

## Someone Cares!

It was in the town of Lafayette, Indiana, November 20, 1871 when Charles Weigle joined the twelve-member family of a German baker and his wife. As Charles grew, it became obvious that he had a bad temper, a temper so violent that his parents were concerned that eventually, he would go to prison. Just how bad was his temper? By the time he was twelve years old he was fighting with his brothers and neighbor boys. One time Charles was having trouble with an older brother when he seriously cut him with a knife. Another time he did not like how a neighbor boy played so he knocked him down with a baseball bat. Then there was the incident while in a parade and ringing a bell, another young fellow did not like the crowd Charles was with so he told him to put the bell down. He did put down the bell, but it was on the head of the complaining fellow who went home to recuperate afterwards. What happened to Charles for doing that? For that, his parents severely punished him.

One night in a small church, Charles was sitting on a rear seat during a revival preaching service. As he listened to the message, the Holy Spirit of God brought him under deep conviction. In his heart, Charles thought that there was no hope for him until he finally yielded to God and confessed his sin. Of this experience Charles later said, "I was convicted and condemned, and confessed my guilt to Almighty God. There seemed no hope for me. My sins towered up before me. Then Jesus came and quieted my fears. He paid the penalty for all my sins and guilt. He pleaded my case in the high court of heaven and won my pardon. When this great truth dawned upon my mind, my heart was filled with gratitude and praise."

For financial reasons, the Weigle family had to move while Charles was still in high school. Sadly, though, the economic condition of the time did not improve for them and, at the age of seventeen, Charles began to work as a toolmaker. He held different jobs and went on to study music, and eventually became a preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Charles went from being an ill-tempered person to one completely changed and all of that because of what Jesus Christ did in his heart and life. There may be someone reading this that has the feeling that there is no hope for them. My friend, there is hope and that hope can only be found in the Lord Jesus Christ. You see, when anyone, no matter who they are or what they have done, comes to Jesus Christ with a true repentance for their sins, He has promised to forgive and save them for all eternity; **ALL** of this is made possible because of God's love. Please consider a few verses from God's Word, the Bible "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." {John 3:16} "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8} God promised not to refuse anyone. "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." {John 6:37} "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:13} The forgiveness of sin and eternal life is a gift from God even though we do not deserve it. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." {Romans 6:23} "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." {Ephesians 2:8-9} **ALL** of this is possible because Jesus Christ shed His innocent blood and died on the Cross of Calvary. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." {1 Peter 1:18-19} God made a promise to those who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God." {1 John 5:11-13} Jesus died on the Cross of Calvary and was buried; however, He bodily rose from the grave and at this very moment He is back in Heaven with God the Father. "And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;" {Hebrews 10:11-12}

This friend is the same Jesus Christ who forgave Charles Weigle, saved him, and forever changed his life and I am so happy to be able to tell you that He can and will do the same for you. Will you repent of your sin and trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour today? It is my prayer that you will do that today. Then you will be able to sing the song that Mr. Weigle wrote.

I would love to tell you what I think of Jesus,  
Since I found in Him a friend so strong and true.  
I would tell you how He changed my life completely;  
He did something no other friend could do.

Chorus

No one ever cared for me like Jesus;  
There's no other friend so kind as He.  
No one else could take the sin and darkness from me;  
O how much He cared for me.

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/2018

All Scripture references are KJV