

Now I Know

By Robert Balon

I grew up in a religion or belief that you will go to heaven if you have not committed terrible sins. I didn't know what salvation is nor the need for man to be saved from his sins. So I thought I was just doing fine because I was not really inclined to do horrible things most teenagers tend to such as Drugs, Theft, Violent Behavior and others. I'm just like any ordinary boy who's fond of spending time with friends and playing video games.

However, I found delight in watching pornographic movies as well as gambling. Be it in illegal video games, in funeral or in the roadside (for Cara Y Cruz - played by tossing three twenty five centavo coins), I was always present. I enjoyed gambling to the point that I was willing to skip taking snacks in school during break time so I would have money to use for gambling.

But all these things that I enjoyed did not give an answer to the longing that I had in my heart. It's as if there was always an empty room that needed to be filled. I did not know the true meaning and significance of my life.

Until one day, I came to know Christ as my Lord and Savior. A friend of mine invited me to attend the Worship Service in Novaliches Christian Fellowship. It was only then that I understood what salvation really is. I realized that I was a filthy and wretched sinner before God and that salvation can only be found in Him through Jesus Christ, Who suffered and died on the cross to pay for my sins. I received Jesus Christ in my heart on February 26, 2006 through faith and repented of all my sins by God's grace.

Never will I forget what the Bible says in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." and in John 1:12, "Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God."

Now I know that I am saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. And the same grace of God, continues to work in my life. Little by little, I saw changed in me, with God taking away those wrong habits.

My life is still imperfect though, I'm still facing trials, temptations and troubles in everyday. But because I have Christ in my heart, I know I can make it through for He is faithful and His promises are true.

Now I'm serving the Lord together with other workers in Banaba, daughter church of Novaliches Christian Fellowship and also about to finish the program in NCF Bible Institute. I thank the Lord for all He has done and for the many people who have been God's instruments in blessing me.

