



# Salvation Stories

**SALVATION IS A "BEFORE AND AFTER" EVENT!**

My name is Ruk, My husband Mark and I have been doing God's ministry in a village since May 6th, 2016. My husband's ministry passion and his love for God motivated me to accompany him to share the Gospel of Jesus with the nearby village people. God has blessed our marriage life with 3 children, 2 girls (Anika, Jessica) and a boy (Isaac). Below is my short testimony of God's work in my life.

I was born in Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka State, India, into a poor Hindu family, and I was the 4th girl child to my parents. I have 3 older sisters and a younger brother. My parents were not educated but aware of the importance of our education.

When I was 10 years old my father died unexpectedly. This event had a terrible effect on our lives and made our lives difficult. I had a purpose to study well with Commitment, Courage, and Compassion, all of which are necessary to come up in life. After my father's death, my mother had to face many challenges in taking care of 5 kids. My 2 elder sisters discontinued their education and made way for the 3 younger siblings to study. This single act of their sacrifice, when I was 10 years old, shaped and influenced my entire future life.

To my mother, I was a strong-willed girl, because I was the 4th girl child. Also, I was a bright student in my school, so my siblings always teased me. My mother was confident that I would study well.

However, when I completed my 10 grade, my mom told me to stop my education and asked me to join some work due to financial crises in our home. But, I was adamant about going to College. Somehow, my mother got convinced and allowed me to join a diploma course.

I studied in a Convent/Catholic school; we had catechism classes. My school teachers used to take us to church every Friday. I loved the church cathedral and loved the peaceful atmosphere I felt there. I started to attend church services on Sundays as well. Not knowing anything about God, I went there to see people and the cathedral. Also, I used to go to Sunday school only for fun-filled activities and snacks, which they served after the class.

# Salvation



My elder sister worked in a house where the family attended a Church. Whenever I went along with my sister, the church Pastor used to call me and say come to church and attend the church service. I started attending the church regularly. I had some knowledge of the Christian God, who is good, but I never knew him as the Lord and Savior.

There was a Gospel meeting held in our Church one day. During that meeting, I felt some changes inside, and when the church pastor made an altar call, I stood up and submitted myself to God.

When I was in 8th grade I was baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit without informing my mother. Only my 3rd sister who accompanied me knew.



After entering home, somehow my mother learned that I was baptized. She started beating me with a broom and scolded me with many abusive words. Because it was very new for her, as per her thoughts that I went to an unknown religion.

Although my mother was born into a Catholic family, she married a Hindu man, and feared that the family would not accept this. So we needed to conduct some Hindu customs (Pooja).

Without my mother's knowledge, I attended the church services. My mother used to scold me for attending the church, but I started attending all the programs in the church without fail and joined for house visiting.

My spiritual mentor/elder helped me to grow spiritually to become a strong Christian with convictions. I loved reading the Bible on my knees. This motivated me to study the Bible properly, so I joined a theological course at certificate level first, then I completed my bachelors in theology.

Those days, I spent lots of time reading and praying.

In my 25th year I married Mr. Mark, who was also born into an orthodox Hindu family and had accepted Jesus. He left his house and was serving in the church ministry for 7 years.

When my pastor approached me to marry Mr. Mark, I said ok, but gave him a demand that I would do so only after my elder sister's marriage. This was my technique to escape marriage. Pastor told me to pray and come back. Within 3 months, I was married to Mr. Mark in the year 2009.

I married Mark for only one thought, that he will be a good man with no bad habits, since he was a pastor. God had a different purpose in my life. After he told me about his vision, that night I committed my life for God's glory.

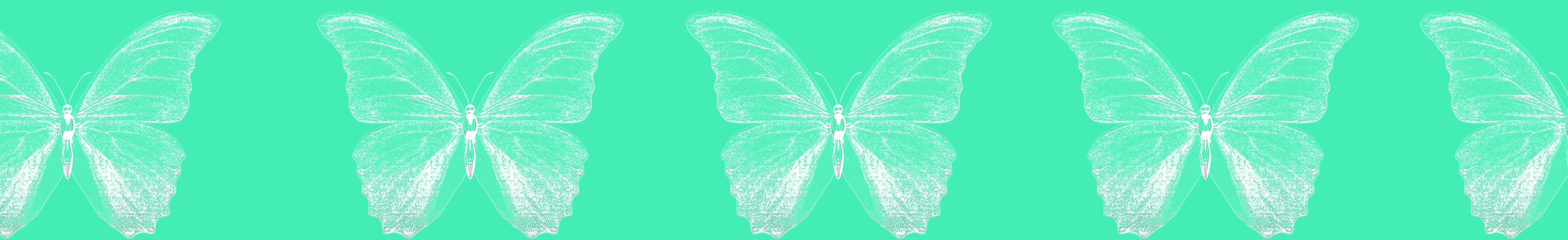


## My Current Life:

After my diploma I started working at an early age. I continued working to support our family and ministry. I completed my degree through correspondence courses. On the final year exams, I was 3 months pregnant. God blessed us with a beautiful daughter in 2011.

When she was 6 months old, I was offered a job to work in a private sector bank, as an Assistant Manager. Gradually God blessed me with 3 promotions in a short period and helped me to find His grace when I was working. Despite all the odds against me, God enabled me to be a successful woman in achieving all the goals before me.

God had prepared my husband to work in the rural and village areas where no one wanted to go for ministry. So we left Bangalore in 2016 and God is using us to build many families wherever he places us. It is a very challenging place for ministry because of traditional culture, casteism, and idolatry. Initially there were lots of threats and opposition for preaching the Word of God. In some villages local people used to surround him to attack and threaten him. Many times, they wanted to arrest him for his Gospel work. As we grow in the ministry God has blessed us to grow in



the size of our family, church and most importantly in our spiritual lives.

I always loved the following lines from an old hymn:



Anywhere, my Saviour, lead my willing feet,  
Only let me clasp Thy hand, feel Thy presence sweet;  
Thorns may pierce and snares beset, I will follow Thee,  
Anywhere, my Saviour, if Thou leadest me!

I always kept Jesus as my role model and wanted to faithfully follow God like Moses and David.

- John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."

- Psalm 84:10 For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than live in the tents of wickedness.

- Hebrews 11:24-26 By faith Moses, after he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to suffer ill-treatment with the people of God, rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a time, considering reproach for Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt, for he had fixed his eyes on the giving of the reward.

Please continue to pray for us to do God's will and be bold in ministering the Word.  
To God be all the glory and honor!

