

Today Dolores, Justin and I are openly declaring our accepting Christ as our Savior even though we may have accepted God during various times¹.



It has been over three years since my auto accident that has forever changed my outlook in life. After a volleyball tournament that Justin played in ended on a Monday afternoon in June 2007, we were driving home from Sacramento. We were taking Highway 5 and just before I-205, I fell asleep at the wheel and my car went off the shoulder on the freeway. I don't remember exactly what happened next. My wife told me afterwards that I was air-lifted to the ICU in Modesto. I was fitted with a Halo around my head. I suffered a traumatic brain injury and fractured my spinal column in the accident. My wife stayed with me in Modesto and prayed for me every day in the chapel. My brother, relatives, friends and colleagues all visited me. Three weeks later, I was transferred to a rehab hospital in Berkeley. My parents and their pastor came to the hospital and prayed for me. My daughter, Candice, told me that she has decided to apply for transfer to UC Berkeley from SDSU the following year. Coincidentally, it was a year ago that she couldn't wait to leave home for Southern California.

I was released from the hospital two weeks later and began a long journey to recovery at home. Because the spinal bone did not heal as anticipated, I remained in the Halo until November 2007 (5 months after the accident). During this time, I felt hopeless and started to pray to God. Pastor Yot and Pastor Howard came to my house and prayed for me. It was then I came to realize that my destiny belonged to God and only he could heal me.

The book of Psalm, Chapter 30, Verse 2 says, O Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.

Finally, the bone started to heal in November and my doctor removed the Halo. This close encounter experience almost took my life; or it could have left me paralyzed. I feel very blessed that God has saved me and taken care of my family during this difficult time.

I believe God has a plan for me to get to know him. Before the incident, I was spending my Sundays at the golf course. After the Halo was removed, I started coming to Gilead Bible Church since December 2007. I have learned much about God and his love for us. I began to appreciate life, the people around me, and the blessings that I receive from our heavenly Father.

The book of Titus, Chapter 3, Verses 4 and 5 says, "...when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things that we had done, but because of his mercy."

Thank you, Heavenly Father for the "Mercy" that you have given me.

¹ Testimony given at his Baptismal Service on August 28, 2010 at Gatetree Baptist Church, Danville CA.