



(Bridge over the Bulkley River at Quick, BC)

The STREETCORNER

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father but by me." John 14:6

"NOW I'M REALLY COMPLETE!"

A TESTIMONY BY ANGIE DICKS

My name is Angie Dicks. My husband Jason and I live in Houston, BC and God has blessed us with three lovely children.

Though it is hard for me to think about it all, I would like to share my testimony to encourage those of you who share the same struggles that I have had. I hope my experience will help to bring hope and faith into your life.

I'll start when I was very young. I was sexually abused at a very young age; this caused me to start off as a very hard person. I found it hard to trust anyone, especially God. How could God be there if all of this was happening to me? Anyway, I accepted Jesus into my life when I was young, and grew up going to church until I was 17 years of age. I then set out into the world and all hell broke loose. I got into drugs, sex, and drinking, and never thought of God for a very long time. Many of the unhappy things that happened to me were because of the lifestyle I lived. I was never faithful in any relationship. I was abused and got regular beatings, yet, I thought "That's okay, at least I have someone who loves me." Life went on like that until I was 27.

It was then that I met Jason, this wonderful man that I married. I thought that I was complete, but I wasn't.

Things started to happen in our marriage: we started using lots of drugs, and having lots of parties with the young crowd. We thought we could hold our marriage together, yet everything began to fall apart. We separated for almost a year. Four days away from a divorce, we got back together. Nothing changed. Nothing... except that we needed each other.

Then, Jason, my sweet husband, got very sick in November 1999. It was very hard. He was in and out of the hospital many times. The doctors did not know what was wrong.

On January 2, 2000 I was talking to mom, who is a Christian. She told me I would never be happy until I got back with the Lord. You know what I told her? "I can't get back to him, I've done too much; it's too late for me. *God has given up on me, and I don't*

blame him for it." Mom told me that God never gives up on his children- he's always there; just ask and you will receive. I hung up and fell to my knees, crying like a baby. I told God how sorry I was and asked him to please forgive me for not believing on him. Unfortunately, though, I went on living for myself, until March 28, 2000.

On March 28, when Jason was very sick in the hospital again, two missionaries walked into his room and offered him a ride home. On his way home that day, he gave his life over to God.

Since Jason had previously signed himself out of the hospital, when I saw these two men bringing Jason into our house, I assumed they were some of his drug buddies helping him to get home. I went to the door fuming mad. When they told me they were missionaries, I felt so dumb, I apologized and offered them a cup of coffee and we sat down to talk.

**"I THOUGHT
I WAS
COMPLETE,
BUT I WASN'T."**

I never thought this would be the day when I would be forgiven for all the horrible things that I had done in my life. When they told me that Jason had given his life to God, I did not believe it. I had always mistakenly thought that the only way I could get back with the Lord was to have a partner who also trusted the Lord. I now know that it helps to have a Christian husband, but I was wrong in thinking that I could not live a Christian life without him being a Christian. However, now my husband was a Christian!

It was at the kitchen table that day that I recommitted my life to God, and as he has promised, he took me back. Now I am really complete. He is helping me to forgive the people that have hurt me; he has also helped to deliver Jason and I from both the drugs and alcohol. He saved our marriage, and he is the best marriage counselor anyone could ever have, and he is free. All my struggles are not over yet, and I am still learning the Christian walk. There are still things in my life that I am learning to surrender to him, but as I put my trust in the Lord, he promised that he will

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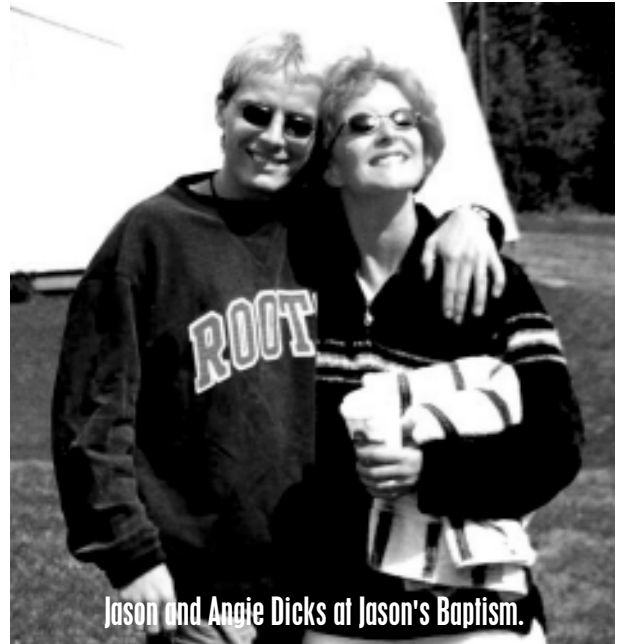
complete the work he started in me. Our three children see him working in us each day. Praise the Lord, I'm saved! Now I am really complete!

Jason has since been diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy (see the previous edition of the Streetcorner) and as a result had to have his foot amputated a few months ago. This has led to a lot of strain in our relationship. I am thankful that we have God in our lives. I don't know where we would be without Him, but I know He is getting us through these rough times!

Though problems and temptations still come my way, my real desire is to daily give my problems and heartaches to the Lord. My prayer for my family and myself is to let God direct our daily path. This will save us a lot of heartache, wasted time, dead end roads and wrong turns. I want God to mold me into the person he wants me to be. He has promised "Come unto me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yolk upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29 NIV.

I know that if God can take me into his loving care, he certainly can do the same for you. □

(Please call Streetcorners to request a copy of Jason's testimony.)



Jason and Angie Dicks at Jason's Baptism.

FINISHING TOUCHES

by Mike Cunningham

A friend of mine recently experienced some frustration! As his job is in the graphic design business, he relies upon his computer hardware for storing files and transporting his information to the print shop. He was excited when CD burning technology became available for the amount of time it would save him. He went shopping and was convinced to buy a top of the line machine - \$700.00 worth! After all, it was sure to last a long time, and not break down like the cheaper models.

Unfortunately, after the warranty expired a year and a half later, this great machine packed it in - complete mechanical failure! My friend contacted his insurance company only to be told that he would have to pay a \$1000.00 deductible. Next, he tried to contact the company itself; perhaps because of their name and reputation they would stand behind their product even beyond the warranty. Their response? "We're sorry but that model of burner wasn't really our product. We used another (cheaper) company's hardware and just put our name on it. We cannot do anything to add warranty to that particular device."

Has life ever done this to you? Have you ever been disappointed by something that promised so much more than it delivered? I am so glad that God is not like this! The Bible gives us the following promise. *"Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you, will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 1:6 NIV) What an awesome reality this is: that God is the one who starts, continues, and completes the work in people's lives. Are you tired of this world's empty promises? Do you find yourself wondering if things will ever change? God has a plan for you that he promises to make good on!

I had the opportunity over the last year to witness God's changing power first-hand in the Dicks family. I watched God start his work; saving Jason and Angie. I watched God continue His work; providing strength through the trials of Muscular Dystrophy and the amputation of Jason's left foot. More recently, I have watched God lead this family to a new town (Grande Cache, AB) and into a deeper commitment to Christ.

What has God done? Jason has written the following as an update:

"Hello, and thank you to all of you who have read of what God has done in our lives, and have been praying for us. As mentioned, we have moved to Grande Cache, AB. Here we have been attending a supportive Church, and have found God's servants full of love and kindness wherever we go. Without God's wonderful people this would have been a very hard transition period."

"Recently, my wife and my daughters (Danielle, and Bobbi) had the opportunity to be baptized! It was the one thing that a father and a husband would be empty without witnessing. I have seen a lot of things in this lifetime, but as of yet, this was the most fulfilling experience I have had yet! Watching my wife and daughters make a public declaration that they live to get closer to our Father in heaven was awesome! I would encourage anyone that you will not find the true meaning in life until you find your place with Jesus."

Praise God for the completing work that he is doing in each willing heart. As a master craftsman, each finishing touch brings us closer to the goal he already has in mind. God's guarantee is that He will take us as we are, but not leave us that way. His work is to make us like His Son, and the promise remains, "When He appears, we shall be like Him." (1 John 3:2 NIV, emphasis added).

***"Being confident of this,
that He who began a
good work in you, will
carry it on to completion
until the day of Christ Jesus."***

Philippians 1:6 NIV



"This I Believe"

COMPLETE IN CHRIST!

by Ken Penner

".... in Him you have been made complete, and he is the head over all rule and authority." Colossians 2:10 NASB

We have a car in our garage that does not have a motor in it. A number of us had to push it in the garage; it was not easy because this car is incomplete without a motor. In its present condition it is of no use to anyone. As a matter of fact, my wife says it is an eyesore!

Without Christ in one's life we are like that car in my garage: incomplete. This is how we all were before we received Christ. When we receive Christ, we become his children and the Holy Spirit dwells in us and gives us the power to live for him. Then we can be useful to God and begin to live as he created us to live. In the testimony featured in this issue of The Streetcorner, Angie Dicks mentioned that she is really complete now that she has received Christ. The Bible tells us that those who have received Him have been made complete in Him. God's salvation in Christ is not a halfway measure. Through the power of the Holy Spirit a Christian is a new creation. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;" 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV. This a work of God; we cannot earn it, work for it, or even be good enough to merit it. God, and God alone, saves us.

This is similar to that car in my garage. If a motor is put into it, it is no longer an eyesore but is now complete, ready to be used by its owner. There is something more that must take place for the car to be useful. The tank must be filled with fuel, the motor must be running, and the owner must be behind the controls. The car must submit to the will of the owner.

In the same way, we as Christians must allow the Holy Spirit to fill us and empower us to live for Christ. We must submit to the will of Christ in our daily lives to be able to live a victorious life in Him. This is the work of God in one's life and not something we work up in ourselves. The more of our lives that we surrender to God, the more he can use us. This is a moment by moment walk that we learn as we study God's Word, and allow God to rule our lives. This is reflected in what Angie says in her testimony: "I want God to mold me into the person he wants me to be." May this be my desire and the desire of each one of you who are reading this article. The power to become and to live as a child of God is in Jesus Christ, if we receive Christ and allow him to rule our lives. *"Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them." Hebrews 7:25 NIV*

This I believe!

MADE COMPLETE BY CHRIST!

Has God been speaking to you through Angie's story? Perhaps you are wondering if God can work the same miracle for you. Make no mistake, God is willing to make you totally complete right now through his Son, Jesus Christ!

GOD'S DESIRE

1 God created man to live with him for all eternity! Scripture tells us that he is our Creator, that he knows each of us by name, and that he cares intimately about us. It says in 2 Peter 3:9, that God is *"not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."* (KJV) This is God's heart! He wants you to be with him. He wants you to live with him forever. He wants you to enjoy a perfect relationship with Himself. The Bible clearly teaches that **GOD LOVES YOU!** (1 John 4:10)

MAN'S PROBLEM

2 There is one thing, however, that keeps us from this relationship with God—OUR SIN! Scripture teaches that *"without holiness, no one will see the Lord."* (Hebrews 12:14 NIV) In other words God's standard is perfection. There must not be one sin on our record if we are to be acceptable to God. However, Scripture tells us that *"...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23 NIV). It also says that *"the wages of sin is death."* (Romans 6:23 NIV) or separation from God for all eternity! If we physically die in this condition, there are no second chances. It is too late to turn to God then.

GOD'S GIFT

3 Fortunately, this is not the end of the story. For God saw our helplessness, and in great compassion sent us what we needed most, a Savior, His one and only Son - Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that, *"(Christ) Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree..."* (1 Peter 2:24 NIV) *"He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our sins; the punishment that brought us peace [with God] was upon him."* (Isaiah 53:4,5 NIV) *"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* (Rom. 5:8 NIV)

MAN'S RESPONSE

4 God has made a way for us to be acceptable and right before Him. *"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out."* (Acts 3:19 NIV) *"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."* (Acts 16:31 NIV) Jesus said: *"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."* (John 11:25-27 NIV) You can be saved right now, whoever you are, whatever your situation. Confess to God that you are a sinner. Thank Jesus for taking the punishment for your sins by dying on the cross. Place your life in Christ's hands. Trust Him to forgive your sin. He alone has the power to save!

IF THIS IS SOMETHING YOU HAVE JUST DONE, PLEASE CONTACT A PERSON WHO YOU KNOW IS A SINCERE CHRISTIAN AND TELL THEM THE GOOD NEWS! FEEL FREE TO CALL US AT STREETCORNERS IF YOU NEED TO. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE AS YOU BEGIN YOUR NEW LIFE AS A CHRISTIAN!

JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE

I AM WEAK, BUT THOU ARE STRONG,
JESUS, KEEP ME FROM ALL WRONG.
I'LL BE SATISFIED AS LONG AS I WALK,
DEAR LORD, CLOSE TO THEE.

THROUGH THIS WORLD OF TOILS AND SNARES,
IF I FALTER, LORD, WHO CARES?
WHO WITH ME MY BURDEN SHARES?
NONE BUT THEE, DEAR LORD, NONE BUT THEE.

WHEN MY FEEBLE LIFE IS O'ER,
TIME FOR ME WILL BE NO MORE.
ON THAT BRIGHT, ETERNAL SHORE,
I WILL WALK, DEAR LORD, CLOSE TO THEE.

**JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE,
GRANT IT JESUS, IS MY PLEA.
DAILY WALKING CLOSE TO THEE,
LET IT BE, DEAR LORD, LET IT BE!**



This traditional song really sums up the message of finding satisfaction and completion in life: A close walk with Jesus Christ. Throughout Scripture, our relationship with God is likened to a "walk". Although God does not promise us an easy life, He does offer us his continual presence, and strength along the way. Truly we are "satisfied" as long as we keep in step with Him. God gives us the choice who we will follow: either we will trust our own ideas and abilities, or we can allow Him the right to determine our every step. May we join with the Psalmist of the Bible and say, "I run in the paths of your commands for you have set my heart free." (Psalms 119:32 NIV)

WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible and Its Authority

a) We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are supreme and final authority in faith and conduct.

The Eternal Godhead

b) We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Man and His Need

c) We believe that man was created in the image of God: that through sin man incurred both spiritual and physical death. Consequently, man is totally depraved, alienated from God, under his righteous anger, and in need of the new birth.

Jesus Christ and His Work

d) We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary and is true God and true man.
e) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that all who believe in him are justified on the ground of his shed blood.
f) We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his ascension into heaven, his present life there for us as High Priest and Advocate and in his personal return.

Salvation for Sinners

g) We believe that by the grace of God, all who in repentance and faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born again by the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God. Such are sealed unto the day of redemption. Nevertheless, the believer is commanded to be filled with the Spirit, moment by moment.

The Future

h) We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, in the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and in the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost.

**"SINCE WE LIVE BY THE SPIRIT, LET US KEEP
IN STEP WITH THE SPIRIT." GAL. 5:25**

Dear Reader,

It is a pleasure to introduce to you this second issue of "The Streetcorner". Our goal in producing this paper is to encourage Christian faith in people everywhere, with a focus on distributing it mostly in this local area. We are gathering together testimonies of local Christians, such as Angie Dicks', featured in this issue. We also plan to put copies of each issue on a web site in the near future.

The opinions stated in news reports and personal experiences do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Streetcorners Ministries or The Streetcorner.

This paper is not to be sold but is to be distributed, in its entirety, free of charge to all who desire a copy. Funding is received through voluntary donations of interested individuals, organizations and churches.

Your comments and questions about the paper or Streetcorners Ministries are welcome. We would enjoy hearing from you!

Should you want to know more about the Christian faith, please do not hesitate to contact us for more information.

Enjoy reading! May God bless you with all your needs and with faith in him! The Editors

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