

My name is Dustin, I was born in Oregon, but grew up in Chandler, Arizona. I grew up in a home that was not religious. We did not go to church, neither was church or religion important to us. The only time we would ever go to church would be during the Christmas season and sometimes on Easter Sunday. Even though we were not a church going family, my parents were very moral people in their own eyes. They taught us to respect all people, to not be prejudice, to care for other people and to not do things that were against the law. I grew up in a home where we sat around the dinner table each night, a home where we said "I love you" to each other and actually meant it. Life through high school was great. I was able to be one of the top kids in the my 12th grade graduation class. I became an Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts. During my senior year of high school, I decided to go to college at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. My desire since I was young was to study weather and become a storm chaser. UAH had the degree I was looking for, so it was the logical choice. What made it better is that my uncle and his family lived in Cullman, so I wouldn't be alone in Alabama. In the summer of 1997, I moved to Alabama to go to college. On the weekends I would go and stay at my uncle's house. My uncle and family were devoted Christians that went to a small Baptist Church in Cullman. Each weekend, I would go to church with them on Sunday, hearing about the grace and love of God. I heard each week about how we are all sinners and that when we die, we either go to heaven or hell. I also heard all about how Jesus loved us and died for our sins so we could get to heaven. Each time I heard this I thought to myself that I am a good person. I never drank, never smoked, never cussed or did drugs. If anyone should get to go to heaven it should be me. Then one Sunday, God opened my eyes and showed me that everyone has sinned. If you have ever told a lie, you have sinned. At that moment, I realized I needed a savior, so I asked Jesus to forgive me and to save me. At that moment I was saved. Since that time my life has been amazing! What matters most in life is not about how good or bad you are, it is all about having a personal relationship with Jesus that matters the most! This is my story, but I hope you read the rest of this letter to hear about God's story and His love for you and how you too can know Jesus personally. Then you can have a story of your own. God Bless You!!!