



# 溪邊的樹

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## 中華教會

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### 得救见证分享

我在佛罗里達大学上研究生的一段日子里，晚上總會想到以後的事情：畢業、工作、成家、有孩子，孩子大了，我就老了，然後呢，我就要死了，然後呢，我死了以後会怎么样？每每想到这里，我就很害怕，眼前好像有个無底的黑洞，令我感到無限的恐惧，那种绝望無助的恐惧。我劝自己“别想了，每个人都要死的，又不是你一个人去死。”但这不能根本解决问题，白天一切照常，一到晚上，这问题又缠绕着我，而且我心里非常清楚没有任何一个人可以给我一个答案。

在2007年9月，我为一位60多岁的中国传道人做翻译，她叫Deborah, 17岁开始传道。她一生因为信仰40次被政府抓捕，25次坐监狱。但她仍然非常爱主，很少讲地上世俗的事情，人世间的一切根本不能打动她。

Deborah 一生传道，吃百家飯，不会做飯。所以我還得当厨师。每次准备5、6人的飯，我忙碌好半天，Deborah 什么忙也帮不上，光在那里一个劲说“感谢主，真是感谢主”。我很生气，心想：“我 Lily 在这儿给你做饭，你幹嘛感谢主？我就不信我不做了，你那个主能下来给你做饭。”回家路上，我想：我给她做饭是不求回报的，但当她感谢主而不感谢我时，我就不高兴了，因为她不领我的情嘛。那我真的不要回报吗？我想要她领情其实就是要回报。自認不求回报却还要人领情，这也许就是所谓的罪吧。如果在这么一件小事上我们都有罪，何况其他的呢？

有个晚上和 Deborah 聊天，我问她为什么不结婚，年轻时就没有讓她心动的男生吗？她给我讲了她的经历，很长，很有意思，中间我也问了很多问题。我察言观色，能够確定她没有编故事，她讲的都是真的；在無神論教育中长大的我第一次觉得这个世界上也许真的有一个神？

当时有很多人来拜访她，谈话时经常会说他们感觉到神与他们同在，神保守他们的交通。我很好奇，为什么我就感觉不到，就看不见呢？我在日记里写到：我感觉他们就像《哈利波特》里那些通灵的魔法师，而我就像那遲钝麻木的 Muggles。信主以後我知道这个比方不恰当；但当时就觉得他们的世界很奇妙，我完全是个局外人。

每次他们祷告时，我虽然不信，也出于礼貌地跪下来，低头听他们祷告。有一次，和 Deborah 聊完天，她没有叫我，一个人就去祷告了。我心里有点失落，有那种被遗弃的感觉，甚至觉得好像少了什么福分。我问自己：“你不是不在乎、不相信吗，干嘛要觉得失落呢？”虽然这种失落的感觉不很强烈，但我不得不承認，自己有点在意了。

我做翻译大概两个月後的某天晚上，我和请我做翻译的美国女士 Bev 聊天，谈到信仰问题，她问我：Lily 你觉得一切都是偶然吗？Gainesville 这么多中国学生，我们却找到你做翻译。一见你，我们就知道是神派来的；这是偶然吗？你觉得認識 Deborah 是偶然吗？你来美国是偶然吗？

如果这一切都是偶然，你觉得你的生命也是一次偶然吗？我真的無法回答这些问题。

我的生命在不知不觉中一天天发生变化。我信仰上的最後一个障碍：我無法理解人为什么会谦卑，为什么会对着神自称僕人、小孩子。後來，教会一位我很尊敬的教授，讲自己的得救见证，他如何来美国读博士，用了7、8年的时间認識主。他说，我们每个從大陆来的人，都有一颗刚硬的心，我们相信通过自己的努力、可以解决一切问题。我们不需要依靠任何人。正因为我们刚硬的心，使我们無法承認自己的软弱和無助，無法接受耶穌基督。听了那个见证，我理解了人为什么可以谦卑。

之後的某天晚上，我和 Bev 聊到凌晨两点，她说：“Lily 呀，这个世界万物的创造者选择了你来去做一件事情。”这话讓我心里有种非常强烈的感觉—那种强烈到现在我都记得—那一瞬间我站在一个聚光灯下，全地球的人都看着我—我发自内心不由自主地在心里说：“我好不配，好不配呀！我这么一个骄傲没有耐心的人、怎么配得上万物的创造者选择我呢？”那一刻我知道神将圣灵的种子种在我心里，我信主了。

没信主前，我总问人：为什么要信主，信主的終極意义何在？难道就为了换得死後升天堂？我现在知道：信主的終極意义在于我们找到了我们原本该是的样子。神按着祂的样式把我们造得美好，但因撒旦的诱惑，我们离开了神。信主，就是与神和好，恢复我们原本该是的样子；信主，就是走回家的路。

信耶穌徹底改变了我的生活，回答了我对人生的所有问题。我知道我死了後会去哪里，不再对死亡感到恐惧。從而，不再对时间的流逝感到害怕。以前，我总趴在镜子前看我没有长皱纹，怕我变老。现在不怕了，知道我的身体一天天地老去，但我里面的属灵的生命却一天新似一天。

以前的我像一隻小船，在人生大海里漫無目的地漂泊，孤独而無助。大学刚畢業，

很迷茫，听到一个小孩喊：“妈妈，我怎么办？”我眼淚就要掉下来了，我该怎么办？小孩可以靠妈妈，我能靠谁呢？在天父面前，我就是那求助的小孩。祂信实慈爱，为我安排好一切，拉着我的手走前面的道路，我的心不再漂泊。

以前，我不知道该如何为人处世，到底是该精明一点圆滑一些呢，还是该以真诚待人。如果我以诚相待，总被人利用、总吃虧怎么办？但是耶穌告诉我们，不但要爱人如己，而且要为自己的仇敌祷告，我们所做的，我们在天上的父都知道。

以前我对许多道德价值观感到困惑，比如婚前同居、同性恋、墮胎。我想也许时代变了，人的价值观也该随之改变；但心里又觉得人性中应该有些东西是永恒不变的。我很困惑，没有一个标准来衡量这些。信耶穌後，是非黑白是如此明確。我有了衡量一切事物的标准，这标准不因时间空间的变化而改变，天地都要废去，但圣经的一点一划都不能废去。

以前我崇尚知识，認為有了知识就有了一切。但圣经說“知识叫人自高自大，唯有爱心能造就人。”我们学的知识都是人的智慧，比起神的智慧，算不了什么。Deborah 虽然文化程度不高，但她的爱心和对神的信心遠大于我，她属灵的生命遠强于我。现在我有属灵上的问题，都会请教她，她常切切地为我祷告。

我從小受的教育，女孩子一定要自强，不要期待别人为你做什么。所以我很好强，不觉得女人非听男人的。但耶穌告诉我：“妻子要顺服自己的丈夫”，女人要“以里面存着长久温柔安静的心为装饰”，因为“这在神面前是極宝贵的”。

没有信主时，每次回想过去我都很後悔，後悔自己当初不够努力；想起未来又很担心，担心自己成功不了，一生会碌碌無为。我就在後悔过去、担心未来中度过现在。信主後，每想起过去，就看到神的恩典，看到祂如何爱我，一步步把我帶到

祂的面前，使我对神的信心更加坚定。我愿意祂在我生命的每件事上做主，我愿意做祂听话的孩子，我迫不及待、非常兴奋地想知道在我前面、我的未来祂为我预备了一个怎样奇妙而又美好的旅程。

把一切的荣耀颂赞都歸给耶稣基督，愿祂保守我們的心。(暢丽平)

## My Testimony

While I was attending Graduate School at UF, I often thought at night about the future: graduation, job, marriage, children, then I would get old as the children grow, and I would die.... Then, what after death? The thought was scary, as if I were facing an endless black hole, desperate and helpless. I told myself, "Don't think about this anymore. Everybody is going to die. You are not alone." However, this did not solve the problem. Things might be normal during the day. The same question came to bother me again at night. And I knew that no one could provide me with an answer.

In September 2007, I was doing some translation work for a 60 something Chinese preacher named Deborah. She started her ministry life at 17. Because of her faith, she was detained by the government 40 times, jailed 25 times. But she still loved her God, rarely being touched or moved by anything of this world.

She did not cook herself, so I cooked for her and other 5 people. While I was busy around, Deborah could not help any, except saying "Thank you Lord, indeed!" I was pretty upset, thinking that if I quit at that moment, would her Lord come down and cook for her instead? On the way home, I thought of my attitude. I did not expect any rewards when offered to cook for her. But, could my expecting her appreciation be another form of reward? Could this be considered sin? If we can sin in such a small matter, how do we avoid others?

One evening I asked her why not married. She told me her life's story and her experiences with

God. I asked for details, and observed her while she talked. I knew she was telling the truth. Grown up as an atheist, I for the first time had the thought, "may be there truly is a God after all".

Many people came to visit Deborah. During their conversation, they would say, "the Lord is with us," or "God keeps us in the fellowship". I was quite curious: How come I did not feel it or could see anything with my eyes? In my dairy I wrote, "They were like the magicians in the Harry Porter story, and I the dumb Muggles". Later after I believed in the Lord, I knew the analogy was not appropriate. But at the time, I felt their world was so wonderful, and I was a total outsider.

Although I did not believe, I would politely kneel and bow while listened to the prayers. One day, after our conversation Deborah went alone to pray without asking me. I felt left out and a bit lost in having missed some blessing. I asked myself, "Since you don't believe, you don't care, why feel left out?" I had to admit that I did care a little!

One evening the American lady Bev who hired me for the translation job talked to me about faith. She asked me if I felt that all were accidental: Being hired among so many Chinese students, getting to know Deborah, coming to the States.... If they were, was life itself an accident? I confessed that I could not answer these questions.

Without my knowing, my life was changing. The last obstacle to faith was this: I could not understand why a person can be humble before God and call oneself a servant or child. Then, I listened to the testimony of a renowned professor. He pointed out that we Chinese have a hardened heart, believing that we could do anything without outside help. As a result, we could not admit our weakness and helplessness, thus not able to receive Jesus Christ. I began to understand humility.

Afterwards I spoke to Bev till 2am. She said, “The Almighty of the universe chose you to do a certain thing.” I was totally shaken. Suddenly, I felt that under the spot light I was watched by the whole world. I pondered in my heart, “I am not worthy. Being proud and impatient, how can I be chosen by the Creator?” At that moment, God planted the seed of the Spirit in me. I became a believer.

I used to ask why believe? Just for going to heaven? Now I know that faith takes us back to where we should be in the first place. God created in us a true beauty, but the Satan distorted it and caused us to depart from God. To believe is to reconcile with God and be restored to the way it was. It is simply coming home.

By believing in Jesus, my life is totally changed. He is the answer to all my questions. I am no longer afraid of death, for I know where I’ll be when I die. Thus I am not afraid of the passing days. I used to watch in front of the mirror if I had grown wrinkles, worrying about getting old. Now I know the body decays, but the inner spiritual life is growing day by day.

I was a small boat drifting in the life’s ocean without purpose, lonely and helpless. When graduated from college, I was lost. One day I heard the cry of a child, “Mom, what should I do?” Tears came down my cheeks. What should I do? The child could call upon his Mom. Whom could I call upon? Now I am the crying child before the Heavenly Father. He is faithful and loving, making the best plan and holding my hand for the way ahead. My heart is no longer drifting.

In the past, I did not know how to deal with people. Should I be sophisticated or try to be simply honest. If you are too honest, others will take advantage of you. What if I get the short end of the stick? But Jesus said, we are to love others

like ourselves, and pray for our enemy, for the Father knows what we do.

I used to be confused by the worldly value system, issues such as cohabitation without wedlock, homosexuality and abortion. I thought may be the time was different and man’s value system had changed. But, I also felt that certain things in humanity ought to remain changeless. Coming to Jesus, I now see the black-and-white, right-and-wrong clearly. I now have a standard to assess the world, which does not change with time or space. The heaven and the earth will pass away, but the Bible stays forever.

I used to admire knowledge, considered that be all. But the Bible says, “Knowledge pops up, but love edifies.” We are just learning the wisdom of man, which is nothing comparing with the wisdom of God. Deborah was not much educated. But here love, faith and spiritual life are far greater than mine. Whenever I have spiritual questions, I go to her, and she prays for me always. My past education taught me to be strong, not to depend on man. But Jesus taught me, “wives, submit to your own husband,” and “adorn yourself inwardly with meekness and quietness”, for this is precious in the sight of God.

Before I became a Christian, I looked back often and regretted my failures. And I looked ahead often and was afraid. My present was caught in-between. As a believer, I see God’s grace and love in the past and His leading to this day, so my faith is getting stronger. I am willing to have Him as my Lord of life. I want to be an obedient child, anxiously waiting to find out the wonderful and beautiful journey He has laid out for me in my future.

All glory and praises be to Jesus Christ. May He keep our heart in His grace. (Lily)