



My name is Dawn Holland, and I would like to tell you my story.

I cannot speak to you verbally, nor can I type this tract myself, because on March 16th, 1989, I suffered a traumatic brain injury in an automobile accident. Up until that point I had been, as my Dad would say, 'a normal, beautiful, energetic and very sensitive ten-year-old girl. I can no longer speak or move about on my own, so my Mom is writing this on my behalf. The cover of this tract is fashioned like a small, spiral notebook my Mom found in my purse about two weeks after my accident. At that point there was still some question as to whether I would live or not and my parents had been told that if I did survive, I would be a vegetable. Three months in intensive care, six months in a coma, one-and-a-half years of hospitals, about half-a-dozen surgeries and countless visits to doctors and therapists still lay ahead for me. Much of what you will read is based on my notes taken from that little, spiral notebook. Many people become sad and bitter when they are the victim of one of those incidents so often referred to as tragedies; but, I have been blessed to have been able to maintain my joy, in spite of much suffering, because I believe I have a story to tell.

I would like to share with you my relationship with Jesus Christ. My Father and Mother had taken me to church from the time I was only three weeks old. One of the first times I was in church was when my parents dedicated me to the Lord; pledging to raise me "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" and praying that I would be used for *his* glory. When I was seven years old, I was saved, trusting Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior. I loved going to church and telling others about Jesus. And I, through this tract, hope to continue to do so.

On Wednesday evening, March 15, 1989, (the night before my accident) my family and I were in church. Although none of us realized it at the time, our Pastor's sermon was a special message from God to us that night. I made notes in my little notebook:

Romans 8:28 - And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

My Pastor explained that this scripture is often misunderstood. Many people think it says that everything is going to turn out in *my* favor. When in reality it tells us that when God allows something (good or bad) to come into the life of a Christian (them that love God — called according to his purpose), that he always has a high and holy purpose in it. In other words, God uses the events that come into the lives of believers to show his great love, power and grace. The greatest good that can befall a Christian is when he is used to reveal God's highest glory — that all things are for *his* purpose.

The last note I penned that night was just two words in big, bold letters —

HIS PURPOSE.

We were all able to draw much comfort and strength from those two words through many trying months. We understood that we were not the victims of some strange, arbitrary quirk of fate, but rather our loving Savior had chosen us as instruments to reveal his miraculous power and sustaining grace. When the doctors said, “she won’t survive;” God gave a miracle. When they said, “she’ll always be a vegetable, put her in a nursing home;” God restored my mind and brought me home. When my parents lacked the strength to face another minute, *he* was the God of all grace. And when things were their darkest, *he* was the light of the world.

I suppose that I will always be disabled as a result of my accident, but I try not to dwell on my disability. I think that I, through my accident, have been given a greater ability to point people to the marvelous grace and power of God. He has shown me that he has the ability to enable us to overcome the worst blow the world can deliver. I had trusted him with my eternal soul, and then I had to trust him with my earthly life. I found that he is very trustworthy.

After all I’ve been through, I still know that - **JESUS LOVES ME!**

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. —John 3:16

Now, let me tell you how that you can take advantage of this promise and know for sure that you are saved.

The Bible declares that all of us stand in need of salvation.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. —Isa 53:6

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; —Rom 3:23

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: —Rom 5:12

It also declares that sin brings death and hell.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. —Rom 6:23

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. —Mat 25:46

But, Jesus has made provision for all.

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. —Rom 5:8

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. —II Cor 5:21

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. —Rom 10:9-10,13

Would you ask Jesus to save you right now?