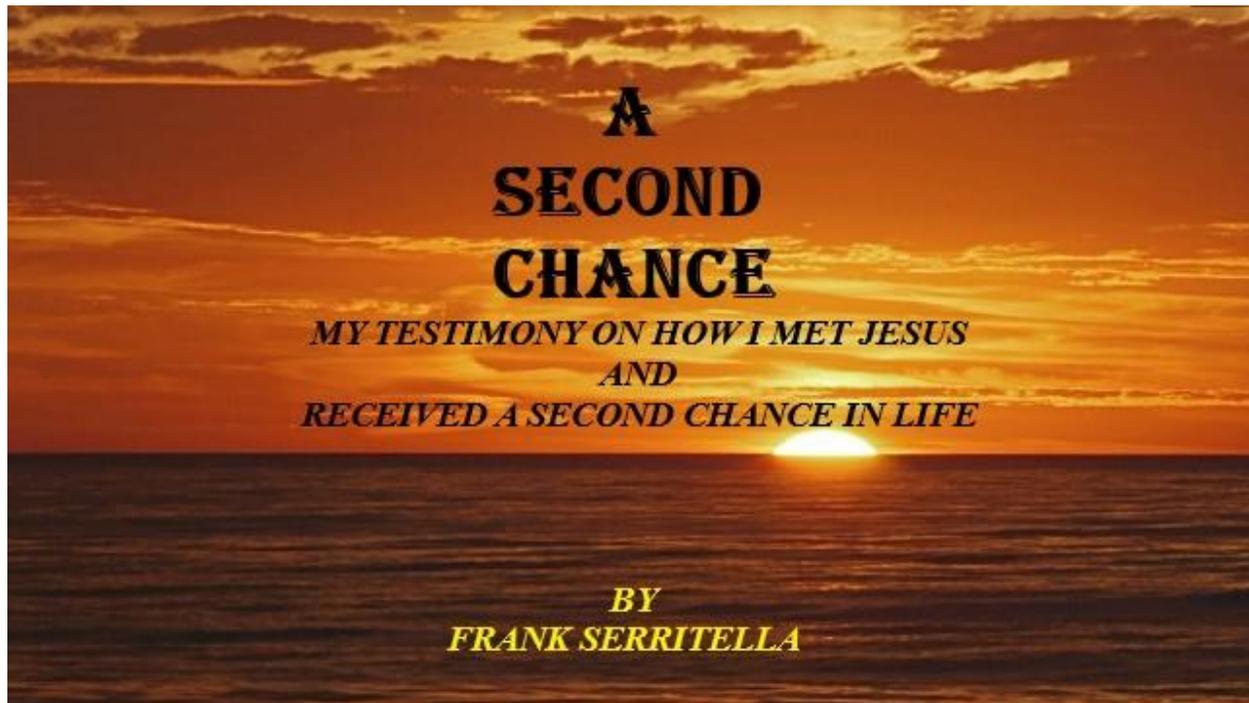


MY TESTIMONY



The year was 1984, My life had become a runaway train. I was completely out of control and I was a living train wreck. I had no identity, no structure, I was so empty inside, and felt all alone. I was in a very dark place in my life.

It was May of 1979, when, my mom died. Mom and I had been close. I am the oldest of three boys, no girls in an Italian family. When I was young, I would walk to the bus stop and wait for mom as she would come home from work. When I was old enough to drive, I would pick her up at the train in Oak Park. She and dad came to all my baseball games.

I was a sophomore in college on a full ride scholarship for baseball. My goal, as most young men, was to play Major League Baseball. I had several tryouts with Major League teams, including, an invitation to take batting practice with the Chicago Cubs.

Because of mom's sickness I didn't finish the season, as I would drive in to see mom in the hospital. When mom died, so did my desire to play baseball. So when mom died, my whole world came crashing down. I quit college.

In June of 1979, just one month after mom died, I met Marianne and, we dated. She was my first girlfriend. The following year we married. I had married a girl I really did not love. But, the relationship helped replace the pain of the loss of my mom.

I was 21, and not ready for the responsibility of marriage. I had no idea who I was, what I was going to do, or what life was about. I was a baseball player and did not know anything else. I didn't even know how to handle a check book! I was not ready or prepared for life outside of baseball, let alone, the world.

A few years later in late 1983 Marianne was 2 months pregnant. As a husband I was, without question, irresponsible, selfish, and unfaithful....now I have a child on the way, I couldn't deal with that. I was out every night running around and hanging around the guys I grew up with back home. Marianne filed for divorced. Any hopes and dreams I had for a new life, really fell apart. I had no identity, I felt All alone.

I moved back home and started spending all my time with the guys I grew up with. They were now, my NEW Identity. After all I grew up in an Italian neighborhood, and the appeal of nice cars, pockets full of money and beautiful women was very intoxicating to a young man with no direction in life.

The crowd of guys, I am talking about was The Chicago Mob, Chicago Wiseguys. (Think of the Movie Goodfellas. Yes, I was a Chicago Wiseguy Wanna be) One night, a neighborhood Bookie, ask Pete and I, to pay a visit to a guy who owed him money. It was After this experience, I realized this was not the life I wanted.

It was in the deep darkness of life, in October of 1984, when I asked Jesus into my heart.

Jesus the Son of God, who I had heard so many sermons about, watched so many movies about, revealed Himself to me! "Jesus is real," "Jesus is real!" I kept telling everyone. I had a genuine encounter with Jesus, the Son of God. People thought I was crazy. People may have thought I was crazy, but I knew my life had changed. I had met Jesus.

For the first time in my life, I felt free! Jesus had forgiven me of all my sins!! Sure, I knew God loved me, I heard it a million times. BUT, no one told me **I TRULY DID NOT LOVE JESUS ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF GOD!**

Was I religious, ABSOLUTELY! I was a Catholic after all! I went to church, I prayed to saints, took communion, I did all the things MY RELIGION taught me to do. But I was empty! **I KNEW ABOUT** Jesus. I knew He died for my sins, I knew Jesus had suffered and was crucified for us.

***BUT, IT WAS ALL HEAD KNOWLEDGE!
IT WAS AN INTELLECTUAL KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS!
IT WAS NOT A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH JESUS!***

It wasn't until I asked Jesus to forgive me of my sins and take my heart that the reality of sins forgiven, and the revealing of Jesus made me new. Now Jesus, **WAS NOT** a historical person, who I knew about, **BUT** the LIVING SON OF GOD, WHO I NOW KNOW PERSONALLY!

It was Jesus Himself Who revealed Himself to me and changed me. I felt a love, I could not describe, and a peace I could not put into words.

In all the church going, and being religious, lighting candles, saying prayers, praying to saints, and hearing about Jesus, nothing did anything to help the loneliness, and pain inside. All the religious activities and traditions did nothing to help me find Jesus. It was when I was broken and asked Jesus to take my heart, when Jesus fixed me, and Everything changed.

It was Jesus the Son of God, Who **ALONE**, changed my life. It was not a church, it was not a religion, or religious tradition, but it was Jesus, the Son of the living God, Who made Himself real to me, and turned my life around. Jesus brought me out of spiritual darkness, into His marvelous light of truth and life.

FAST FORWARD 2012

It was the morning of March 13, 2012. I was just 3 miles south of the Wisconsin border, when the chest pains I was feeling were not going away. In fact they were getting more intense. I had never had this before. I thought they would go away. The pain was getting very intense, too much for me to handle. I pulled my truck over to the side of the Illinois Tollway at the Tollbooth and called 911. They closed the Tollway to bring the ambulance to pull me out of my truck.

I was rushed to a trauma center. On the fourth day of being in the intensive care unit, a doctor came in. I joked with him, asking, "So doc, how am I?" He responded, "well Frank, you amaze me!" I joked, "Is that a good thing?" He looked at me very serious and said, "Oh no, listen, I have been a doctor for over 35 years and have NEVER SEEN numbers like you have! Your blood pressure, your sugar, and your cholesterol are literally off the charts. You have an enzyme that goes through your pancreas that is supposed to be 800, yours is 13,000! You supposed to be dead! There is no reason for you to be here!"

That night in my hospital bed, I did some deep soul searching and reflecting on my life. It had been over twenty years since I had turned my back on Jesus and, had been in a full blown, Backslidden condition. My weight was up to 360 pounds. I was as big as a house. When I ate, it was not a meal, but an event. I was eating once a day, BUT it was all day long, nonstop! I was also smoking 2 to 3 Churchill Cigars a day, along with drinking 2 or 3 extra-large Starbucks Frappuccino's at about 650 calories each in the truck. My life once again, was out of control. I was a train wreck.

But This time, it was different. I had a nice car, money in my pocket, a steady girlfriend, all the things people think make you happy, yet I was on the broad road to hell. That night while lying in my hospital bed, I told the Lord, "Ok, You got my attention. I'm done running. Please forgive me. You and me, Lord, whatever you want. I'm done running."

I was scheduled to be released from the hospital on March 19, however, because of some mix up in paper work. I was released on March 20! What is the significance of this date, you may ask? Well it just so happens to be my birthday! You see the Lord God who sits in the heavens, whose name is Jealous, and Who is a Jealous Loving God, (see Exodus 34:14) literally gave me a second life!

A second chance, a Brand New beginning! ***Yes, God is truly married to the backslider!!!!!!*** I am a living witness! And I can, and do testify of the Love, Mercy, Patience and Longsuffering of a God who Truly loves His people!!!! I was not going to blow this chance.

In 2013 the Lord told me I was to go to West Palm Beach Florida, to be alone with Him. And Just like Abraham, I left my family, friends, and my source of income. I headed to a land where I knew no one and knew nothing about.

On March 9th, 2014 I arrived in West Palm Beach Florida. Since that time, until now, it has been a time of great intimacy with Jesus.

Not only am I learning Who the God of the Bible is, But, more importantly, getting to Know, Love, Obey, and Trust the God of the Bible!

I am Getting to know the Jesus, who religions talk about, and teach about, on a very personal one on one basis.

Learning, how to Love Jesus the way He commands us to Love Him.

Learning, how to be Obedient to Him.

Learning, how to truly depend on Jesus Alone to take care of my EVERY need.

Learning, how Jesus is truly our Good Shepard, and how to follow Him.

The journey has been amazing to say the least. In these four years alone with Jesus, there have been TWO very important messages the Lord has shared with me, to share with people.

The First Message the Lord has given me to share with people is this:

The Soon coming Vengeance and Judgment of God, on the Worldly Religious Church System and All its Hypocrisy, and God's Vengeance on America and The World.

There is ONLY ONE difference between the Old Testament and Today!

Noah and Sodom & Gomorrah, had no Bibles!

The Second Message Concerns:

The condition of Modern Christianity and Modern Theology Today, and the Whole Religious Church System and How God is heartbroken over His people.

How Christians, Catholics, and all religions alike, are spending hours doing things for Jesus, learning much about Jesus, but are not spending intimate time knowing Jesus! They may or may not know much about their religion, or religious teachings, but People TRULY DO NOT know Jesus, and are Hell bound.

MOST ALL RELIGIOUS PEOPLE DO NOT WANT TO BELIEVE THEY ARE GOING TO HELL.

(For more on this subject check out the Books: ***THE HEARTBREAK OF GOD & IT'S ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP.*** Which can be found on my website for free.....***AMIDNIGHTCRY.COM*** or purchased on ***barnesandnoble.com*** or ***Amazon.com***

It is my hope that reading this will provoke you, the reader to examine your relationship with Jesus, so you may not hear the HORRIFYING OF Words of Jesus... **“I DO NOT KNOW YOU! DEPART FROM ME!”**

THANK YOU FOR READING, FRANK SERRITELLA

