

Why I am Glad I am Baptized and My Dreams are for My Family and Church

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Christ the Redeemer Church

When Gary asked me to give my testimony on “Why I am glad I am Baptized”, and What my dreams are for my family and church this year I reminded him that I cry very easily these days. So please bear with me. My tears don’t come from sadness but from pure joy of being here to share my testimony with you all.

I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior some 37 years ago. My brother Joe and I were baptized on the same Sunday in front of friends and family at First Baptist Church here in San Marcos. Since this time my walk with Christ has been tested. My first big test came with the loss of my brother Joe. I was 14 at this time and became very angry and bitter towards the young man that had caused this accident and took the life of my brother. My history teacher and coach helped me to reach back and regain my walk. Years later I would be able to forgive this young man that caused the accident.

My second big test came in 2009 with the news that I had breast cancer. I can honestly say that I was not angry, and I did not ask God why. I had learned earlier in life that God does not cause bad things to happen to good people but when bad things do happen He is there right beside you to help you or to carry you through these trials.

Since March my family and I have felt God’s presence with us as we went through all of the appointments, treatments, operations, and recovery. His love is obvious through the peace that He brought to me as I dealt with this.

A peace that you can only know through the acceptance of our Lord and Savior. I can not imagine going through all of this without His love. I can not imagine going through all of this without all of you, His love shines through all of you.

As for my dreams for my family and for my church. My dreams far exceed 2010. I think that is what happens when you have dealt with a life threatening illness. I dream of celebrating being a one year survivor and living a full life and celebrating many more years of being a survivor. Beyond that I dream of watching my daughters graduate from high school, college, and be at their weddings. To have my grandchildren over, spoil them, and then send them home with their parents. I pray and dream that I will be there for my family and that Randy and I will take those trips we dream of in our retirement years.

My dreams for this church are that we continue to grow, and love each other as we do. We are family and it shows through our actions and deeds. Whether it be preparing a meal for a family, picking up youth so they can attend youth meetings, helping other youth in our community, attending each other’s recitals and games, or taking time to put together a youth camp trip.

We have always supported each other like the way you all have been there for my family and me. We didn't think we could love our church more than we do already did.

We are a Dream Team.

Not everyone has this special bond that we have. God has brought us together for a special purpose and His love shines in all of us. We are truly blessed to be here at CTRC and may His Love continue to shine through us as we continue to grow and dream together.