



Salvation Stories

SALVATION IS A "BEFORE AND AFTER" EVENT!

Hi, I am Jasmin Ismayil,

I am from Kerala, India. I hail from an orthodox Muslim family and was born as the second child to our parents, Abdul Salam, and Jameela. We were living happily together. After tenth, I could finish the Lab Technician course.

My First Encounter with Christianity

When I was studying in school, I used to read the Bible verses that were written on the walls and used to wonder where they were written. Those verses attracted me, and I read them whenever I got a chance to. When I was in school, one of my classmates, who was Catholic, shared the gospel with me and invited me to her church. I went to Divine Retreat Center, in Thrissur, lying to my mom that I am going for a picnic with my friends, for a week to attend the meeting, which influenced me a lot. I brought the Bible, and booklets I received from there and began to pray secretly. I shared this beautiful experience with my brother and sister, who also attended the meetings. Then, we three began to pray secretly.

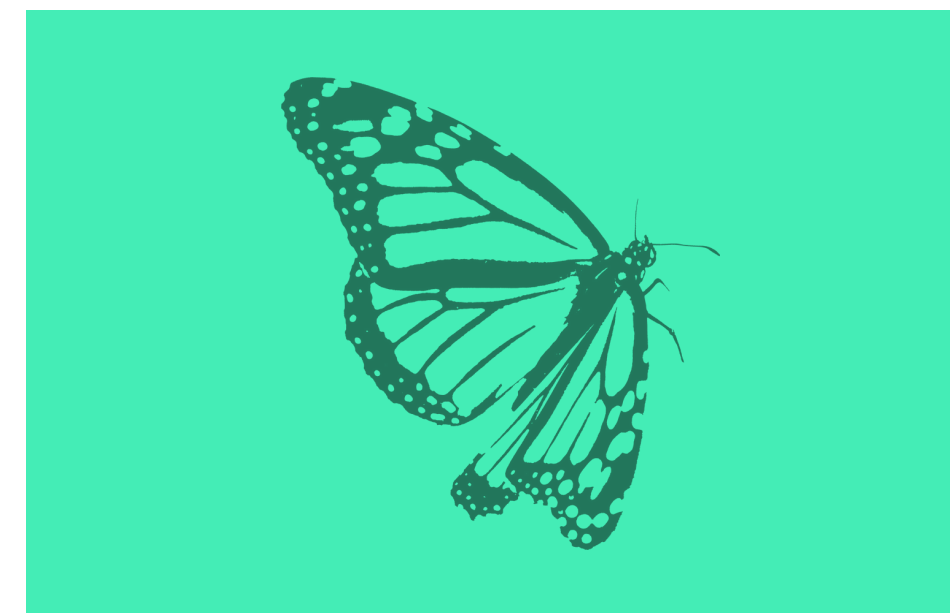
Trouble Begins

But after a few days, our mom caught us, as we were praying at midnight. Our parents began to shout at us. We stopped praying for a few days. Just after a few days, our parents had a quarrel and our father left us. Mother accused me that it was because of me everything that happened. We were having a tough time, since our father left us. He divorced our mother and married another woman.

In order to make ends meet, our elder sister, Sofia had to leave for New Delhi, where she got a job as a nurse. After one month, she fell sick and the doctors suggested an immediate surgery. My brother, Shameer went to meet her. When he reached the hospital, he saw a group of children of God, praying for her. They told him that Jesus will do a miracle in her life and she is healed. He too believed and prayed. He telephoned me and asked me to pray for her.

Our Mother Finds Christ

I began to pray. I was so sad that our mother was telling me, all this happened because I began to read the Bible, and prayed to Jesus. I asked her, if Jesus healed our sister, whether she could believe in Jesus. She said yes. I was crying unto the



Lord for the whole night.

The next day, the day of the surgery, before the surgery, the doctor advised another scan and found out that she was completely healed. Our brother telephoned us and shared the good news. When I went to share the good news with my mother, she told me that it was not Jesus, but the Muslim saints who did the miracle. I was deeply distressed. On that day, at night, I began to cry again. I asked Jesus to open her eyes, so that she may also know the loving grace of Christ. Our Lord answers our prayers. The very next morning, she approached me and asked me to give her a Bible. She told me that she could not sleep and somebody was telling her to read the Bible. I was overjoyed and gave her the Bible, which she began to read tearfully.

Finding the true salvation in Christ

As we were living in Kollam, in the midst of orthodox Muslims, we had no idea what to do next. There came a pastor, called Binu, who was also a Muslim convert, next to

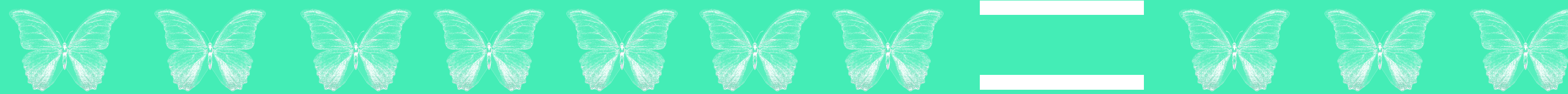
our home. He invited us to his church and we attended the church the next week. It was in 2002. When we went to the church, there were no idols or anything that we saw in the Catholic Church. He was leading the worship and shared a short message. After the service, we stayed back and asked him a lot of questions, for which he began to answer patiently. We began to take Bible classes and we accepted Jesus as our personal Savior and testified of Him publicly through Baptism. We were overjoyed.

Trials and Persecutions

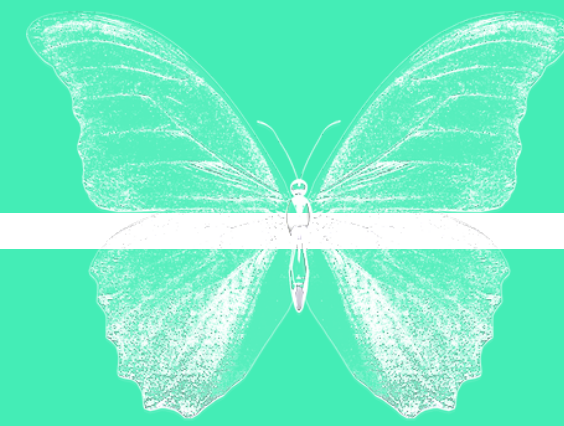
Our decision brought a lot of trouble. We had to face a lot of persecution. We had to leave our home and had to hide for three years. Some, sincere Christians like Marcelline Morracc, and others took care of us. Those were the days of great trouble, but our Lord helped us to grow in Him and we began to share gospel with others. Once, my brother was tied to a post and beaten severely for professing Christ, which shook us. But, we did not deny Jesus, we boldly proclaimed He is the only way of salvation.

The Ways of the Lord

The Lord opened a way for me to study in a Bible College. It was a God given opportunity, because most of my classmates were pastors' daughters and I did know nothing about the Bible. The Matron of the Bible College, Kunjamma, helped me a lot to study the word and encouraged me to grow in the Lord. I was able to finish the course successfully. After graduation, I began to pray about what to do next. Then I saw a vision of myself studying with some elderly persons. The Lord opened a way for me to do my MDiv in Kottayam, Kerala. While I was doing my second year, I got married with Ismayil, who was serving the Lord in Tribal Mission, Attappady, Palakkad. I never prayed to give me a Muslim convert as my life partner, but He did it. We got married in 2010 December 29, and it is the Lord who provided everything that we needed. He was working in the Tribal Mission as a teacher and we left the Mission in 2011, as I was carrying our elder son. We had to face a lot of trials during



the pregnancy of our first born and after his birth, we committed ourselves into the full time ministry.



We entered into full-time ministry and have served the Lord for the last 15 years. We pioneered two churches and are ministering among youngsters and Muslims. When I look back, the only thing I can say is it is the faithfulness of God that brought me thus far. The Lord blessed us with two children, our first-born Joshua Jeshurun Ismayil and Janet Ismayil. It is our desire to bring the gospel to the unreached at any cost. The Lord gives us many opportunities to testify about Him in different places.