were losing all common sense and rationality. The podcasts I listened to would rationalize the why's and the how's and when they explained it, it all came down to God and Christ. Morals come from God who is above governments and societies. Generosity is good because Jesus cares for the poor and the needy. I didn't really think about that before. I just thought that it's good because it's good.

Before I became a Christian, I think I was nice and friendly, but I was also only thinking about myself. 'I should be friendly because I want to have friends and socialize.' And 'I should be nice so maybe the lady scooping out my plate lunch will give me a little extra.' Whenever I lost my temper I thought it was just me being a jerk and that it only impacted me and whoever I was a jerk towards. Now I know that there was a consequence for my sin. Knowing that Jesus died for me makes me try to be a better person. It makes me less selfish because I'm aware that my actions don't just affect me and my surroundings in the moment.

I came to Christ gradually. Most of the people I respect are Christians and when I was invited to church, I thought "sure, why not?" I was mostly looking to socialize outside of work and wrestling. But when I came and sang the hymns and listened to Kahu Daniel's message, it just made sense. It felt true. After going to church for a while, I started to read the Bible on my own and the more I read the more it came to life in my mind. Before I had read the Bible, it was kind of just a book. Sure, an important book, but still a book. Now, I understand when people say that it is the Word. It's the expectations, rules, and warnings about the world from God who made it.

I am so grateful to have been led to this community and church. You have helped me find my way to Christ.