Testimony

Danny Singleton was raised as a child in central Georgia the son of two good people trying to carve out a life for themselves and their two children. As a 10 year old, I was sent to my first camp at the Congregational Holiness Campground in Piedmont AL; it was youth camp in June of 1967. Both grandfathers preached for 60 years in that denomination until their deaths. It was there under the influence of those two men that on Tuesday under an open air tabernacle, standing on sawdust floors and sitting on wood slat pews that I heard John 3:16 and considered eternity in light of what it means to “perish”. That day, I ran to a wood capped brick altar and surrendered my life and hope to Jesus Christ. This moment is so vividly etched in my mind, when in NE Alabama, I often physically make a trek to the very place I stood in surrender of my life and hope to Jesus Christ. Two days later I was baptized by immersion in a nearby farm pond.

My parents were good people doing the best they could, but engaging us in church at that time of our lives church wasn’t on the radar. So, the subsequent years brought many challenges to a young faith and now an adolescent and confused mindset. One thing became crystal clear, I narrowed my sights onto athletics and the more beautiful of the human experience. Never doubting my experience as a 10 year old, but forfeiting the intimacy that could be mine with Jesus was the path I took. From age 15 until 32, I made scores if not hundreds of decisions that spoke loudly about me as, “being at a guilty distance from God!” I sought for joy, happiness and fulfillment in all the wrong places. Athletic achievement, professional accolades, conquests of momentary pleasures brought nothing but emptiness and little fulfillment.

The restlessness really escalated at a beautiful, God honoring marriage ceremony. At 29, I married a virtuous, church attending, God fearing, Bible loving woman who had been raised in church and discipled by one of Southern Baptists greatest theologians – Dr. Jerry Vines. Laura had forgotten more of the Bible than I had ever read. Immediately after marriage, Laura gave me a drug problem…she started dragging me to church at First Baptist Atlanta with Dr. Charles Stanley. Now, the teaching, the exposure to the grace of God and the righteous example of a Christ honoring wife began to really rub the hair of the cat backwards in my spiritual life. Conviction was a word I did not know then. Oh, it was there all along, I just dismissed it away. Now I could not because the Holy Spirit raised the bar of holy living that stared in the face of my then carnal compromising life.

Now it is March 19, 1988 at what was then the Hyatt Ravinia in Sandy Springs at a ‘Weekend to Remember’ marriage conference with Dennis Rainey and Crawford Loritts that God brought years of compromise and foolish living to a point of decision. I have said many times Jesus saved my soul in 1967 but he saved for me, my wife and my life in 1988. Remembering is sweet! I can remember when Laura asked me that day, “Danny, are you ‘*even’* saved?” I responded by saying, “Yes I am, but I know I have not been living like it. For the rest of my life, I will live to please God and honor you. You will never have to call into question my salvation again.”

The testimony doesn’t end there…it only begins. After 17 years as a basketball coach, the Lord saw fit to call me into the ministry while attending an FCA leadership camp at Bristol TN in 1994. Soon I found myself serving First Baptist Woodstock, Easthaven Baptist, First Baptist Dallas, Whitefield Baptist, Clearwater Baptist and now hundreds of churches worldwide. A different kind of journey for certain…so today, I choose to live, love and lead DIFFERENT on PURPOSE for His glory! Danny Singleton Ministries exists today to assist pastors in Advancing the KINGDOM one Man, one Marriage, one Ministry at a time.