

Showing Me His Way

Have you ever wondered what it's like to feel God? I did, until I was dragged out of the darkness by the incredible light of God. It is an astonishing peace that surpasses all understanding. It shows the marvelous love and care that God shows. God is always with us whether we feel Him or not. He is always listening to what we have to say, and He always loves us no matter what we do. He will not give up on us, and He will be with us, protecting and sheltering us wherever we go.

One day, I sat alone in my room with the lights turned off. I was struggling with friend drama and family health concerns, while adjusting to a new school. I was in deep prayer, pouring my heart out to God, letting the tears pour out of my eyes like a bleeding wound. I prayed that God would provide me with the Holy Spirit to give me strength. That He would help me to be the best person I could be according to the way of Jesus Christ. I could feel God in the room with me. I felt His presence and embraced it. I sat quietly and felt Him in the room. Suddenly, I felt my chest tighten and relax all at the same time. It is hard to put it into words, but the best way to describe it is "a hug for your soul." The feeling was tight, and firm, but also comforting. I felt an intense peace run through my body, relaxing every muscle in my body that God gave me. It was a feeling that I had never felt before, but I knew it was God revealing Himself and His great love that conquers all. My tears ceased, and I could only praise God for what He had just enlightened in me. I took a deep breath that soaked deeply into my soul. I flicked the light switch on and the lights shined brightly in my eyes, like waking up to the bright morning sun.

On Monday, with my religion class, we walked to the Chapel to do our lesson for the day. We don't go into the Chapel every class, but I cherish it when we do. After we talked through the lesson for that day, I stopped to talk to my teacher, Ms. Julie. I began to tell her the story about the incredible peace that I had felt from God that day.

When I had finished, Ms. Julie declared without a doubt, "That is God. I am so glad that you have asked for the Holy Spirit and have then received it." These words will forever stick with me as they showed to me once more that God is real and present in my life.

This specific time in my life reminds me of the verse Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it will be given you. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and it will be opened for you." I had been seeking the Holy Spirit in my life for a long time, and I had asked God to give me the Holy Spirit to help me become a better person. It wasn't until the time that I felt God, that I felt heard by Him. It makes me feel so honored that God, the Creator of the entire Earth and everything living, cares so much about me that He will take the time to walk with me, comfort me in times of trouble, and help me feel His love for me.

This time also reminds me of a sign that sits in my room. The very last line on the sign is a part of the Irish blessing. It reads, "and whenever you pray, heaven to hear you."

I feel heard by God. This feeling strengthens me when I'm struggling because I know that God is with me and holding my hand through life.

It wasn't until this minute that I realized God is very present in my life and that I feel Him every day. I am so very blessed to hold this moment in my heart to have God walking me through life, showing my His way.

Christ Is Alive

When I first came to a Catholic school this year, I thought it was kind of strange. In particular during mass. During my first mass I thought it was kind of weird how everyone got together and sang, prayed, and the most confusing part for me was receiving the Eucharist. I didn't really know what to do so I just looked at everyone else and copied them. It was all very confusing to me at first, but slowly I started to understand. Like how I cross my arms to receive a blessing instead of taking the Eucharist or how we sit, stand, and kneel at different times. So it took a while for me to understand. But I eventually got the hang of it. But I never really tried talking to God before, but one day I decided to try. So I started praying. Not just at mass, but before I eat, when I go to bed at night, when I wake up in the morning, even in my free time. At first I felt kind of silly, but I started to feel more connected to God. And I started to think he was truly listening to me. So I started being more open to God by talking to him about things like my day, and thanking him for my blessings and gifts he has given me. And now to this day I still speak to him and feel his love all around me. So that's how I went from not knowing a thing about the power and love of God to praising God and feeling his love and mercy every day.