

## The Little Book of New Beginnings

I'm sure that you have heard the story about the man and the flood. There was a man that knew a flood was coming. As the water started to rise, a car stopped by and the driver told him to hop in and he was sent to save his life. The man told the driver, THE LORD WILL PROVIDE. So, the driver went on his way. The water started to rise and now this man was on his roof. While he was waiting, a boat stopped at his house and the man in the boat said, I was sent to save your life. The man on the roof replied the LORD WILL PROVIDE, so the boat left him there. Now the water had risen even more and the water had reached the man's chin. As he was standing there a Helicopter stopped right above him. The pilot drops a ladder and says to him desperately that he was there to save his life, the man in the water replies. THE LORD WILL PROVIDE. The pilot did not argue with his choice so the helicopter left him there where he wanted to stay. As you guessed this story ends with him drowning while he waited for God to provide. When he got to the gates of heaven where he would be judged, he asked God why didn't you provide. And as you would expect God to respond he does. You stood there and waited while I sent you several opportunities to escape, I sent people to show you a way out. God Replied with disappointment. The man was disappointed as well now that he realized how foolish he was to keep waiting for a better way out. Unfortunately, it's always easier to see the right thing to do when it's from an outside perspective. Just like this story with the man and the flood. Everyone reading knew the obvious answer for the right decision he should have made. But when it comes to our own lives the decisions tend to become harder to make. Even when the answer is right in front of us and seems so simple.

You might feel like the man with the water rising. I don't know where you are in your life but you might feel like life is getting rough or you might be at a place where it feels like you are about to drown in the stress of this life. You might be thinking, there's no way for anyone to know what you're going through and the answer is not so easy. But I myself have been at a place of homelessness since I was a kid. My mother lived in a shelter, I lived in a tent and when I was lucky I had a shed. I found myself at a place that I wanted to die. I did not want this life anymore. It was when I gave my life to someone that did want it was when my life started to improve. Praise God for the word of God. It says in: Romans 10:13 For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." Try it, Call on Him! **2 Corinthians 5:15-17---"He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them. So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view. At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him!"** How would it feel to be able to have a new life, a clean slate, a fresh start? It's actually true! When you give your life to him, and truly live for him, when you give all that is ungodly away and search for him with all of your heart, true change takes place. A new life starts, with new opportunities. I went from being homeless most of my childhood and teenage years to having a home, a job and a family. I dropped out of school and I was on every drug you can find. There's no difference between us. Except for one thing.

**COMPLETE SURRENDER!**.....Let's start **NOW**. But you must really mean it. Say this with your heart. "God, I am sorry, I am sorry for the way that I have lived and not living for you. I believe that you sent your son to die for me so I can have a new life. I confess my sins to you now and no longer want to live this way. I believe that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the grave. I believe that he is the son of God. Forgive me of everything and show me how to live. Thank you lord.....**AMEN!**"