

**50 SHADES
OF HEAVENLY BLUE**
Stories about the love of God
Biblical texts with texts and pictures
of Luus Verheijen

Story 12

My Conversion in 2009

Always searching

Through my Roman Catholic education, I did have Jesus in my heart when I was about 6 years old. The background of my mom was very rich in faith. I was a happy child. But I was sexually abused when I was 11 years old, and I had some other negative experiences. I lost Jesus in that time. And I do not remember anything about my Confirmation, except that my dress was no good ... Nothing about the Holy Spirit ...

Since then I was searching, my life was always very difficult. Around 1999, I became a Muslim, after reading the Koran. I was very happy with that. Christian man did not give me much respect in my past, but Muslim man did. My life always was going from one problem to the next. Now I know, that things do not last when you make the wrong choices ...

A new start

As I am an optimist, I made a new start in my life very often. It was in the 14th "new start" when I went for a walk in Scheveningen in 2009. There was Logos Hope! I loved to be on the ship. I did the tour through the ship. A Dutch woman did lead that in a nice way. When I was drinking coffee afterwards, Susan Vallve from Chile started a conversation with me. We were talking about the resemblances between Christians and Muslims. I liked that very much. At the end of that conversation she said: "You only miss one thing. Jesus!" And she told me that he would forgive anything which you did wrong before, if you repent of it.

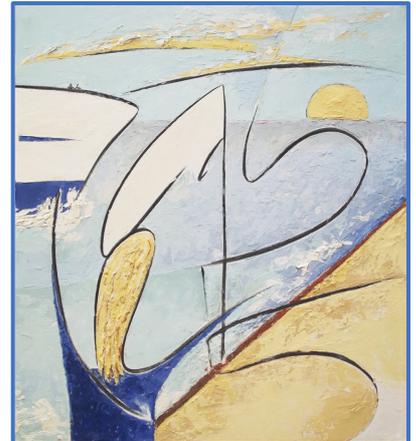
She talked about something she did wrong; that was really very bad, and she told me that Jesus had forgiven her. I was completely astonished that she dared to tell this to a complete stranger like me. That made such a large impression! And then she asked if she could pray for me. Nobody ever asked this to me and she did such an amazing prayer!



The Bible

Her husband Matias wanted to give me a Bible but I said I do not understand it. I did try before. All those stories made me confused. That's why he said, that for me it would be good to read it chronologically and he gave me the book Cover to Cover by S. Hughes and T.J. Partridge. This made sense to me. I was asked for dinner on the ship twice and they came to my place once. We had very special conversations!

I was sad when the ship was leaving. I started to read the Gospel of John, but could not understand. It felt like stumbling over the words all the time. But I also had bought on the ship "Hunger for reality", written by George Verwer. Through that book I understood more and more.



Finding Jesus

I did not realize I was moving towards Jesus. One evening in April 2009 I was doing my Muslim prayers. There is a part in which you say that God does not have a son. I could not pray that anymore. I was desperate... The Muslim faith was at that time the only security in my life. "God, what do I have to do, I do not know it" I called out to God, but I did not hear anything. Finally I fell asleep.

When I woke up I was praying aloud:

...
*He sits on the right hand of the Father,
and will come again with glory to judge living and dead,
of Whose kingdom there will be no end;*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and life-giver,
Who proceeds from the Father,
Who with the Father and the Son is together worshipped
and together glorified,
Who spoke through the prophets...*

*The word of God has become flesh and lived under us.
The Law came through Moses, but goodness and truth through
Jesus!*

I was very surprised! I had become a Christian that night!
I was very happy with that!

The next day I woke up with a song in which I asked Jesus to
come into my heart!

Life with Jesus

After that my life changed very much. I thought life would be more easy with Jesus, but that was not happening. But life was more beautiful with more joy and peace.

When I was about six years old I asked my parents why we were not baptized in the right way, like you can read in the Bible! So I was very happy when this finally took place in 2013 in Redeemer International Church in The Hague.

I see the Bible as an instruction manual for life. I also think it's important to keep an open mind to what God is doing in my life. As for what he has to say. I am talking more and more with Him through the day. He did give me a Plan for my future!

Most lyrics I was praying are from The Nicene Creed.
I did not think about that in 35 Years!



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