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# IT ONLY TAKES A STEP

EVEN IF IT HURTS, TRY AGAIN

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I sat at the edge of my bed crying as I remembered how I was raped by my uncle twice. I remember telling my mother about it but she did not believe me and instead accused me of dressing indecently to arouse men. My dad was never home; he worked off shore and usually came back only after a month. So who could I talk to? I told a few of my friends at school but they thought I was lying because they did not expect this from a girl from a wealthy family. To them, I had everything I wanted and was most comfortable. If only they knew what I was going through. Seeing that no one believed me, there was no use telling anyone again; I knew I had no value.

With this, I lived a very active sexual life; I really did not think about any repercussions. To me, it was fun to date married men, use charms to get male attention etc. I thought I could get some worth from having sex. Money was never really my issue because I was from a wealthy family, but they did not know what I was going through in school. I sought comfort in the wrong places like night clubs, getting high on weed etc.

One fateful day, I was high on weed and funny enough instead of doing crazy things I picked up a bible and started reading. I read many chapters in the book of John. Since I was high, it seemed like I understood everything but when my system was cleared of weed, I could not really remember what I read. The only thing I remembered was a voice in my head saying "I am Coming Soon. Will you continue living like this?" I thought it was probably a lyric I heard but the more I tried to forget the voice, it kept ringing strong in my head. I slept off and the next thing I could remember was me seeing many people in white singing beautiful songs but every time I tried to join them, they sent me back saying I am not worthy. There was so much peace in this place and I felt so bad that I was rejected and I heard the same voice "I am coming soon will you continue living like this?"

As I woke up, for the first time I felt like I have been a bad person all my life. Then I decided to talk with someone in a church not far from my hostel and he interpreted this dream for me. Thereafter, I accepted Jesus and everything about me changed. I had a sense of belonging again. The change was glaring and even my parents now believe the story of my sexual violation; God opened their eyes to see the good in me. I gave up everything and am now living a happy and fulfilled live.

My question to you is what are you battling with? Trauma of sexual violence, denial, drug abuse, etc. Where do you go in search of comfort or self-worth? Have you found it? It can only be found in Jesus; Jesus loves you despite your state and He wants you to discover the truth about yourself. Please don't be left behind. **HE IS COMING SOON. WILL YOU CONTINUE LIVING LIKE THIS?** You have the chance to enjoy the best life, free of guilt and condemnation. Don't let the devil steal away your destiny.

In Christ, you will have everything you need. He does not keep a record of your past (Psalms 130:3). He has already paid the price for your sins (Romans 5:8) and if you come to Him, you will become like a new born baby. (2 Corinthians 5:17)



If you desire a new beginning in Christ, pray this with us,

"Heavenly Father, I believe that Jesus Christ came to earth to save mankind. By His death on the cross, He paid the price for the sin of the whole world, that whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life. I confess that I am a sinner in need of a saviour.

I believe that Jesus was the sinless sacrifice that died to pay the price for my sins. I turn away from all my sins and pray that, I will grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus. Thank You that by the death and resurrection of Jesus, He has washed away all the sin in my life and by His blood, I've been made whole and pure. Thank You for the beautiful gift of salvation. I turn to You in total surrender, keep me holy and set apart for You only. I ask all these, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and saviour, Amen. (Get more on how to pray in Matthew 6:9-15)."

We will like to warmly welcome you as a new member of God's Family as you have decided today to follow Christ. Hurray!. No matter what your past held, today marks a new beginning in your life. The old things have passed away, behold all things are become new (2 Corinthians 5:17). Begin your new life in the assurance that, though you are in an imperfect world, Jesus Christ is your Companion, counselor, ally, comforter and Savior (Isaiah 9:6). We rejoice in your desire to follow Jesus. May His peace and love always be with you, Amen (John 14:27).

#### TIPS TO HELP YOU GROW IN FAITH

- 1) Meditate on the word of God daily. (Joshua 1:8; 1 Peter 2:2). Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). Hearing may entail having a daily quiet time to read, study and meditate on the word of God; listening to teachings from trustworthy teachers of the word and sharing the word with others or in small groups. Faith is sustained by believing the word of God (Jesus Christ is the word which became flesh) and acting on the word (Ephesians 1:13-14 & James 2:17).
- 2) Make prayer, praise and thanksgiving a lifestyle. (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18; Philippians 4:6)
- 3) Strive to flee from evil and bad habits. (1 Thessalonians 5:22; Psalm 37:27)
- 4) Fellowship with other Believers. (Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Corinthians 14:26)
- 5) Seek Christian mentorship.(Philippians 4:9; Titus 2:3-5)



Arise Sister is made up of a group of women passionate about bringing people of all nations to the light of the Glory of God. Our desire is to see you become all that you were created for, despite the turbulence in the world. Thank you for taking out time to read this tract. we will like to hear from you, share in your testimonies or help you in your walk with God.

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