

“Sarah”

I was raised in a Christian home. So I was knowledgeable of the foundational principles of the church. I was getting really sick of being told all the time that I should be good and do things perfectly. I was tired of being told that the church was always right and the world always wrong when I know that the church has serious problems that they pretend do not exist. As a child my family moved around a lot because of my father's work. During one of our moves my mother got very sick. So at age 10 I took charge of the house. Then my mother got better and we moved again.

At age 14 I was shipped off to boarding school against my wishes. I rebelled against the school rules and the church. When I finished high school at age 18 I was finally allowed to date. I married someone who was very abusive. After having two children with him, I decided to leave him. I sent my two children to live with my parents, which turned out to be a bad idea. Then at age 30 I found myself in another abusive relationship. I got pregnant for him and decided that I needed to get out of that relationship before it was too late. My parents still had my other two children. I heard about the healing center and decided to go there and start a new life. While there I realized how traumatized I was from the abusive relationship. I had lost faith in God, and in people. But I know that He is out there somewhere. I hope that He is there for me. I am trying to change my thinking. I want to find me. I don't trust the church anymore. There were times that I reached out to members, but they were not there for me. I hope that in time I will have the information I need to form healthy relationships. I am starting to see a little of God's love and the way I need to go.