

rightful place of authority over my life. I had understood enough Scripture to know, however, that this commitment could not be a secret one. It had to be public, and that meant letting my peers, professors, and family know about it. I feared the contempt and ridicule that surely would come. So, for several months I hesitated.

During those months, I experienced a strange sense of confusion. For the first time in my life, my grades dropped, and I had difficulty solving problems. I was discovering the meaning of Romans 1:21, which says that when a man rejects what he knows and understands to be true about God, his thinking becomes futile and his mind darkened. The eventual consequences spelled out in the succeeding verses chilled me.

I knew what I had to do, but my pride seemed too great. One evening I prayed, asking God to take away my resistance and make me a Christian. I prayed this way for six hours with no apparent answer. Finally, I realized that Jesus Christ will not force Himself upon anyone, even if asked. It was up to me to humble myself and invite Him in. And this is what I did at 1:06 in the morning. I then signed my name to the "decision statement" at the back of my Gideon Bible, acknowledging Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

Right away, I sensed an assurance that God would never let me go, that I was His forever. My fears of ridicule from unbelievers subsided gradually, and day by day I began learning how to share my discoveries of spiritual truth with fellow students and faculty. However, without the benefits of fellowship with other Christians, I found that my growth in Christlikeness was stunted.

Every once in a while, I would visit a church, only to discover a cult or a group who called themselves Christians but did not take the Bible seriously. On arriving at Caltech for post-doctoral studies, I met a serious Christian at last, Dave Rogstad. Dave invited me to attend a seminar with him on applying Biblical principles to daily living. There I sat with 16,000 committed Christians all in one building. I was overwhelmed to find that so many Christians existed, and I was helped and humbled by the things I was taught.

Within weeks of that seminar, I found myself not only attending home Bible studies but helping to lead them. Dave challenged me to begin sharing my faith with non-Christian non-scientists. I was surprised to observe that unlike scientists, who tend to struggle more with their will than with their mind in coming to Christ, the non-scientists I met tended to struggle more with their mind. If only they could see convincing evidence that God exists, that Jesus is God, and that the Bible is true, they would readily give their lives to Christ. What a joy!

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