



GIRL THAT ALMOST WASN'T

EPISODE 7

GO DEEPER

To Be Born Again

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Introduction

For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory – Romans 11:36 NLT

Gift: Something given. Cindy was given two gifts. The gift of grace and the gift of her daughter, Jessica. Cindy and Jessica's story teaches us the beauty of physical and spiritual life.

So, grab your Bible, and as you answer the following questions, keep in mind: What's God saying to you? What are you going to do about it?



Grace

"I always thought I was living a Christian life just because my life looked a lot different from others, because I wasn't doing a lot of things that other people were doing. But truly when I look back, I had no conviction of my sin and I was not truly walking with the Lord at that time." – Cindy (3:07).

1. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Can you relate to what Cindy is saying in the quote above? Based on the verse Eph 2:8-9 and previous experience have you personally received the incredible gift of salvation from God? If you haven't, or if you want to be sure what it means to be a Christian, read the following below. Also, here is a resource by Cru [Know God](#) and/or go to <http://parentcompass.tv/know-christ/>

God loves you. As the Bible says, love is who God is, "God is love." (1 John 4:8). Out of his great love, God created you hoping you would choose his love and purpose for your life. God didn't choose you because you were big and important...He did it out of love" (Deuteronomy 7:7-8). God's love for you depends on His goodness, not yours. You don't need to win his love, you already have it. But - you do need to choose it. You do need to accept God's gift of forgiveness for sins by accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Savior.

God loves you so much he gave his one and only Son, Jesus, to die for your sins so that all who believe in Jesus as Savior will not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). When Jesus lived on earth He never did one thing wrong. Not once. But we do wrong things often, if not daily. The Bible says, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23). "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8). God has made His position clear: **"He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life** (1 John 5:11-12).

So where does that leave you and me? It leaves us depending on the John 3:16 promise. "God...gave his one and only Son..." Though sinless, Jesus took our sin. God placed our sin on his Son. When Jesus died on the cross, he died for you in your place. Jesus' act requires a response. We must receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love, forgiveness and plan for our lives. We receive Jesus by praying to accept him as our Savior. By believing that Jesus is who He said he was – Savior of the World – we receive the free gift of salvation and God's forgiveness of our sins. "As many as received him (Jesus), he gave the right to become children of God." John 1:12

We can't trust in our own efforts to save us - we can't save ourselves. We can't place our trust in other people – they can't save us. But we can trust Jesus to do what we can't. We're always trusting in some power to do work for us we can't accomplish. We believe the chair will support us – so we sit. We believe the light will come on when we flip the switch – so we flip. We trust the doorknob will open the door – so we turn. Jesus invites you to do the same. Turn from sin and trust in him.

If you sincerely desire to respond to Jesus, right now, right here, if you have a desire to take the gift of salvation God offers you and the promise of life with Him forever - then you can very simply talk to Him in prayer, confess that you have done things wrong and ask Jesus to be your Savior:

“Father, I believe you love me. I recognize I have done things wrong. I ask your forgiveness. You gave your one and only Son, Jesus, to die as payment for my sins so I can live forever with You. Apart from you, I die. With you, I live. I choose life. I choose You. I ask Jesus to be my Lord and Savior. Please adopt me into your family.”

If you and God just had a talk in prayer and you asked Jesus to be your Savior, then, you are a Christian! There are some next steps you can take to deepen the relationship you just started with God. Parent Compass would love to help you with these next steps. Go to <https://parentcompass.tv/know-christ/> and scroll down to fill in the information for Parent Compass to send you more information on knowing Christ.



Born Again

“Out of my fear and not trusting the Lord I made several abortion appointments.” – Cindy (4:10)

2. Baby Jessica survived three abortion appointments. In a sense she was born again escaping death three times. Seeing that living young girl teaches us the beauty of physical life. For spiritual life Jesus tells us we must be born again. From verses John 3:3-8 what does Jesus say we can see only if we are born again spiritually? To be born again is to accept Jesus as your Savior that died for your sins as Jesus talks about later in the conversation with Nicodemus in verses John 3:16-17.



New Life

“I started going to church and I was involved in a small group. I was challenged to examine myself. Not just -What can Jesus do for me? How am I going to have a happy life? - Oh, if I say I love Jesus, he is going to give me everything I want. - Instead of that type of mentality, I started examining myself. It was only by the grace of God. He opened my eyes. He granted me repentance. Sitting by my friend with the Bible open and I was just crying. I was realizing that all along, when I thought I was living for the Lord, it was really all about me. I realized what a sinner I am. Just because when I look around and maybe I am not doing all the bad things that everybody else is doing. My sin is sin. That we are all sinners and we all fall short of the glory of God.” – Cindy (5:27)

3. Have you taken time to examine yourself as Cindy is challenged to do? Here are some verses that challenge us to examine our ways. What do these verses say is the desired result? Lamentations 3:40; Ezekiel 18:27-28; Haggai 1:5-7; 1John 1:9

4. Repentance is sincere regret or remorse for what we have done wrong. A wonderful thing God does is grant us repentance so that we can confess our sins and be forgiven. From the verses Acts 11:18 and 2 Timothy 2:25, what does God promise from granted repentance?

“The next morning I woke up and starting to read my Bible – and something was different – I had this hunger and this desire for Him and to be in prayer and to live a righteous life – Cindy (5:36).

5.. Read Matthew 7:7-8; Psalm 42:1-2. How can you develop a hunger and thirst for God? From Matthew 5:6, what does God promise?

6. You can be a Christian but not, as Cindy puts it, live a Christian life. You can be a Christian, but not follow Jesus. Read Luke 9:23. Is there something you need to lay down today to follow Jesus? What’s God saying to you?

7. Read Philippians 2:20 and Proverbs 27:6. Do you have friends who will help you follow Jesus? Is there something you need to ask them to hold you accountable to?

“I remember showing up for one abortion appointment and one of my girlfriends knew I had scheduled that appointment and she met me there. She begged and pleaded with me. ‘Do not go in there. Do not go in there.’” – Cindy (4:22)

8. Cindy is now very grateful to her friend. Have you ever been that friend? If you had a friend or stranger that was doing something wrong, perhaps making a life-long tragic choice, consider if you be willing to step up to stop them? What do these verses say we are to do? Matthew 28:20 and Ezekiel 3:18-20.



Perspectives of Parenting

“Everything that I do, Jessica follows in my footsteps, good and bad. It is really hard being a parent. I am very careful about what she watches. We don’t watch a lot of TV. When we are immersed in God’s word daily, our lives will reflect that.” – Cindy (8:12).

9. Read Psalm 1:1-3. According to the verse how will your family benefit when you are immersed in God's Word (the Bible)?

"I plant seeds in her heart and I nourish and water them and teach her but it's the Lord who does the growing" – Cindy

10. Read 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. What truth(s) are you intentionally working on instilling into your child(ren)?

11. What virtues would you like to see developed in your child(ren) (i.e.: honesty, respect)?

Here is a link to character qualities and verses that can be taught to and prayed for your children and family. [Character Qualities Verses Chart](#)

Gift: something given. Grace. Undeserved favor. God's amazing grace through an unexpected gift brought Cindy back to Him. Take a moment to reflect on what you've heard God say to you in this session about what your next steps are as a parent and jot them down below as a running dialogue.

But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God – Acts 20:24



If you'd like to talk with God about your family, below is a sample prayer:

Father, Thank you for your amazing grace in my life. I want so many good things for my family, but I know that any good thing comes from you. And I know your definition of good may be different than mine. So give me the courage to follow where you lead me, so that I may confidently lead my family in right living. Help us to know your word, and study on it, so that we may be like trees planted by streams of water, standing strong and tall, bearing good fruit and prospering in all we do. Amen.



Dedicate your Family and Parenting to Jesus

Parent Compass wants to give you the opportunity to dedicate (or re-dedicate) your parenting to Jesus Christ during these sessions. If this is something you'd like to do, please go to: Dedicate Your Family and Parenting to Christ in this workbook or www.parentcompass.tv/dedicate/

If you want to know Jesus personally, please go to: Know Christ in this workbook or online at www.parentcompass.tv/know-christ/. To internet chat with someone about Christ, please click on the blue "chat" button in the lower right corner on each page of the website (<http://www.parentcompass.tv/>).