

the Friday night of our revival. I didn't go to the alter. I was just trying to make sure I only had to go once. The next week was Nila's revival and Bro. David Jones was running it. He told me if I would go all week the Lord would do something good for me. I went on Sunday night to Nila and Bro. David Jones and Bro. Jack Kelly both preached. I don't remember what they said but Bro. David told me I was trying to run from the Lord. I made up my mind to go to the alter and that instant Bro. David gave the alter call. When I knelt down, I asked the Lord to forgive my sins and I felt the power of the Lord for the first time in my life. I knew without a doubt the Holy Ghost was real and I knew the Lord would give it to me. I received the Holy Ghost in just a few minutes on June 14, 1992. The Lord clearly had a path for my life and I'm so very thankful he chose me. The Lord has been far better than I could ever deserve. He has continually made a way for me and I'm so happy to raise Clay in this great way.

Bro. Jackie Pedigo – (Bro. Norvel Pedigo)

My dad was raised in Tennessee and didn't know about Holiness. Eventually he went to Pascagoula, Mississippi to work on a ship yard as a welder. Bro Henry McLain and Bro Paul Simmons were there working as well. Some were running tent revival. Dad knew a few people. Someone talked to him about Holiness. One day dad was on the dock where the ships were looking over the water. There was piece of cardboard floating in the water. Dad said if it's meant for me to go to the Holiness church let that cardboard sink. Immediately it sunk. He still wasn't convinced. He said Lord if it's meant for me to go to Holiness church let that cardboard come back up and it popped right back up. While he was there, he met my mother and got married.

I was working in Talladega County and bought a lot to build our forever home. We lived there two years when the Lord began working with me and I got a desire to come back to Huntsville. Diane wasn't too happy but came with me. Mother got sick and we put her in a nursing home in Scottsboro. I would drive down

Maysville Road and pass Huntsville Holiness Church and have a good feeling every time. One day I said I'm going to church. I went and it was the first time I'd been to a Holiness church since 1965. About 49 years. I had a desire to go back and observe. It was the same as it was when I was there as a teenager. I went to Huntsville one night and I don't remember what was said but Bro Jack gave alter call and I was holding on to the bench. I finally walked up to the alter. I didn't receive the Holy Ghost that night and Bro Jack said what's holding you up? I told him my wife. He said you have to be willing to give her up too. I sat Diane down and told her I was seeking for the Holy Ghost and that I had to be willing to give her up. Sis Jeanette Sadler called to tell me about a revival at Hytop. I went by myself. Bro James Bridges, Bro Arthur McAllister and Bro Totchie McLain were there. I prayed 1 1/2 hours and was shouting all over the alter. Two brothers held my arms up because I was so tired. I got up on a bench and spoke in tongues but didn't accept it. I spoke in tongues again and I opened my eyes and I looked at Bro Arthur and told him I had the Holy Ghost. A lot of Huntsville people were there too. I went on to the nursing home and went in and told mother your son received the Holy Ghost. I don't think she knew what I was saying. I went to church at Scottsboro a few weeks later and a sister told me that she was singing to my mother and said isn't it wonderful your son received the Holy Ghost and she had the biggest smile on her face.

Sis. Angie Philpot:

My grandmother has been more like a mother to me. She has been my biggest cheerleader in this life. She told me once that I was the closest thing she's ever had to a sister. I adore her. When I received the Holy Ghost 18 years ago (coming from a family that knows nothing about it) I sat in BEGGING God to give it to her. No telling how many prayers I've said. If you could pester The Lord, I did! It was my heart's desire. I couldn't bear the thought of being in heaven without her. One day while in my closet praying, I felt the Lord say that he would give it to her. I said it out loud "you're

going to give it to her” and when I did, he came by. It gave me great joy so I said it again, out loud and his presence was so strong. Every time I’d say it, joy was poured on me and I said “you’re really going to give it to her, aren’t you?” and I had no doubt in my mind at that moment he would! Years and years past I always invited her to our Huntsville revival and she would come one time during it, most of the years. She always seemed nervous during meeting, kinda, fidgety. I wasn’t sure if she even liked it. Sometimes I’d think she’s never going to come but there was times that I’d have faith that she would. I had told several people over the years that I believed she’d make it one day. Then she fell and because of osteoporosis she broke her back and I got the children of God to come to Huntsville Hospital to pray and sing for her and The Lord was so strong there it was awesome! I believe the Lord would have given it to her that night but she was worried about some legitimate things in her life. Things the Lord would have worked out but she was too scared to pray. Years went by and one day I asked her do you ever think about that night? She said YES, every day of my life! I told her to beg God for one more change and tell him if he gives you one, you’ll take it.... And years went by. Then she was diagnosed with cancer, Parkinson’s and early onset of dementia. she got put on Hospice. I was told she didn’t have long to live. She was no longer physically able to come. Then Covid sealed the deal. I thought she will never be able to now. I’d almost given up hope for her. I saw no way possible. I’d convinced myself it was just my love for her that made me think she was going to make it! I recently went through one of the hardest trails of my life. She wasn’t even on my radar. Then one night 18 years later I dreamt my phone rang and it was her and she said “help” I woke up and started praying for her and felt to ask prayer for her at church. I had no idea at that time that DHR was fixing to have her removed from her home. That she needed a new home to go to immediately on Saturday morning. That she’d been questioning if she was even saved any more. We took her in. Two weeks later on Saturday on Dec. 15th fifteen days before her 88th birthday God filled her with the Holy Ghost at Williams Cove. She had the

most beautiful witness I've ever seen. I can't explain the joy, the gratefulness the sheer love for God I felt that night! I shouted the house down! Our God is in the miracle business! I wrote this for encouragement because I know there was plenty of "hang on it's coming testimonies" I've heard along the way! I'd would think Lord when is it going to be my turn? All those testimonies gave me hope. He is a faithful God! He will do what he says!

Sis. Ruby Pinkerton:

I lived across the street from a public beach Tiogue Lake. My dog got ran over and I prayed for it and the dog died. I felt like I wasn't going to Heaven after that. I went to the Methodist church there for a couple of years and they wanted me to join the church but I didn't want to because all they did was shake hands and sprinkle you with rose water. I thought I had shook hands with the preacher every time I left church and it hadn't helped me yet. So, I decided I would take the Sunday school bus to the Baptist church where I got saved. I still was not satisfied so in the summer I would go to the woods and pray to get away from the beach because of all the noise. I climbed the tree and talked to the Lord about my problem why can't I live for you like I think I should. I tried to tell the Lord what was wrong with me. I went to my tree pretty often because the Sunday school teacher said to have a quiet time with the Lord every day. I met Bernard and we got married. Bernard would not take me to church as much as I wanted to go so, I decided to go to church with his mother. That is where they preached Holiness to me. Lena mama Bernard's mom sent me to Sis. Maggie because I had so many questions. Sis. Maggie answered all of my questions and I read my Bible and decided I needed the Holy Ghost. I received the Holy Ghost Nov 1 1961. I prayed if I'm not right put me right and help me to accept whatever it is.

Bro. Patrick Price:

Hard to pick any one testimony, since God has done so much for us all - and of course, our greatest testimony is that He gave me the Holy Ghost! But one that came to mind was just a few years ago, when the Lord healed our granddaughter of a little issue (but big to me). We were at church, during revival, and after service I noticed that Avery (probably 5 or 6 years old at the time) was crying. Not whining, I mean really crying in pain. Something had happened to her neck and the little child was suffering. Her mom, and her Granny, had both tried to calm her down for a long time. We eventually took her downstairs to the basement where people were eating after service. But after a good while, she was still crying and hurting. I had wanted to get her off to ourselves, out of the crowd and commotion, but they were really afraid for her to even be moving her neck. Well, eventually, I took her outside and began to walk her around the building. It was night, I felt helpless, but I just felt that if we could get alone and pray, the Lord would help her. We walked around to the front, sat down on the flower-bed wall, and I asked her if I could pray for her...she said yes. So, I began to pray; and while I was sitting there beside her, praying out loud to the Lord, the child was still constantly crying. I felt so small and helpless, but eventually felt like laying hands on her...which I did. And she kept crying, still hurting - and I'm thinking to myself "what now"? I finished my prayer, said "Amen"...and when I did, she instantly laid her head over on me, stopped crying and was fine. Praise the Lord! We walked back around the church, into the basement, and she went about her normal way - I didn't hear her complain about it anymore. This is just one of so many things the Lord has done for us over the years...too many to tell. But God is so good.

I love Dad's (Bro. Bill Price) testimony about Br. David coming to their house. Dad wasn't raised in Holiness, had moved to Huntsville from Memphis, Tn. He met mom (Sis. Eula Mae). Mom was Br. Robert Warren's daughter, raised on Crow Mountain...but she'd moved away from home, taken a job at the arsenal, and was

living in the world...far different than her raising. She met and married Dad, who knew nothing about Holiness. One day Br. David was riding in the car with another brother, selling insurance and collecting premiums. The other brother asked Br. David as they passed a particular house "do you know who lives there"? Of course, Br. David said "no". The man told him it was Br. Robert Warren's daughter...to which Br. David responded, stop the car and let me out! Still so unbelievable..but he was led by God. Not long after, Dad walked in from work and saw Mom on one side of the room, Br David on the other side of the room, with a little bible preaching to my Mom, and her crying. Br. David told Dad to "go over there and sit down" (telling a man he'd never met, in his own home, to go sit down). He finished his preaching, Mom was crying (by this time Dad said he was crying, just because Mom was). As Br. David started to leave, Dad asked him "what do you expect me to do? Just come that way and forget everything I've been taught?" And Br. David said "that's exactly what I expect you to do", turned and walked out...left both of them standing there crying. It wasn't long, and Mom was in church...and received the Holy Ghost. Then Dad. And all these years later, here I am with the Holy Ghost, with a wife with the Holy Ghost, with children and grandchildren in church. And I'm so thankful that the Lord led a young minister to stop at that little house one day, many years ago.

Bill grew up Memphis, Tn. and he was a good athlete in school. One day his best friend decided to run away from home. Bill didn't even want to run away himself, but he didn't want him to go alone...so he went with him. They hitch-hiked and wound up in southern Mississippi. They were out of money, tired and sitting on the side of the street. His friend said "I'll be back - I'm going to get us a car". Bill didn't believe it, thought his friend was just talking big. But sure enough, he came back with a (stolen) car. Bill said he was just dumb enough to get in and they crossed the state line. They wound up in Louisiana and got caught. Just two young kids, they went before the judge and were both under age. They sent for their parents and his school ball coach even came down to speak

well for them. But the judge had all the power, and whatever he said was the verdict. When it was young Bill's turn to go before the judge, he said he was so scared that his knees knocked together. The judge took his gavel and slammed it down and found him guilty (and he was). His heart fell to his stomach. The judge was silent for what seemed like a long time, then finally spoke and said this is your first offense so I will let you off on probation but if you ever come in my court again, you'll go to jail. And the boys got to go home. But Br. Bill said he never forgot what it felt like standing before that judge, and that one day we're all going to stand before judgment and it'll be thus saith the Lord. He wanted get ready and stay ready for that judgment day.

A young Bill Price lived in Madison out Hwy 72, not long after receiving the Holy Ghost. He was driving home and there were rolling hills through there. His car was on empty, about to run out of gas. He began praying the Lord wouldn't let him run out of gas until he could get to Slaughter Road (where there was a gas station). He started down one hill, then up another and because he was at a very good speed and thought "he could make it", he said ok Lord, I can make it now. When he started up the next hill he ran out of gas and had to pull over and walk to the gas station. The Lord taught him that we are never ok without Him and we've never "got this" without Him...not for one minute, one mile or one more hill.

One testimony from Mom and Dad is Dad had gone on a business trip. I believe he was traveling to Washington late at night. By the time he was in the air, Mom was home in bed. This would've been way before the internet or cellphones and news didn't travel fast. Dad was on the plane and all of the sudden it began filling up with smoke. The pilot came over the speaker and told the passengers there was a problem and the plane might have to make an emergency landing. I remember Dad telling of how one of the attendants opened up some kind of panel and the thing was on fire. Smoke came rolling out. It was a serious situation and

everyone was scared to death. Needless to say, the Lord watched over them and the plane was able to land safely. The next morning Dad was able to call home and he said to Mom "you'll never guess what happened last night". She responded "the plane caught on fire". The Lord woke her up in the night letting her know. She got out of bed, fell on her knees and prayed for him. We have heard testimonies like this over and over and it still amazes me how God watches over his children.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Cora Warren (Bill's in laws) lived at Nila. One day Bro. Bill went hunting in the woods behind their house. He got down in the holler and it got dark on him before he realized it. And after lots of walking through all those mountains, he realized that he was lost - and didn't know how to get out or back to their house. He was lost. He walked through the woods until he found a fence. He knew the fence would lead "somewhere", and decided to follow it; he grabbed it and started walking, and was afraid to let go of that fence. He came to creek and to avoid getting wet, he'd have to let go of the fence - so he just waded the creek holding to the fence. Finally, off in the distance he saw a glimmer of just a little light. It was Br. Robert's front porch, where he had just a single little bulb and chain. But when he saw the light, he let go of that fence and headed towards it. He always talked about how - not being raised in holiness and being taught so many other things in his life - that when he "saw the light", he had to "let go" of everything else and go to the light. And how glad he was that he made that decision when he heard the truth of the Way of Holiness preached to him.

Sis. Alexis Randles:

So, one night we were at grandmothers (Sister Suzie Kelly) and Skyline church was over singing and praying for Grandad (Brother Jack Kelly). It was a Saturday afternoon/night, Kamron and I were on our way to church and we passed by and saw all the cars there, and I told him to turn around and let's go over there so we did.

They were praying and shouting, the Lord was blessing everywhere, but I was just having a really, really hard day so I was very upset. A few people came and laid hands on me and hugged me and then they pushed me out and the Lord forevermore blessed me, and then I was anointed by two different people. I went home that night thinking the Lord had healed me but the devil had my mind soooo bad. I struggled really hard with it and almost every church service after that I would ask for people to come and lay hands on me and every single time, they did. It was like the Lord was doing everything I had asked him to do but I hadn't done what he wanted me to do for him. I would even ask for specific people to lay hands on me, and they did! Well, the young married couples and a few others went over to Grandads (Bro. Jack Kelly) to sing and pray and my mind was just racing. I had a thought that if Sis. Grace Mason laid hands on me, I would claim my healing. Sis. Grace had just laid hands on me that weekend before in church, so I was thinking there was no way it could happen again so quickly after. She was holding her little boy, Gabe, and no sooner than I had that thought about her laying hands on me she gave him to me so she could testify. She steps out and the Lord blesses her and she comes over to me and lays hands on me and I knew I needed to claim my healing. After she was done, I testified and said I had no idea how to do this or what to do but I explained everything and said I needed to claim my healing and the Lord blessed me again and several people said that they felt it from their head to their toes and they told me to hold on to that. Afterwards, Bro. Evan Mahathey testified and said that he had no idea that I was sick but that whenever Sis. Grace laid hands on me the Lord told him that it was for my healing.

After this happened, I felt great. I knew the Lord had healed me. A few weekends later, we went over to Bro. Dustin & Sis. Tonya Paradise's house to pray for their daughter, Sister Erin. It was the most amazing meeting, and I was able to witness things I never had before. A few people had laid hands on me and I was so thankful for that. Sister Shyann Barron came over and laid hands on me from my head to my stomach and she did it over and over

about four or five times. The next day, someone told Sis. Melia Kelly that Sis. Shyann has a gift and that I would be healed very soon. A week later, I found out that I was expecting and now I have two beautiful 4 month old babies. I can never thank the Lord enough for giving me Charlotte and Caroline, when it looked like there was no hope at all the Lord came by and healed my mind and my body and I am so thankful.

I started thinking about this the other night, but I really think the Lord healed my mind the first time I claimed my healing and then healed my body the other night. It makes perfect sense when I think about it. I wasn't really sure if that was possible for the Lord to heal your mind and your body, but I guess it is! I am just so thankful and feel so undeserving but I am so grateful for the things the Lord has done for me.

Sis. Melia Randles:

When our son Kamron was about 3-4 months old, I think, he developed an umbilical hernia. The doctors told me that if it didn't heal within a couple of weeks, they were going to do surgery on him to correct it. At the time we were going to church at Oak Grove, but on this Saturday night we visited Huntsville. I was sitting on the end of the second seat with Kamron in my lap, and out of nowhere Bro. Zacky Butler came and got Kamron and walked him around the altar. To my knowledge, he had no clue that Kamron had an issue. Several laid hands on him, and the Lord healed him and he never had to have surgery.

Sis. Linda Rettinger:

Blessing 1: A favorite older blessing was when my daughter was a baby. She was born with a dislocated hip. At about 3 months she had to go into a cast to correct it. It was huge for her tiny body. It came above her waist and down below both her knees with her legs straight out to the side. There was a hole just big enough to

stuff a diaper in. It was bad in many ways. It restricted normal movement and development of a baby and the diaper leaked into the cast causing irritation and burns. It was so big, heavy and bulky that she would not fit into a stroller or a shopping buggy, restricting my ability to do needed chores. The doctor told us she would have to be in the cast 6 weeks and then go into another one. I asked a couple of times if she could just do the one but he said it wouldn't be enough. But I had them pray for her at Big Cove Church where I was going at the time. The Lord told me that she would not have to go into the second cast. When she was brought out after the cast removal and replacement, she was held on the nurse's hip with both legs straight out and a blanket covering her. She was at some distance and it looked like she had on another cast. I said 'Lord, I know you told me she would not wear a second cast'. The nurse then removed the blanket and she was not wearing a cast but a lightweight brace, that I could remove as needed to care for her. Praise the Lord! My daughter is now 50 and her hip is just fine.

Blessing 2: As many of you know I live in Cedar Park, Texas, a suburb of Austin. I've been here many years as we were transferred out here and I now have grown children and grandchildren here. I try to pray and praise the Lord in my home since going to church is limited, especially these last 3 years. I was walking through my house a couple of years ago or so, singing a gospel song and praising the Lord. As I walked through my bedroom, I looked up and saw a huge cross on my wall. It was about four feet high and a couple of feet across. I rejoiced of course but I was also astonished. It was apparently created by light coming from my windows and reflecting off my dresser mirror onto the wall but to save my life I could not figure how that pattern was created from what I saw. I took this picture and I also checked for many days after that at about that time to see if it appeared again but I never saw it. Once I saw a line but never



that perfect, framed cross.

Bro. Lee Rogers:

Marty and I had been married for 12 ½ years and divorced for about 10 years. I had moved to Tampa and remarried. My daughter, Kylee, received the Holy Ghost when she was 17 years old. I didn't know but Kylee began to pray that the Lord would bring her mom and dad back together and give them the Holy Ghost. My world began to crumble so I thought. After a few months I moved out on my own and got a divorce. I started praying that the Lord would give me another chance to serve him and told him that if he would bring me back to Alabama, I would give it all to him. Marty & I began to speak again and the Lord allowed me to return to Alabama. Marty & I decided to get remarried. We remarried on April 15, 2010. On June 16, 2010 I received the Holy Ghost. Two days later on June 18 Marty received the Holy Ghost. The Lord has truly blessed our lives and this has been the best 11 years of my life. I thank the Lord for the grace and mercy he has given me and my greatest desire is to make it to Heaven.

Sis. Carley Saxena:

Testimony 1:

I was 11 years old when I received the Holy Ghost. At that time, my granddad had not received it, though he had been to the altar off and on before. It wasn't long after I received the Holy Ghost, my heart was set on him receiving it as well! Since I was little, my granddad would give us Hershey chocolate bars when we visit him and my grandmother. These were and are still my favorite! One night at Huntsville, Brother Nathan Glass got up and told about how he given up chocolate ice cream for someone he knew to receive the Holy Ghost. This made me want to do the same for my granddad, so I decided to give up Hershey chocolate bars for him to receive the Holy Ghost! A couple of years passed, and while we were at church one night we got a call, and it was my grandmother. My granddad had received the Holy Ghost at Rocky Branch! After they left Rocky Branch they came to Huntsville and

we all rejoiced! We left the church and went to see my aunt and uncle. I was sitting on the couch with my granddad when my uncle came in the room with a Hershey bar! To this day, this was the best one I ever had! It wasn't about the Hershey bar, but the Lord knew my heart's desire. I am still so thankful, and this has always been a stake for me!

Testimony 2:

On New Year's Eve of 2020, we were with several of our friends over at Kamron and Alexis Randles's house. Our daughter, Eleanor, was only 5 months old, and she was having some real bad stomach problems at the time. Just a few weeks prior to this, she had a real bad night with it. She was screaming to the top of her lungs, and nothing was calming her. It was the same way on New Year's Eve. Kamran and I were in the back bedroom just trying to console her, but we knew she was in so much pain. Alexis came back there and asked us if we wanted them to pray for her. Of course, we said yes, we went living room and everybody got down to pray. She was still crying as we were praying, but the Lord allowed a couple of his children to lay hands on her. As soon as the prayer was over, I looked down at her and she was smiling back at me! I sat her up and she was laughing! She was a completely different baby, the Lord had come by and healed her immediately. To this day, she has never had a time like this again!

Bro. Kamran Saxena:

A year or two after I received the Holy Ghost, I had found myself kind of in a hard place. I had let the advisory make it in my mind that I could not lay hands on anyone. I was to the point where even if I knew the Lord was in it, I would not do it. I wanted to do for the Lord so bad and I would see my friends being used by the Lord. I wasn't jealous, I just wanted to be like them. Anyway, one night at church meeting was going on and it was good. I'm not sure I was praying but I definitely thought Lord I would love to work for you tonight and I would be willing to lay hands on

someone even if you just let a total stranger walk in the church, I'd go lay hands on them. Instantly in the middle of meeting an older man walked into church and sat on the back bench! I was just shocked and was really nervous. I wanted to be in order but obedient. Just to make sure it was the Lord I looked on the far side of the brethren and picked Bro. Jason Mahathey and said Lord if that is you let Bro. Jason come lay hands on me. Immediately he turned came through all the brethren and laid hands on me. I made my way back to the man and laid hands on him. That night the Lord placed that man, maybe an angel, there for me.

Sis. Vickie Acklin Scott:

My first testimony is how the Lord knocked at my heart at the early age of fourteen. I wasn't even aware that God was working with me until one day at church Bro. Oakley Brown pointed his finger at me and said the Lord was working with me. It was a shock to me! Not too many days later my little heart started knocking inside really fast and I knew for myself that it was the Lord. I made my way to the alter to pray. I remember seeking the Lord praying even while doing my daily chores at home. I sought the Lord for two weeks and was getting discouraged. At this time fourteen young people had received the Holy Ghost. On the second Sunday night, September 10, 1967, I went to the alter to pray and that night the power of God was so strong that it would raise my legs and feet off the floor (I was on my back). I thought I spoke in tongues but I wanted to be sure so I thought please Lord one more time and I never realized how I got on my feet; it was like the Lord just raised me straight up with the Holy Ghost.

One of my earliest testimonies occurred during my Junior year of high school. My mind was troubled about saying a bad word. This was interesting because I was raised in a Holiness home where I didn't hear words like that and I don't recall saying any major bad words because I was fourteen years old when I received the Holy

Ghost. I still remember that I was going up the steps at school when the sweet Holy Ghost spoke to my mind with the scripture in Matthew, Chapter 28:20 "and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." When I have been troubled, discouraged and yes, many times when I didn't know if I could make it this precious Word of God has been one of my many anchors.

I was taught to honor our elder children of God and to go to them if I needed help. I was going through a rough one of those fiery trials. Sis. Ninnie Lovvorn lived downtown. I didn't have a car so I walked from school downtown to where Sis. Ninnie lived. However, while on my way I passed where my Aunt Rubye Brown worked so I went in to visit. My Aunt Rubye thought that we needed to give Sis. Ninnie a call to see if it was ok for me to visit. We called and of course it was ok so I went on my way. I knocked on her door and when she opened the door, she laid hands on me. We talked and I still had to go through that trial but God gave me one of my strongest anchors. Years later on a September night of the revival that Stephen Mahathey (my brother-in-law) and my brother, Mike Acklin, received the Holy Ghost we were all happy and shouting. Sis. Ninnie came to me and told me that the Lord had already told her the day I visited that I would be coming. He is so good to be mindful of a small, young child of God. He truly will never forsake us nor leave us alone. It is amazing that He is so mindful of us!

A lot of my testimonies are from my trials and tribulations but in those times, I have received my greatest blessings of strength. I would pick up the Bible and ask the Lord to let it open to where I needed to read. So many, many times God would comfort me through the word of God. I listened at church but I would also read the New Testament. In so doing, and mostly through the Holy Ghost during the times I was troubled the word of God would come to my mind and comfort my heart. It was my sword and shield to fight those fiery darts. One of these times there was this scripture, "not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread". This would go over and over in my mind and in my heart as God's comfort. I didn't recall ever hearing it or reading it and didn't know

where it was in the Bible. I wanted to know where this precious scripture was in the Bible. As we have heard and know God works in mysterious ways. One of my first jobs I worked with this nice elderly lady who took me under her motherly wings so to speak. She wasn't very healthy and didn't always wake from the sound of an alarm. I called her every morning to make sure she was awake getting ready for work. I was young and she just took me under her motherly wing at work so I wanted to do something to repay her thoughtfulness. Years had passed and we no longer worked together, both had moved on to other jobs when I received a phone call from her one evening. During our conversation she mentioned Psalm 37 that began "Fret not thyself because of evildoers". I later looked up Psalm 37 reading on down to verse 25 and there it was, "I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken; nor his seed begging bread". God had used this precious elderly friend that I had helped years before to show me where his scripture was that had sustained my heart and faith through that particular trial. Isn't God amazing and wonderful. Another time I was sitting at my desk at work one day when the thought came to my mind, "look up the word grace". I did and found a monumental treasure in His word! The grace of God is "unmerited favor of God". What an eye opener, it is nothing that we do but by God's grace that we receive of God. Yes, we can do our best but all in all it is just by his Grace. His ways are far above our ways, Isaiah 55:9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts". Isn't God's word written so beautifully.

While some children of God come up out of the floor shouting I did not. I would feel the good Lord's trembling power in my hands but my feet didn't shout and it worried me. I had two dear sisters that prayed heartily for the Lord to free me. It was Sis. Ruby Graham and Sis. Carolyn Houk. They were and Sis. Carolyn still is prayer warriors. Sis. Carolyn asked my sister, Brenda Mahathey, and I to go up north to Black Oak for church. Sunday, October 27, 1975 we found ourselves there at Black Oak. They had a huge crowd that morning. I had always been shy but on that morning, I found

myself being called on to testify by Bro. Tom Curley who was a wonderful child of God and minister. We had been taught to be obedient when another child of God asked us to testify. I rose to my feet and made my testimony; what I said I don't remember but I do remember that the good Lord freed my soul that morning and I shouted and spoke in tongues. Our prayers had been answered and the good Lord has blessed me wonderfully ever since!! Thank you dear Lord! I found it to be true that obedience is better than sacrifice.

Sis. Geneva Semanek:

Growing up with a Holiness mother, I was healed by the Lord many times as a child, and I never forgot the power of the Lord. Right before I was saved, I had spent several years researching and seeking out the Lord; he let me see the signs of Revelations happening in the world and I did not want to be left behind. My Sister Nancy Jean, whom was raised Baptist, told me there were other beliefs that I didn't have to go the Holiness Church. I had prayed that the Lord would show me that right path then On March 1, 2015 I came to church to be prayed for. That first time I came to the altar, the Lord let me know it was time, and I received the Holy Ghost. I invited Nancy Jean to come to church the next week and she never left; she got the Holy Ghost on April 13, 2015.

Bro. Paul Simmons:

Becky and I married February 27, 1981. She was 16 I was 19. Opening day of squirrel season October 3 1981, Scott Medlen, Mark McAllister, Barry Standridge and I went squirrel hunting in Hazel Green at my Papa Simmons farm. He had 2 farms. Scott and I hunted one farm. Barry and Mark hunted the other. Scott and I killed a few squirrels and we met back up with Mark and Barry. They hadn't even seen any squirrels so they wanted to hunt where

we were at. It was a long walk to the woods so Mark drove his truck to edge of woods. We walked into the woods. Mark saw 2 fox squirrels run in a nest into the tree. Mark said y'all get ready I'm going to shoot into the nest and when they run out y'all shoot. Mark was using an old double barrel shotgun. He shot into the nest and killed 1 squirrel and the other came running out. We all shot and Mark was going to try to shoot again. He broke the gun down and stuck 1 shell in and when he brought the barrel up the gun went off. It hit me in the calf right at the knee. I looked down, I looked up and looked down and my leg was covered in blood from the knee down. Mark carried me as far as he could then they drug me from under my arms backwards through ditches and briers. They loaded me up in back of the pickup truck and Barry rode in the back with me. As they drove me to the hospital, I closed my eyes to try to remain calm. Barry thought I was dying and shook me and told me not to close my eyes anymore. We got to the main intersection of Hazel Green and Scott ran into the diner and where the sheriff's deputy was inside eating. He gave an escort from Hazel Green to Huntsville Hospital. Word got to Uncle Virgil Medlen and Bro. Bill Price and they went to Big Cove to tell mom and dad. They went to their house and dad wasn't there so they wouldn't tell mom. They went to subdivision where dad was working and told him. He went to tell mom. He would not let mom go to hospital. He said he would go check things out and send for her. Mom thought I was dead and that is why they wouldn't let her go. She was heartbroken. The doctor operated on my leg and reported to dad that the nerve in my leg was gone. It was blown out and it controlled my foot. He said I would be a cripple the rest of my life and would have to wear a brace because the artery was blown out along with a portion of the calf muscle and small bone. They were able to take a vein out of my ankle to repair the artery. I was put in ICU for several days. I was told I would be in the hospital for months and it would be weeks before I could have a skin graft to cover the large open wound. Folks were praying from Indiana, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida. Thursday morning Becky had gone to get cleaned up and spur of the moment I was

told they were going to do a skin graft on my leg. I called home told mom and dad. Dad and Becky came back to hospital and mom couldn't come because she was keeping Daxton and Landon. She told the boys to be still and she got down to pray. She began to rehearse to God how he had made man. Raked him up from the dust of the earth, put every nerve and blood vessel in place. She told him the physicians of the land said the nerve is gone if this be so you can put another in there. They did skin graft and dad went to see how it went. The doctor said it went good and oh by the way that nerve they said was gone was there just floating. He said his leg is so tender we will have to go back later to repair it. By the grace of God, they never went back in. God healed the nerve. I got out of hospital on October 20 and would've gone to church that night but I didn't get out in time. The next day, Bro. David Jones was running revival at Riverton. They prayed and anointed me with oil. I couldn't control or lift my foot. I got fitted for a brace to wear on my right foot and it went up my leg and it held my foot up. I got it the day after Thanksgiving. I wore it for 2 weeks and was glad because I didn't have to be on crutches. The Lord healed me during that time. I was able hold my foot up and decided to try and walk without it and could. Hallelujah.

Becky and I married February 27, 1981. I started to alter 3rd Sunday night in April. After getting shot in October, the Lord healing me and allowing me to walk again you would've thought I could've believed the Lord for anything. I got into a rut and 4 ½ years passed. Bro David Jones asked me to go to Nila October 1985. The year before he asked Shannon Barron to go to Pleasant Grove and the Lord gave Shannon the Holy Ghost and I knew the Lord wasn't respect of person. I went to Nila believing. Bro David told me to go every night. Sunday morning there was a huge crowd. I got bumped into and didn't pray very good. Sunday night I went to Huntsville. During the day I began to seek the Lord and humble down. Monday night I didn't make it. Tuesday night I didn't do any good. That night they asked the seekers to testify and the same power I felt first night in alter fell on me and I got close. I prayed all day Wednesday and Wednesday night I got so

close but didn't make it. Thursday all day I prayed. As I prayed Thursday night, Bro Charlie stopped me three times. I did what he told me. **I heard another voice saying that's not necessary.** I tried to do what he said even though it was awkward. Bro Charlie said go on you're trying. I stopped and said now tell me what else to do. I wanted the Holy Ghost more than anything else in life. I began speaking in tongues and came up with Holy Ghost. God honors obedience.

Sis. Becky Simmons - Hilary went on a vacation trip to Thailand December 2019 which was right before covid hit in the United States. She had to fly into Japan change planes and then on to Thailand. While there she got extremely sick. She called and said mom I'm very sick and running a fever. She had planned to go out to eat that night but couldn't go. The next day she was to start her flights home. Becky was tore up. The next day, Becky was driving down the road she began praying. She said Lord please help Hilary and the Lord said lay hands on her. Becky said I can't. The Lord said act like she is right beside you. Becky leaned over to the other seat and the power struck her, she spoke in tongues and she laid hands on Hilary as if she were sitting right next to her. When she talked to Hilary, she told her what the Lord had told her to do. Hilary said mom I felt it when you laid hands on me. She was able to be well enough to fly home.

Bro. W. Paul Simmons - Dad started to the alter when he was 16 and went to alter for a few years. He got very discouraged. He made it up in his mind he wasn't ever going to receive the Holy Ghost. He decided one Sunday morning it was his last trip to alter. He went to church on Beirne Ave and there wasn't even a preacher there. Bro James Wooten led service that day. Dad went to alter but he wasn't planning on being there long so he knelt on one knee and didn't even raise his hands. The good children of God gathered around praying for him and he was on both knees and lifted his hands in the air before he knew it. He said their voices were like a whirlwind in the air. When their voices went up his mind went up too. Bro James had a loud voice and he heard him

say Lord let it come out of his mouth and when he came back to himself, he was speaking in tongues.

Dad hadn't had the Holy Ghost very long when WW2 had started. Dad went out to Gunter's Mtn for communion. Bro. Will Guffy was washing his feet. He looked up and said son you'll never have to go. Dad got draft papers and had to go to Birmingham. Bro Brown and Bro Hodges Moore went with him. Bro Brown talked to the officer in charge and told them Dad would be a conscientious objector. The officer was getting upset because he didn't like what he was hearing. Bro Brown said we aren't afraid to shed our blood for our country but he won't bear arms. The officer said now we are getting somewhere. Dad was heavy and he said son can you take it? He said anything but hiking. They rejected him so he never had to go serve.

Dad was 16 and lived in Big Cove. Every year he would get sick with malarial chills. He would shake and shiver with the chills. He was on a cot in living room with blankets piled on him. Papa and Mama Simmons sent one of the kids down the road to get a brother that was described as nothing to be desired of to come pray for Dad. The three of them began to pray and Dad peeped out from under the covers. He said the brother down the road began to get ahold of God and the spirit bounced him across the floor and he laid hands on Dad. The chills stopped instantly. He lived to be 68 years old without ever having them again.

Aunt Maudie Mae's daughter, Sarah, was at Mama and Papa's house and they were cooking. Water was boiling on the stove. Sarah hit the pot and it poured on her. She was scalded and it was very painful. They sent word for some to come out and pray. Dad picked up Bro. Buford West and several more on his way out there. Nobody said anything on the way there. Sarah was a little girl and they began to pray. Everyone prayed and was done except for Dad and when he would about to be where he was going to stop praying Sarah would say Uncle Paul pray just a little more. She was in terrible pain. Dad would pray some more and about to stop and Sarah again would say Uncle Paul please pray some more.

Finally, the Lord allowed Dad to lay hands on her and the Lord healed her.

Sis. Catherine Simmons - Mom started to the alter in Big Cove as a barefoot 12 year old girl not so much that she was lost but because she wanted to go to heaven. Bro. Will Guffy preached that day. She went to the alter for about 8 years and received the Holy Ghost 2nd Sunday morning on Beirne Ave. It was a preacher's meeting and when Bro Brown gave alter call, she said he didn't even make it sound inviting. He said we are just going to give these seekers a time to pray. The power of the Lord knocked her back and her head landed in her future mother-in-law's lap (Sis. Bessie Simmons). No one even moved her. She began speaking in tongues with her head still in Sis. Bessie's lap. Mom said she got up didn't shout at all just went over and sat on the bench satisfied. She was baptized the next Sunday in the creek up in Williams Cove.

When she found out she was expecting a child she began praying right then for them to receive the Holy Ghost. She told the Lord she didn't care what they accomplished in life as long as they had the Holy Ghost. After I was born, she would pray that she didn't care if I could read my name in box car letters as long as I received the Holy Ghost. Finally, I received the Holy Ghost and she told me she prayed harder for me than she did for herself.

Christmas time mom had gone shopping one afternoon. She went into a store and heard little girl coughing, crouping and crying. Several times the little girl asked her mother for different things and the mother would say no we can't get that. Mom walked around and asked the mother if she could buy the little girl something. She got the little girl and said hun look through here and find something you want. She would show her a doll and she would say no. She would say look at this and the little girl would say no the whole time coughing and crouping. You could tell they were poor and didn't have much. She finally picked up a doll and mom bought it for her. Mom said she felt good knowing at least the child got one thing for Christmas.

Bro. Harold Simmons - Daddy (Bro. W. Paul Simmons) said the death angel had been after Harold all of his life. He broke his leg when he was 12 playing ball and they told him he had bone cancer then. When they took him to have his leg set, they found more than a broke bone. They put a cast on his leg and carried him home. Daddy came home from work and he and Sis. Martha (Harold's mother) sat down on the stoop. He asked her how she wanted to pursue this because the doctor wanted to amputate Harold's leg. The doctor couldn't assure it would save his life. He told her whatever she wanted to do he would back her. She said he came into this world with two legs and his going out with two legs. They took him to Beirne Ave and had him prayed for. A few days later Daddy came home from work and Harold was in the back yard playing ball with the boys. Steve said Daddy, Harold wants you to take the cast off. Daddy took the cast off with pliers and screwdriver. God had healed his broken leg.

Harold was going to alter but he had graduated high school and was going to Florence State. His intentions were to come home every weekend for church and he did for a while. Then on Saturdays he was too tired for church and would go on Sunday mornings but leave Sunday afternoon to go back to school. His priorities were out of order. Mom said one day she saw his school work on the table and she saw paperwork for University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and it broke her heart. His testimony through years was that Florence State wasn't big enough for him he wanted to go to Tuscaloosa to make something of himself. The Lord told him you might go get an education but if you do, I'll turn you loose and you may never receive the Holy Ghost. He counted the cost and forgot about school. He came home and married Sis. Libby. In May of 1966 he went up to Black Oak where he received the Holy Ghost. Harold loved to sing the song "Now I Have Everything". He would say that song suited his life. He was making so many big plans for his future. He was going to make something of himself but that good Lord of glory showed him what he needed. He let the Lord make something out of him instead of him making something out of himself.



When Harold was 29, he got so sick he couldn't work. He left his job and he and his family had to move in with Dad and Mom in Big Cove. He was out of work for 11 months. Brothers from the church would sit up with him at night to take care of him two at a time. One night he got so bad everyone knew he was dying. He called everyone in and told them goodbye and was waiting for the death angel to come. The house was full. There was long hall from the kitchen to back bedroom and it was like the Lord came in back door all the way down the long hall to the back bedroom. A brother from Scottsboro came to see Harold. He leaned down to hug and kiss him and laid hands on him. Harold said God has healed me. He had a long recovery but lived 11 more years and provided for his family. He still died at the early age of 40.

Papa Simmons (Bro. Buddy & Sis. Bessie Simmons) - Papa Simmons was born in Sparta, TN. He married and moved to Huntsville on Hobbs Island Rd. After moving to Huntsville is when he first heard of Holiness and divine healing. Papa received the Holy Ghost. He had a little bit of medicine at home. He gathered all the vials and took them out in the yard and busted them on a limestone rock. He never took another dose of medicine.

Mama Simmons (Sis. Bessie Simmons) - One day she couldn't raise one of her arms above shoulder. They called some in to pray and she began trying to raise her arm but couldn't get it up. She tried again. They kept praying. Three or four times she tried raising her arm and finally she could raise it all the way up.

Bro. Tom Gray - Lester Gray was Bro. Tom's oldest son who was very sick with seizures. He was only 24. One Sunday at Beirne Ave Lester was praying in the alter and wasn't doing any good. Uncle Tom walked by Bro David Jones and said see if you can help my boy. Bro David said Lester you can make it and Lester received the Holy Ghost. He only lived 13 days after that.

Bro. Tom Gray - Uncle Tom had a growth in his throat at back of his tongue. It started small and it got to where he couldn't eat or drink because he couldn't swallow. One day he went out in the

yard and sat on limestone rock. He was talking to the Lord and said if it was his will, I wish you would heal me. Immediately the growth turned loose and slid all the way out his mouth.

Bro Emmett Drake - 1st pastor of Big Cove Holiness Church - Bro Emmett and Sis Nellie were another denomination but heard a Holiness meeting was being held at Bro Walter Hodges Moore's house. They started going there a few times. On the way home one night Bro Emmett said Nellie what do you think about those Holiness people. She said I've had about all of them I want. He said well I'm going that way if you and all of our kids turn against me. He received the Holy Ghost. A few days later Nellie was out on the porch churning and the Lord said you can talk to her now. He asked her if she wanted the Holy Ghost. She said I'll get it or die trying. She received the Holy Ghost and only lived a few years. She died speaking in tongues.

Bro. Mitchell Drake- Uncle Mitchell Drake lived in little house behind Big Cove church. It was during the day he was home alone praying when he received the Holy Ghost. He began shouting and breaking dishes in Sis. Lizzie's china cabinet. The sister down road heard him and said Mitchell either received Holy Ghost or he's dying one.

Bro. Oakley Drake - Oakley Drake lived in a little house behind Big Cove church. Reuban Gaught and Troy Walls was at his house playing croquet. Neither of them were going to alter. Oakley was so condemned he didn't want to be around them. He left them and walked to church. He received the Holy Ghost that night. He wanted to go see Bro Buddy Simmons and Sis Bessie. They lived off of Pulaski Pike. He drove all the way over there and walked in. They were in the bed. He opened the door and Bro. Buddy said you made it didn't you son?

Bro. Olef Gaines - Bro Olef wasn't raised in Holiness. After he and Sis Ruby married, they came to Beirne Ave. He had a speech impediment. He received Holy Ghost. One Sunday morning the Lord told him to testify. He said Lord I would if I could talk plain.

He heard the Lord tell him again to testify. He stood up and said Bro Brown I want to testify. As he began to testify Mammy Brown laid hands on him and a brother behind him stepped across the bench and laid hands on him. That was Bro Henry McLain. When he came to himself, he could speak as other men. God had healed him.

Work was hard to find in Huntsville so Bro Olef worked in Georgia. He would go stay all week and come home on weekends. Friday afternoon he would stop at a certain station to fill up and stretch his legs. It was dark he was praying and said Lord I wish you'd ride home with me. He noticed the passenger seat went down like someone was riding with him. He began to talk to the Lord and told him how he loved him and was thankful for all he had done. There at the light he knew the Lord was going to leave and he saw the seat when it went up and the Lord left. He usually walked around and stretched his legs when he stopped to fill up but this time, he just got the gas and got back in the car to see if the Lord would get back in the car with him. Sure enough the seat went back down and he talked to him all the way home. As he pulled in the drive way at home, he saw the seat go back up. He didn't bother Sis. Ruby and she let him sleep late the next day. The next morning, he went into the kitchen where she had breakfast ready and he began to tell her about the Lord riding home with him. He said Ruby you'll never believe what happened to me last night. Sis. Ruby told him before bed she and the kids prayed the Lord would ride all the way home with him.

Sis. Ethel Polston- Sis Ethel heard about Holiness and went to church on Beirne Ave before Bro Brown came to Huntsville. Bro Buddy Simmons was having house church on Hobbs Island Rd. The house was full and she was on the front porch. Someone said hey we haven't prayed yet and that was what she wanted to hear. She received the Holy Ghost on Bro Buddy's front porch back in the 1920s.