

Cissy Donna's Conversion to the Truth

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As humans, we have varying perspectives based on our knowledge, exposures, and past experiences. I always thought of my understanding of God in my former faith as my final stand in life. I soon realized that the truth could still be discovered as we must have the correct view of God and continually seek His will in our lives. Moreover, the truth is within our reach by diligently studying God's words in the Bible, and He would grant us wisdom when we humbly seek from Him.

I am married to Sunday Anak Bunji, and together, we have four sons. We live in Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia. We belonged to a Sunday Church before we became baptized members of Adventist Church. Prior to our conversion, we used to go to church every Sunday and attended church services. We, however, continued to feel the spiritual void inside of us. We could sense that there was something missing in our spiritual lives, and we were wondering what it was. Our business, during that time, was selling grilled pork to earn extra income. As Adventist healthy principles was yet foreign to us, my husband was fond of drinking beer; he frequently got drunk. Since the truth about healthy lifestyle was yet revealed to us, we never felt guilty nor sense the importance to practice healthy habits.

Life, nevertheless, took an opposite turn in 2014. We experienced several tragedies, multiple challenges, and various problems distressing our family. I often felt frustrated, down, blaming, and questioning God for everything that happened to our lives and family. I felt bitter and unhappy in the life that we had and the condition of living that I was in.

One night, I had a strange dream. It had consequently and miraculously changed my life course. In my dream, I saw myself desperately swimming in the sea, trying to reach an island in the distance. I also noticed a huge prehistorical fish, chasing and swallowing everyone around me. Then another scene with two paths flashed before me: a clean white path, and another one which was bloody and rusty with iron bars. I suddenly found myself walking on the white path. When I turned around and took a careful look at the other path, I saw people were being burning on it and in great suffering. They were screaming helplessly for help. Another scene flashed again before me; it was an empty and isolated village. I suddenly heard the voice of a woman laughing. I turned toward her

direction and saw her throwing people mercilessly to the other side of the village. She continued until all were vanished. I was very terrified; I immediately prayed and asked God for help. I prayed, "*Our Father which art in heaven, You are the creator of heaven and earth. Because of the sin that we have done, Your One and only Son died for us. Help me Lord, please help me Lord.*" Then I noticed a strand of bright light from above shining down and surrounding me. Everything began to change and became beautiful. When I woke up, I had a great impression and was fully convinced that God was showing me a sign that I must begin searching for the truth.

In my search for the truth, God graciously led me to someone who could teach me more about Him. Pastor Attie Garra was the pastor of a local Seventh-day Adventist Church. I shared my strange dream with him; then he simply asked, "Are you ready to study the truth?" I immediately heard myself saying, "Yes," to him. Soon, my Bible lesson study began. Not long after, my family joined the studying class as well. With the Holy Spirit's guidance and ministration, my family and I soon got baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Like most of new converts, we experienced prejudice, hatred, and ridicule from relatives and friends, and even from those who were our own parents. With our new-found faith we were being the subjects of mockery. Nevertheless, during those times, we never felt alone as we always felt that God's presence was with us to reassure of our right decision in following Him. We were also able to stay strong, proving victorious over those temptations. This was possible owing to our faith sharing effort and togetherness in this journey. Soon, one of my siblings also decided to join our faith family.

Currently, I am serving as chaplain of Ayer Manis School, one of only two Adventist schools in Sarawak. My husband and children support me in my work, and we always conduct ministries as a family. The truth I find in Seventh-day Adventist Church fills the void in my heart. Indeed, God is great and faithful, not just to me, but to my entire family. If you trust in Him in your reaching out to the members of your family, He will do the same with yours!