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Sin was pleasing and seemed desirable, but my own self and Satan had deceived me. Selfishness, worldly wisdom, cultural thinking, and wrong concepts filled my mind with hate for God. I wanted to have it my way! I was not really caring about God's ways and the truth of His word. The world revolved around pleasing me and getting what I believed I wanted. It was all wrong.

At age 27, I had a three-year-old son from my husband whom I married at age nineteen, and whom I gave my virginity. I was thinking that we would spend the rest of our lives together. My husband suddenly abandoned me.

I was feeling rejected, until I met the man who would be the father of my second child. I became pregnant and we made a choice to abort our baby. He did not want the responsibility because he was already paying child support for two other children. I was at risk of losing my three-year-old son to his father, because I was pregnant by someone else. I was from a broken family and I knew the pain of being separated from my mother. I was so proud to have my son. He was the joy of my life and I could not risk losing him.

The church believed in a faithful lifestyle and I was an adulteress. I was living a lie! I had two faces, one for church and the other for my private life. My boyfriend paid for the abortion, took me to the clinic, and waited for me. I was not taken care of properly. There were so many people who did not care about my unborn child or me. I remember crying, but no one cared. I went home and got in the bed with a cup of hot tea. I had no other care.

I did not have my baby. I had an abortion. I felt like I could not share this with anyone. Most of my friends were in the church. I did not ask anyone for prayer about my situation. They would never understand why or how I could have done something like this. I needed to get right with God and truly turn my life over to Him. After some time in counseling, my husband and I reunited, conceived a daughter and gave birth to her. Shortly afterwards I was pregnant again and my husband did not want another child. He pressured me into getting an abortion. He said that he was not going to take care of another child and he threatened to leave me again. Fear, rejection and no self-worth helped me to make the decision to abort again at age 30. On a cold winter day, my husband took me to the abortion clinic. I could not take it, so I asked to be put to sleep.

The search for significance had ended when I really came to know the Lord. Part of my journey would include me marrying a Godly man, who asked me to become a volunteer for our local pregnancy center in a large city. I did and the training included abortion counseling and Bible Study for women who have had abortions. During this process, I was able to see what had happened to me earlier in my life. Compassion set in my heart for women who were caught in the trap of past abortions. Now 33 years later, I serve my Lord and Savior as the founder and director of a pregnancy care center in a small city in southeast Georgia with my husband.

Though sin *seems* pleasing and desirable, it brings forth sorrow and death! Only a merciful and gracious Heavenly Father could forgive me, love me, and provide deliverance from the hell I went through!

Barbara is active in her church, married and directs a pregnancy center in Georgia. Barbara is also a part-time staff member for the National Helpline for Abortion Recovery facilitated by Concepts of Truth Inc. in Wynne, AR.