

A Flight To A New Life!

AFTER COMPLETING UNIVERSITY, MUSICIAN FLEES HER HOME & COUNTRY IN SEARCH OF TRUTH!

From Sarah Violin; At MWM:

THE DAY I WAS TO WALK DOWN THE AISLE TO TAKE MY COLLEGE DIPLOMA, I was on an airplane from America to Italy, with the feeling that I was destined to meet something there--I felt that had to leave America, a dying nation.

MY ASPIRATIONS AS A TEEN-AGER of changing the injustices of society thru the youth revolution of the 60s were totally disillusioned by the growing indifference of my generation--slipping back into the very injustices that only a few years earlier we had claimed to be changing.

I FELT ALSO THAT I HAD TO BREAK AWAY FROM THE ACADEMIC LIFE that had virtually been my god since birth. Raised in a "university family" with both my mother & father being math professors, it had been ingrained in me that everything in life must have a rational explanation, although every fiber of my real being knew that something greater than the mere mind of man governed this universe!

UP TO THE MOMENT THAT I STEPPED ON THE PLANE, I had been studying music & composition, but I wanted to live & speak with music--the language of this generation--not just study it. But one essential ingredient was missing: I didn't know what I wanted to say, what I wanted to live for--so why was I playing music?

WHEN I LOOKED BACK IN HISTORY, what many musicians expressed was their love for God, but it seemed that the God of modern society had become man & his accomplishments & music was no longer an expression of faith.

IN THAT LAST YEAR OF COLLEGE, my life seemed to fill



Beautiful Sarah with her three children.

up with a strange series of events & my existence became daily a more desperate search for some reason for living. That year I fell in love & began to face not only the joy of love, but a myriad of fears that this society teaches us must accompany such a powerful emotion.

CHILDREN--WHAT IF I GET PREGNANT? What could I give to a child in a world that seemed hell-bound for its own destruction. Love--How desperately my heart yearned for true love, but when I began to try to love someone so deeply, I began to see how utterly inadequate my own love was. I felt such a desire to love & be loved & to have children, but felt completely incapable.

IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS

AGONY raging in my mind, I decided to read the Bible, at first out of curiosity. I thought it was like any book, so I started at the beginning--little did I know that this was to become the most beautiful love affair of my life. It got to be the first thing I ran to every morning & the book I was constantly desiring to read as I sat in all my classes.

I GUESS SOME PEOPLE HAVE THOUGHT IT STRANGE-- reading the Bible as I sat in the "hallowed halls" of the "institution of higher learning", but in the midst of all the mental confusion raging within me, I found a wonderful source of comfort & inspiration--the history of the world's men of faith praying & receiving answers

each other.

IN SPITE OF ALL THESE THINGS--good home, good school, fun times & good environment--I would often go off alone & dream & wonder about life. I always had a hunger in my soul for something more. By the time I was in high school, I felt quite a loner. I despised more & more the little games my peers were playing, the values they had set for themselves. Most of them seemed so shallow trying to be the most "popular", or the best dressed, or the most handsome or the best athlete.

ON THE OTHER HAND I DID NOT FIT IN WITH THE INTELLLECTUALS EITHER. By the time I was a senior I just hated books & philosophy & all these men talking about this answer that answer & blah, blah! I didn't see it! I was friendly & active & made a lot of "friends" but knew deep inside that there was not even one who I could really be close to.

I TOOK A 2-WEEK BACKPACKING TRIP INTO THE WILDERNESS with a few people, & then, alone on a mountain, I remember crying out to God, that if He was real, if He did exist, to please let me know Him & please help me learn to be close to people. At that time I didn't even realize that He was going to answer!

TWO MONTHS BEFORE FINISHING HIGH SCHOOL, I met some ex-hippies who spoke to me about Jesus. I saw so much love in them & openness, I was really attracted to them. At first their message puzzled me--"Isn't this the same old story I've heard every Sunday?"--Just that thought made something inside me want to fight & reject what they were saying.

AFTER A FEW TIMES OF VISITING THEM, their love just kept getting thru to me, & I prayed with them to receive Jesus. I opened the

door of my heart to Him & asked Him to come into my life personally.

THAT NIGHT I WENT HOME & OPENED A BIBLE, which as a Catholic I had never really read before. I opened to Matthew & started reading & couldn't stop. It was so alive & the words were speaking right to me. I had a burning in my heart that I had to live them.

I'D WALK AROUND THE HOUSE SAYING, "Look Mom, look what Jesus said!"--Just because they thought I had flipped out, & it created quite a stir & a bit of tension! My sister wouldn't even come into the same room with me any more. The best thing I could do to follow Jesus was to go live with these people. Being 17 years old, I asked for written permission, & my mother consented.

I WAS SO THRILLED TO MOVE INTO THEIR COMMUNE & to help in any way I could. September came around, & I decided to forsake a 4-year scholarship to university that I had been awarded for my voice.

AFTER A FEW MONTHS LIVING THERE, I sensed something wasn't right, almost like the Lord was angry in a way, so I got very desperate for the Lord to show me what to do next & fasted for a week. At the end of that week I received a phone call from a couple whom I respected very much. They were going to try & open a witnessing outreach in the university town of Gainesville, Florida. They asked if I could come! "Yes, of course."

I WENT HOME TO TELL MY PARENTS THAT I WOULD BE LEAVING THE AREA to witness for Jesus. Their attitude was a bit anxious to see what would become of me, but they didn't want to interfere with my decision.

God bless my father who did

not want me to hitch-hike but bought me a plane ticket! The Lord provided even though I hadn't thought of how I was going to get there.

GOING TO FLORIDA FOR ME WAS LIKE LEAVING EVERYTHING. I knew there was no turning back & I had a lot to learn being in a totally new place for the first time in my life. For 3 months we tried very hard to get a little Jesus commune going. Only 2 souls joined us, & things were going very slowly.

AT ONE POINT EVERYTHING CAME TO A STANDSTILL & seemed so stale. Once again I got desperate. I saw no path ahead of me, & I could not go backwards. After weeks of this feeling of not knowing how to follow the Lord, by a miracle we met some of the family of Love. They had so much love & Spirit, & they showed me so much about the Bible. Two days later I went with them to Atlanta & have been with them ever since!

THANK GOD FOR THE WORDS OF A LOVING SHEPHERD who keeps leading us onward to follow Jesus closer & closer. Without him I'd still be like the little sheep lost in the wilderness not knowing which way to go. Thank God for His voice for today, a light for this generation.

I JUST WANT TO ADD THAT SINCE I'VE BEEN IN THE FAMILY I've been singing more than I ever would have, & in more places around the world than I ever would have if I had accepted the offer to train my voice for 4 years of opera. Ha!

ASLO, MY PARENTS HAVE VISITED ME & my husband & our 3 small children, & they just love them & are so thankful for what the Lord has done in my life! GRY! LILY! LAMON! TTY! GRY! Your voice & heart have lifted our spirits! WE! LILY! GRY!

to the questions of their lives. How I longed to live a life of faith, but how impossible it seemed in this modern world.

SO, WHEN I STEPPED ON THAT AIRPLANE I DESPERATELY HOPED TO FIND A NEW WORLD on the other side of the ocean. Leaving behind the normal scheduled activity of my university life left me even more face to face with that aching void in the depth of my heart. I seemed to be wandering aimlessly inside my heart, & now even in my travels.

FINALLY, ONE NIGHT THINGS BECAME UNBEARABLE, & I went out for a walk in the night & finally must have sat down & cried out in my heart, "God please show me what to do. I want to live for something, to do something good with my life, & all this just seems uncaring." Thank the Lord, there is a God who does hear & answer every prayer of faith!

THAT VERY DAY I MET SOMEONE WHO TOLD ME THAT ONLY JESUS COULD FILL THAT ACHING VOID IN MY HEART & bridge the gap that I felt between my mere human heart & the infinite power & love of God.

BLE CALLED "DIAMONDS OF DUST" to me, my first reading to my search, but my academic reading of the letters of Father David. My first reaction fence with a million excuses, was, "Of course this is & there seem to be a raging true!" I was so surprised.

I guess in all my studies I had never read anything written simply, because it's the truth! Then, day by day, reading these wonderful love letters of Father David & the story of the new lover of my soul, Jesus, I began to clear away the rubble of my mind, & each day became a step into a new world of freedom of love & happiness.

NOW THE LORD HAS GIVEN ME A WONDERFUL LIFE playing "Music with Meaning" together with thousands of brothers & sisters in Jesus around the world, & a wonderful husband & 3 beautiful children. Now I can truly say that I've "tried & proven" that promise in the Bible that says that if you delight yourself in the Lord He will give you the desires of your heart. Our God is a happy God & wants us to be happy & make others happy! Please try it too!

AMERICAN DREAM: Sarah Violin, 25, left her home in Florida to study at MWM.

Forever Singing Of The Lord's Love

AFTER FORSAKING A CAREER IN OPERA, HER VOICE NOW TRAVELS THE WORLD FOR JESUS!

From Joan of Arc; At MWM:

CRY TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE BACKGROUND ON MY STORY. I

can

say

that

I

lived

until

I

was

the

2nd

oldest

of

10

children.

My

mother

was

a

university

graduate

&

a

very

devout

Catholic.

My

father

was

an

air

force

reserve

commander

&

also

a

private

civil

engineer.

MY PARENTS WERE VERY GOOD

TO US.

I

always

remember

plenty

of

children

around.

My

father

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work

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hard,

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take

us

children

swimming.

WE WERE ALSO

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