

Testimonies for Church Membership

Vasiliki Emmanouilidou

I was born in a Christian Orthodox household in my country Greece. I was brought up primarily by my grandmother who instilled in me from an early age to have God as a guide in my life and my decisions. She also emphasised the importance of repenting about our mistakes or when hurting other people. Conscience became of paramount importance to me.

With age and experience I came to see how right she was and how much strength can be used derived from my faith. Although my connection to God was constant it has been strengthened in the last 10 years through adversity, disappointment in people's behaviour and the peace I could only find in God.

Uncertainty, fear, anger and regret, emotional loss all these were very much relieved through my new relationship with God. By remembering his suffering and how stoically he accepted it I thought that I should bear my cross gracefully. There is also an end to suffering and wounds heal all this with the grace of God. With this renewed perspective I have put my life in God's hands and became able to now take better care of myself and not give in to despair easily.

Coming across the Baptist church was not a coincidence. The warmth of the people, the gentle welcoming drew me more and more to desire to get involved and share my faith as well as to grow further as a Christian in this congregation.

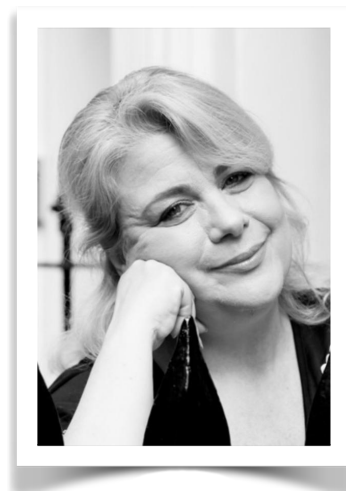
There is something free and accepting in this church to share ideas and questions and also to participate in decisions and voice our needs. For me this desire to join the Baptist church came unexpectedly very naturally, effortlessly I just want to be here. I am glad to be here. I feel welcomed and accepted as I am a very imperfect human being wanting to become better and in harmony with God.

Nana K Amagyei

I was born into a Christian family with both parents being believers of the Gospel. Sunday church attendance was constant in our weekly schedule. During my early teen years, I responded to several altar calls with relatively limited understanding. But it was after listening to a sermon in July 2005, which indicated that the date that one accepts Jesus Christ as he/she Lord and personal saviour should be as significant to the individual as his/her date of birth, that I decided to confess Jesus as my Lord with meaning. I was subsequently baptized in August 2005.

My Christian journey hasn't been spotless, but the promptings of the Holy Spirit continues to see me through.

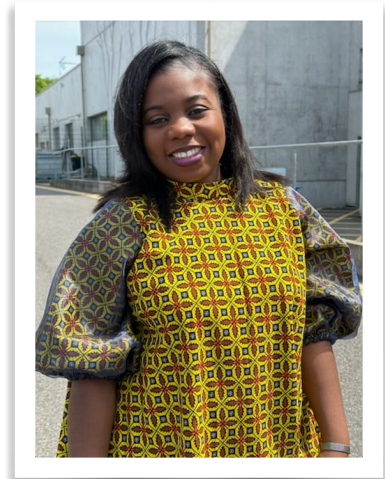
Even though my parents introduced me to Jesus Christ, my faith life have significantly been impacted by the tutelage of the late Rev. Onwona Agyeman, who was my pastor for about fourteen (14) years until his passing in 2016. He made the word of God practical and encouraged me to know and experience God for myself.



In WBPC, the doctrine and way of worship and service to God is in line with how I was brought up to know and experience God, i.e making Jesus Christ the focus of our worship. I am convinced that WBPC is a good place to nurture and grow your Christian faith, and would, therefore, like to encourage us all to endeavour to have a personal relationship with God. Once we have that, we can rest assured that He will order our steps.

Deborah Amagyei

Growing up, I used to think that one is an automatic Christian if he or she is born to parents who are Christians and go to church every Sunday and attend all church activities. At least, that is what I believed till I was 11 years old, then I understood otherwise and confessed Jesus Christ as my Lord and saviour for the first time at church. It was such an eye opener indeed to know that all the years when I was going to church (i.e. every Mondays, Thursdays, and Sundays), was all for my mother and not that I had a personal relationship with Him.



Thanks to my mom, who made sure my brothers and I never for any reason miss church service and also lead us to have our morning devotion, first thing before we brush our teeth and last thing before bed, I believe, made it lot easier to know God and eventually give my life to Christ. I later got baptized by immersion at the age of 14.

I don't have the "once I was this bad bad person and now, I am saved" story. Nothing interesting like that but had it not been for the Lord with me, guiding me through my secondary and tertiary school years, I don't know what would have become of me. I constantly see the hand of God saving me from things and situations that could have otherwise destroyed me but for the grace of God and prayers of my mom.

I thank God for the woman He gave to me as a mother. As a single mother, after she and my dad separated, when my brothers and I were very young, she made it her priority to ensure that we knew and served God for ourselves. I remember during the time when I was away in the university, she will call every morning to ask whether I have read my bible and prayed before I stepped out for lectures. On Sundays she will ask whether I went to church. On days when for some reason I couldn't attend church, she would be very disappointed. This she still does to all her children till date, even though we are all married and living our lives. She has indeed played a significant role in my walk with God.

Since I became a Christian till date, I have only been drawn to churches that uphold Jesus and His word. So, the first time we came to WBPC in July 2023, my husband and I saw just that, and we instantly knew that we were going to worship here. Then in October 2023, we decided to take our commitment to the next level and here we are now.

I thank God for how far He has brought me and where He is taking me to. The reverence of the Lord and His presence makes all the difference in our lives. That being said, its my prayer that if you don't have a relationship with Jesus yet, make Him the center of your life and you will be glad you did.

Thank you and God richly bless you.

Deborah.