

Come As You Are

Prodigal son. **Luke 15: 11-32**

Brother who was angry, how compassionate the father was to his brother that ran away. Just think how Jesus is, when we stray away, then come back.

Book about prodigal son, how he ran from God for so long, did drugs, sex, and alcohol. Yet during that whole time, his parents never gave up on him, and every time they saw him they said “We will be praying for you.” Eventually, he hit rock bottom. Almost committed suicide, but decided to try church. Rededicated his life to Christ, and now is a pastor and an author!

People in the Bible aren't perfect either, Peter (Denied Jesus 3 times), Paul (persecuted Christians), David (Story) Also known as (Beloved) and a man after God's heart, Solomon (who had 700 wives, 300 concubines, Lower status woman) wrote ecclesiastics.

After Peter denied Jesus 3 times, in acts chapter 2 he went out and preached and 3000 got saved.

Paul, after his transformation in Christ was known as one of the Best disciples in the New Testament, getting put in jail multiple times, stoned, and tortured, until he was beheaded.

Every stupid thing I have done and said in my life (Yes my mom would call me a pain in the butt) my parents have still loved me completely unconditionally. Just think how Jesus' love really is? He knows the absolute worst about me, yet he still LOVES ME more than ANYTHING. (Chase question) Think about this: The God that took the time to create literally everything, took the time to count how many hairs are on my head.

One time I asked my roommate “There are Millions, and millions of miles of space, millions of galaxies, and a ton of planets. Yet God picked little ole earth for his plan. Why isn’t there different types of life forms in any of the other galaxies?” His answer “Just to show how big God really is.”

Romans 10:13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Carrera story. 3 year old kid. OD. Anxiety, depression, sadness.

I guess when I’m doing stuff that I know isn’t godly, it’s hard for me to come back and confess, and I feel like she just didn’t feel good enough. But God doesn’t call us to change before we come to him, He wants us as we are so he can change us from the inside and out, and take our burdens and sins.

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts

My point in sharing some of their stories, is that You CAN come back. No matter what you’ve done or what you’re going through.

He took that pain, suffering, depression, anxiety, struggles, whatever it may be, HE TOOK IT at the foot of the cross.

So if you don’t know him, I promise you, he will fulfill you like nothing else can. He will take everything, and you will feel free, and that weight will be lifted off your shoulder. But, I want to let you know there is more to being a Christian than just showing up to church, you have to dig deep into the scripture, and you have to pray on a constant basis. Being a Christian isn’t about following a list of rules, its having a relationship with Jesus Christ.

He promises in [Matthew 28:20](#) “That I am with you till the end of the age” (Daniel: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn’t bow down to king

Nebuchadnezzar so he ordered them to go to the furnace 7 x hotter than normal. Then after he throws them all in there he goes “wasn’t there 3 that we threw in there, and they all say yes, but he sees 4 and the fourth one is Jesus. Point of the story is that Jesus is with you through it all. It isn’t always going to be easy, there will be hardships, whether its cancer, lost a loved one, or whatever it may be, God is always walking with you through these hardships.

But I promise you it will all be worth it when that day comes, when you stand before the throne and Jesus says to you “Well done my good and faithful servant.”