

LIVE FOR THE GOSPEL

2016 Summer Conference Life Testimony (Oh, Yoonha)

(Mark 8:35) "For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it."

I was born in July 1986, the first of two daughters. My father was a sincere and faithful to my family. However, my dad's anger or fighting with my mom brought fear into my heart. My dad was difficult and scary to me. I had a good relationship with my mom. However, because she was working, I could only meet her in the evening. There was an unfilled vacancy for my parents' affection in me. I watched cartoon movies while waiting for my mom. Cartoon movies were more than just a fun, but the most important thing in my life, filling my empty heart. In middle school, I was under a lot of stress in friendship. On the one hand, I was afraid that I would not be able to meet a good friend, and on the other hand, hatred and anger arose against some friends who bullied and insulted others. In particular, the hatred and distrust of human beings deepened as I saw the incident of a friend who was severely bullied for reasons of appearance, and the incident of a sister next door who committed suicide due to bullying. I thought it was the best way to protect me not to fully trust anyone. And I studied hard only for myself and entered Seoul Foreign High School. Thanks to my independent attitude and good grades, I got people's praises including my parents and teachers. But I suffered from deep loneliness and wanted to avoid it by filling myself with pleasure from animation and manga. They became my idols and I couldn't pull them off. In 2005, I entered the Ewha Womans University Elementary Education Department as a 4-year scholarship student. The major was chosen based only on job security, so my academic life was not fun. I studied hard only to maintain good GPA. Other than that, a band was my everything. I joined the band club, imagining to become like the second Kim, Yoon-ah of the band Jaurim, but I got a role as a keyboardist, not the vocal. In spite of this, I put myself fully into the band activity. I met the motives and seniors that fit my mind, discussed life with them, visited restaurants and Hongdae and rock festivals, occasionally drunk and stalked the night streets, and were convinced that they were passionate college students themselves. I was very confident and my friends were surprised and praised me for GPA, club activities and catching both rabbits. However, the problems of such a good club began to develop gradually. Each person's weakness and selfishness began to appear. I was very disappointed that I was convinced that I met the soul mates of my life. I thought they could fill my craving for friendships, inner loneliness, passion for a meaningful and valuable life, which I had since my childhood, but it turned out that they could not. At the time, I was studying the Bible. In my freshman year, I was led to UBF through Shepherd Soon-young Koh, and since then I have been doing one-on-one Bible study with Shepherd Myung-hee, Kim. When I was convinced that the club and music would set me free, I wasn't open to the Bible. However, after realizing the limits of human relationships that could not satisfy my loneliness and thirst, my heart began to open up to the Word. By writing a reflection, I confessed my childhood wounds, loneliness, and the sins I had repeatedly committed. At that time, the word I personally got (John 8:32) was, "The truth will set you free," but the shepherd also helped me with these words, and I made up my mind to turn away from the sins of hate, falsehood, and lust. When the sin problem was touched by the Word, my heart changed to hear the Word. In my senior year of college, there was a strong question about the living of God in my heart. If God really exists, my life had to be different. I took this question as a vital question in my life and took it seriously. I visited the college pastor and asked, 'Is Jesus really resurrected? How does a dead person survive?' In April of that year,

God (Genesis 1:1) personally touched my heart with the word of Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." When I came to believe the word and have faith in God, there was a clear direction in me to keep away from the sin of destroying my relationship with God. My life was transformed through the power of his word and sincere repentance. I started to invite the students on campus, and invite my friends and juniors to one-on-one Bible study. Before the transformation, I was so selfish refusing to spend 1 cent or 1 minute for others. But I became a campus shepherdess, willingly spending my time and money to serve others. Even after that, I still complained about my mission life of being ignored or even humiliated by others when trying to preach the gospel at the campus. But the faithful God embraced me and took me step by step to Jesus. At the spring conference of 2009 (Romans 5:8), "Christ died for us when we were still sinners, and God confirmed his love for us." The Word confirmed God's love for me and melted my hard heart. In the summer of 2010 (2 Sam. 12:7), Nathan said to David, "You are the man." In the one word, he worked strongly in me. These words became a dagger of the Holy Spirit and made me realize many sins that I had not been aware of. I immediately ran to the prayer room in the church. In the midday of the summer, tears, runny nose and sweat poured out from the center prayer room reminiscent of the sauna, asking the Lord for forgiveness. At that time, the Lord met me on the cross of Jesus who took my sin. And (John 8:11), "I do not condemn you either; go and do not sin again." In this one word, I proclaimed my complete remission. At that time, I sweated and shed a lot of tears and my whole body was exhausted. But my soul was light like a feather. This was the freedom felt by the soul born again from sin. After deeply experiencing the salvation of forgiveness, I decided to turn back and live for the Lord while I was skeptical and wandering about the calling. In 2012, I started teaching as an elementary school teacher. The Lord made me a shepherd and a Bible teacher for young souls. God sent me the bible students Sol-hee kim, Eunbyeol Choi and Yea-young Kim and I served them with God's words. When serving them, I was able to learn the word practically (Am 8:11), "It is not a lack of food, no hunger because there is no water, and a hunger that has not heard the word of the Lord." I was thirsty in the past because I didn't have the word of God, and it was God's word that revived me, and I realized deeply that the young souls who were sent to me also needed the word of God. Then, I realized how precious and how great God's grace is to serve the Bible teacher who serves one soul with the word of God. I have decided to give myself in this position to care for and serve the Lord's precious souls with the Word of Life. In the past, I was obsessed with hatred and unbelief, and I was sick of false and obscene sins, and pride, self-love, and selfishness were deeply rooted, and I couldn't live with God's holy and beautiful hope. The God who gave me Jesus, who is the true light, truth, and life-savior who came to me on campus, fed with words of life, saved me from sin, and filled my inner loneliness and thirst, is the God of love who is truly living and amazingly good. I give thanks and praise to God's grace. God added grace over grace, and in June this year, established a blessed house church with Joseph, who is the son of a spiritual aristocratic family, who had accumulated many spiritual heritages in front of the throne of Heavenly Father. Then the Lord he invited us to Texas, USA as an international student missionary family. Before going to America, the Lord gave me a word. (Mark 8:35) "For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it." Self-planning, self-satisfaction, and self-love were like a life to me. I thought I would die if I lost this. However, the Lord promises that true life will be given to those who lose their lives for him and the gospel. I believe this promise, and I will follow and believe in Christ Jesus as the first value and the only meaning of life. I pray that our house church will be able to serve people to turn to the Lord.

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