

## Would I Do it all Again?

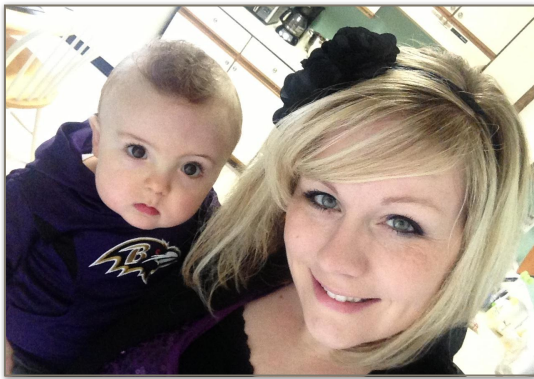
Some have attempted to rethink their early choices for the old-time religion, soul winning, standards, separation, and holy living — not me! Some people have acted as though their troubles were rooted in their fundamental faith. Sorry, I do not buy that. Our sorrows are rooted in this sinful world. Our sorrows are rooted in our own lack of obedience to God. Our sorrows are rooted in the satanic influences in our homes and families through school, friends, TV, the media, and countless other ills. Our sorrows are not rooted in the loving words of our Lord in the Bible.

Those wonderful words are hope, strength, and life.

*John 6:63 "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."*

*Deuteronomy 32:46 "And he said unto them, Set your hearts unto all the words which I testify among you this day, which ye shall command your children to observe to do, all the words of this law."*

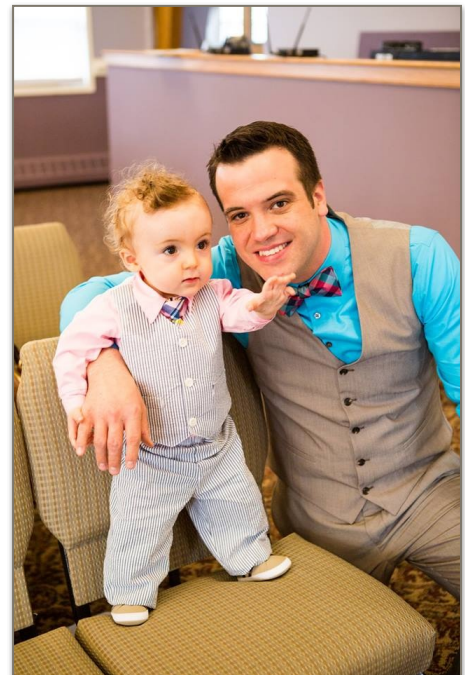
*vs. 47 "For it is not a vain thing for you; because it is your life: and through this thing ye shall prolong your days in the land, whither ye go over Jordan to possess it."*



These pictures are of my family: two son-in-laws, one daughter-in-law, a wife of 33 years, and a faith settled in two godly, old preachers, and a Bible. No, I will not trade a thing! My faith was set and though trials come, by God's grace, I will not turn back on the things God has taught me.

When I was introduced to fundamental Christianity, I had no idea this lifestyle had a name. I thought this type of living was Bible obedience. I assumed if you changed the Bible, you were simply wrong. I have read in the Bible some things about the fashions of this world that we are not to follow. It is simple Bible — not just a label.

I learned to share my faith long before I heard the term, soul winning. I was saved, others were not; logic said to go tell them just as someone told me. Of course, any decent believer would want to tell others how to get to Heaven. It was not about fundamentalism, or old-fashioned Christianity, it was about honoring the Bible and using good sense.





At age eighteen, I stood at a secular college party with booze everywhere, and I realized that no one knew my glass only was filled with soda. I put the glass down and left. I knew from my Bible reading and the conviction of the Holy Spirit that I could not attend parties, no matter what I drank or who was present. It was not a fundamental, separatist belief — some things are not a matter of fundamentalism, but of Bible reading and seeking to honor God. I had never heard a sermon on booze or separation; the Bible clearly said that the place was wrong — all of it was wrong.

Change? Sure, I would change some things. I would read the Bible more often, walk closer to God, be more careful with my money, and I would pay more attention to people who were hurting. But change my faith? Not on your life! This has been a great life, and I am looking forward to what God does next.

Would I trade my children working on bus routes, my grandkids attending Sunday school, or my wife teaching an adult ladies Bible class where fifty or so ladies come weekly to be helped; or hosting our annual Ladies' Conference where as many as five hundred ladies attend to learn how to walk with God and how to stay pure in an impure world — would I trade all of that for an easier life?

Would I trade kids who preach, who win souls, who teach Sunday school? Would I trade our annual Youth Conference? Would I trade the preachers who were trained in our ministry, would I trade missionaries across the world who were reached through the old-time religion for a few rock songs and pants on women? Right! What kind of fool do you think I am?

No, I will stick with the wonderful Words of Life. I will keep on the old paths, even though some rookie who never made a difference in his life may mock this stand. I am staying right where I started; and yes, as the song says, "I'd do it all again, and so much more."

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