

## Matthew 11:28

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

### Luke January 2011

Hello, my name is Luke: (name changed to protect identity)  
I am 25 years old, from Australia and here is my testimony..



My faith journey really began out of desperation and pain. I had lived the all too common lifestyle of young men, of parties drinking and drugs. I came to a point in my life where I could not have gone any further, it seemed like my life was passing me by like a shadow and I had no control over it any longer. It felt like I was living in a black hole to deep to get out of. The Pain and anguish that I suffered during this time would be hard to put into words. I started to look for answers in many different places such as Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam even in new age. Although fascinating at first the emptiness soon came through and if anything confused matters even further. At this stage I was 20 years old and going nowhere. As a child I had been educated in the Catholic school system, so I had a childlike knowledge of Catholicism and later down the track it would prove to be the greatest blessing.

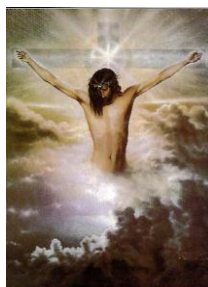
All the way through the darkness I could always hear a voice calling me home, sometimes through my Grandmother, other times in my heart, I was so desperate for answers. I realise now God had never left me, even in that dark pit of despair. I began to say my childhood prayer's and slowly but surely he pulled me out of that darkness.

When Jesus really hit me over the head with a hammer, I was at a charismatic conference. I was beginning to discern at this point and although I had Christ with me, I still felt the old life pulling me; the attractions were still very strong. At the end of the last day of the conference we broke up into prayer groups. I was first to be prayed over, and boy didn't what come change, challenge and inspire me! I felt someone's hand's clutching my heart and it hurt, then I realised the hand's was Christ's. He began to pour his love and healing into my heart, his hands felt red hot but icy cold all at the same time, I could never be the same again. I left there a transformed man, my new life in Christ had begun, the old life now had lost all its appeal and I began my exciting journey into my Catholic Faith.

**Jesus words really ring home when He said ...**

***"What Profit it a man to gain the whole world but forfeit his own soul."***

**Mark 8: 36**



**Matthew 16: 26**