



## *Pastor's Comments*

**In large print at:**  
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### **Saved As a Child**

*By church member, Carol Dorward*

In August, 1954, as a six-year-old girl, I experienced the convicting power of the Holy Spirit when I responded to an altar call at a tent revival meeting. I knelt at a wooden folding chair and wept bitterly because of the realization of my sins. A Sunday School teacher helped me understand the plan of salvation and God's forgiveness of my sins. Then she led me in a sinner's prayer.

Some would question whether one so young could have a genuine experience with the Lord, but I am living proof of it. Jesus said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not to come unto me" (Mt. 19:14). That night, a marvelous work was done in my heart when I came to Him. Previously I had told numerous lies which my godly mother had discovered and dealt with. Just prior to the tent meetings, I claimed to have made a craft which I proudly showed to several friends when, in fact, I had NOT made the craft; someone else had. This lie was heavy on my heart when I responded to that altar call—more than 50 years ago. It truly was a work of the Holy Spirit that convicted me of my sin and changed me so that I am not a chronic liar which is where I was headed as a child.

In third grade, I had another special encounter with the Lord. After seeing an Evangel magazine with a title, "How God Speaks to His People," my curiosity was aroused and I asked my mother, "How does God speak to us?" She didn't elaborate, but told me, "When He speaks, you will know." My heart was ripe. Little did I know what the Lord had prepared for me the next day. During the "free reading" period, I pulled my little white Bible out of my desk as I had done on previous occasions. When I opened my Bible that day, my eyes were drawn to a verse that seemed to be highlighted and enlarged. I read Matthew 5:16 over and over again: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in Heaven." God was speaking to me, and I knew it! That day He planted in my heart the desire to let my life be a witness to others. I was excited to share with my mother how God spoke to me that day through His Word. That became a key scripture to guide my life.

***Northampton***

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