

## **Who is an Everyday Hero that Brings Out the Optimism in You?**

I was homeschooled all my life until ninth grade, then I started going to a private school. I was never really a morning person, but waking up early for school was a pain. I was always irritable and even sick to my stomach sometimes. I would just suck it up; I thought it was only normal for me to be that way. That is how it went for all of my ninth and about half of my tenth-grade year as well. Then one Sunday when my superhero, the Holy Spirit, who lives in my soul, highlighted a bible verse to me: Psalms 143:8

*Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning,*

*For in You do I trust;*

*Cause me to know the way in which I should walk,*

*For I lift up my soul to You.*

This verse spoke directly to my negativity in the morning. It just so happened that the day I was reading this passage was a Sunday. The Holy Spirit started tugging at my heart to ask for prayer at the altars to cast out the sickness and unwanted thinking patterns. I obeyed and received prayer. The prayer partners told me to walk in the belief that the prayer would be answered the next day. That Monday morning instead of just letting the first thought that rolls into my head control me, I rolled out of my bed, onto my rug on my knees and asked for God to fill me with the joy of the Holy Spirit. I worshipped Him. I felt alive! I had no stomach pain or irritability. I was able to go about my morning in joy. It was Great! That day at school was optimistic. In bible class on that same Monday, one of my classmates asked the teacher if he could ask God for a vision. The answer was yes.

That Tuesday things only got more optimistic. The thing that I worried about the most at this point in my life was deciding what to do with my future. What kind of career should I pursue? Should I be a missionary? I was following the path of being a commercial pilot, taking flight lessons every Wednesday but I was still uneasy about whether it was the right thing to pursue. So I ended up praying the second part of Psalms 143:8 over and over. There is a teen bible study I go to every Tuesday night. It is always amazing; God moves in a powerful way.

This night God had something good in store for me. That classmate of mine who asked if you could pray for visions had been praying for one. He is the farthest thing from a visual thinker. He once told me he dreams in words only. And he asked God why he didn't get one yet. God replied, "There would be a better time" and that time was Tuesday night at bible study. That's when he got a vision of a plane and inside the cockpit, he saw me. That once again spoke directly to me. It was such a relief to hear confirmation that I was on the right path. God doesn't lie; He went right ahead and *caused me to know the way in which I should walk*. I am now pursuing aviation with a new passion. I believe it is my calling here on earth.

Another time the Holy Spirit made me optimistic was when I was scheduled to work a shift at Taco Bell that I was not looking forward to. We were getting ready for a health inspection and I was stuck cleaning grease off various cooking and frying devices for hours. I decided to focus on the goodness of God and sing a worship song while I scrubbed away. That is when I got to see a bit better through a God's view. I started to think things like: "At least I have arms, legs and the strength to have a job; I could be paralyzed or have some awful disease." I also remember that I am not working for money, I am working as though I am working for the Lord. This change in thinking also led me to remember I was on a mission to be the light and that I have far more

purpose on this earth than just working a Taco Bell job, so I was intentional to be positive towards people: complimenting and encouraging my co-workers.

When being led by the Spirit, a day that would usually be mediocre can become exceedingly good. I never know if God wants to heal someone through my hands or brighten up someone's day with a kind word. I would not be optimistic at all without the Holy Spirit within me.