



# Salvation Stories

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

**Before I Accepted Christ:** My name is Sumaia Akter, and as an 18-year-old student in the 12th grade, I have undergone a profound transformation in my understanding of faith and spirituality.

Born into a Muslim family, I grew up adhering to the Islamic traditions and customs that were an integral part of our daily life. My father, a dedicated farmer, instilled in us the importance of discipline and hard work. As part of my religious practice, I wore the Burqa, following the cultural norms and expectations of my community.

Despite my compliance with these practices, I found myself grappling with questions about the rituals and their meanings. The more I observed and participated in these traditions, the more I realized that my understanding of them was superficial. I longed for deeper insights, but my search for guidance within my immediate environment proved to be challenging.

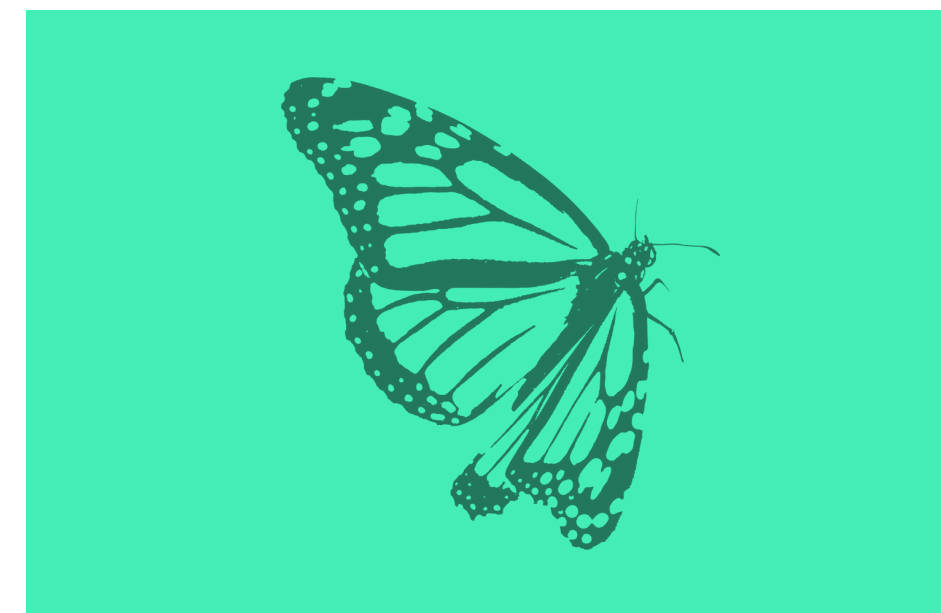
I am reaching out to share this personal evolution with you, as it marks a significant milestone in my life. It is a testament to the power of faith and the courage to seek answers beyond the familiar. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss my experiences and the impact they have had on my life.

**How I accepted Jesus Christ:** It was during my time at college, in the common room, when I encountered a group of individuals who extended an invitation to me. They were part of "WIFM - Campus," and they invited me to a friendship gathering

centered around the teachings of Jesus Christ.

This was my first interaction with Christians, and I must admit, my understanding of Christianity was influenced by societal misconceptions. However, my curiosity was piqued, and I decided to attend their gathering in a local park. The meeting lasted approximately two and a half hours, where I met a number of humble and kind-hearted individuals. We engaged in discussions about life, the afterlife, and the love of God. A video presentation titled "3 Crosses... only 2 Criminals" was shown, which led to a deeper conversation about Jesus Christ's purpose on earth.

Over time, my involvement with the group grew, and I found myself increasingly drawn to the teachings and the community. I watched numerous videos and had the



opportunity to have my questions answered by Jon and Philis, who, although I never met in person, I learned were consistently praying for us. One of my most pressing questions was about the certainty of Christianity or Islam as the true path. The response I received was enlightening and contributed to my decision to turn towards Jesus. It was explained that to believe in Jesus Christ and accept Christianity, one must experience a spiritual rebirth. I am grateful for the journey I have embarked on and the insights I have gained. I wanted to share this with you as it has been a transformative experience for me.

**My Present life:** As I continue to engage with the WIFM - Campus community, I am grateful for the opportunity to deepen my understanding of Jesus and Christianity. Their kindness and inclusivity have made me feel like a part of their family, despite our differences in beliefs. I am excited to continue learning and growing in my faith journey with their guidance and support.

Sumaia