

Confession:

Matthew 5:31-32. Jesus did not take the matter of divorce lightly. Even more serious than Moses did. He says, that whosoever shall put away his wife saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery; and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced, committeth adultery. I confessed the sin of adultery and fornication in both marriages and learned not to seek my own understanding, but to depend upon God's word in Rom. (3); 23), "All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God." When I remarried August 5, 1977, prior to being called to preach the word of the Lord, I was still trying to do things my way and I was running from God. I was raised at First Baptist Church Hansboro, MS. Dr. E. L. Fox, Pastor. Even at 14-years old, I felt God telling me to do something but I refused. Thinking only of myself, my friends and the life I though I wanted to live. I didn't understand how to trust totally in Jesus or that I wouldn't have to be perfect in order to live for God.

While attending school at El Centro Junior College and working at Southwest Tablet Company, I began to read the Bible again. I was just out of the Air Force and trying to adjust to civilian life once again. One day in October 1978, at 2310 Arkansas Lane, Arlington, TX, God told me to go up stairs. Something was about to happen I didn't understand. While looking at my Bible without reading a word, a voice spoke to me and said "Let Go Carl, I will take care of you." Tears came down my face like a never ending stream. Every time I thought of my tears, I prayed for a closer walk with Him. After that experience we joined a Baptist Church in Arlington. I was trying to serve two masters, but God said you will hate one and love the other. In November 1981, my wife and I decided to give our marriage another try.

I moved back to Wichita Falls, Texas with my family and joined Eastside Baptist Church. I thought I would let God clean the family up this time and get out of the way. Well, Jesus will work if both let Him. In the mist of the divorce, God led me to join First Baptist Church Wichita Falls. He has blessed me in many different ways. I joined the church November 28, 1982. Jesus led me through the waters of believers' baptism on December 15, 1982. Since then, God's word has been fed to me with love and compassion. God has convicted and convinced me about a moral life and drawn me to a closer walk with Him. It has not been easy, sometimes I want to quit, but than victory has come and my faith in God would ring out loud and clear. I can not say I am perfect nor am I good. (Rom. 6:23), but from the water God lifted me, now safe am I. "The Lord saw a ship lost on the sea on a stormy night, and through His words, He has guided it safely home. Where shall I go but to the Lord.