

Meadowbrook Baptist Church  
102 North Park Drive  
November 2, 2025  
Sunday Morning Worship 9:00 AM  
[Fellowship Afterwards]

November 16  
Last Day for Shoebox Ministry  
Better Hurry  
Our Goal is 50 Boxes  
If you would like to send \$10 to help with  
the mailing, make check out to our  
church. Thank you

### MY CONVERSION

I grew up attending church much of the time and my mother and grandmother taught me not to curse, tell lies, hurt anyone etc. Their rule was - treat people the way I wanted to be treated and they let me know in no uncertain terms that included the black people in our neighborhood.

When I did wrong, I was ashamed and would ask God to forgive me. My grandmother gave me a poem by Edgar a guest:

I have to live with myself and so / I  
want to be fit for myself to know / I don't want to  
come to the setting sun / And hate  
myself for the things I've done.

I remember two bad things I did. I stole \$5 from my mother's purse to buy a baseball from a friend and one time a friend and I, for the thrill of it, went in a store and shoplifted a ball cap. I never got caught, but both times I broke down. I told my mother what I had done. I could not take being ashamed of myself.

I believed Jesus died for me and when I did things like that I asked God to forgive me. I even closed my prayers with, "In the name of Jesus who died for me."

In high school I did not "live for Jesus", I lived for myself. I did what I wanted to do and that included some things I had been taught not to do. I went to church if and when I wanted to, and that was mainly to be with my friends and talk girls. I don't remember anything any preacher or Sunday School teacher, said.

God to me, was a combination of Santa Claus; a spare tire and a policeman. I called on Him when I wanted something; when I was in trouble and when I did something bad. I believed the saying, "There are no atheists in foxholes!" because a couple of times, usually when I was driving too fast, I almost totaled my car and praying.

A lady criticized a pastor because he said "britches" in his sermon. The pastor said what did I say before I said breeches and she said I don't remember. He said, what did I say after I said breeches, and she said I quit listening. The pastor said, Lady if I hadn't said britches, you would not have heard a word I said. That was me in church.

Contacted by God This all changed after I graduated from college and was on my first job. I wanted a loving family like the ones I saw in church. I knew if I was going to marry the right kind of girl I needed to make some changes in the way I was living.

The problem was I had tried to change and couldn't. Temptations were just too strong. The main reason was peer pressure. I always wanted to fit in with my friends.

Other things began to change, A new pastor came to town and I actually listened to Him. I met my best friend for life there and I became part of their family. It was a Christian family and it was there that I first heard Billy Graham on television. I never sat down and watched him, but I was listening.

Billy's message was always the same - repent, come to the cross; give up your sins; be forgiven and go to heaven. My problem was, I thought I had to give up some habits I had, to get right with God.