



I grew up in the Rutherglen. when I was eleven my dad passed away suddenly leaving my mum to raise 3 teenage boys, just at the same time I had just entered high school and was forming a group of friends & experimenting with drugs and alcohol. I was a lost we boy trying to cope with grief. I was first arrested when I was 11 and quite quickly became a target for the police. It started with general disorder in the community but as I grew older and began to get involved in gang fights, my appetite for violence grew. I was repeatedly arrested, held and released as a minor. By the time I was 16 the police cells were a regular occurrence & my drug and alcohol use had developed even more. Not long after I turned 16 I was sent to A young offenders for a serious assault. For the next 8 years my life consisted of violence, drink, drugs , broken relationships , homelessness and Prison. My life was chaos, so one time as I sat in my cell so I prayed to God not knowing if he was real or not, just that if he existed would he help me. After serving multiple jail sentences in the YO's I was sent to Barlinnie at the age of 21, then moved to Kilmarnock prison, where I came across the prison fellowship, I attended out of curiosity, but there was a genuine interest in me. The more I went the more I learned about Jesus and how he loved me and died to give me life and so that I could be forgiven. I became a Christian in Bowhouse and had all the usual good intentions upon getting released, but they didn't last long. I wanted to live the life of a Christian but the reality was it was difficult. I continued to be involved in crime and a few years passed, I had attended a church in Glasgow on and off. Over this time God was really drawing me in. In 2012 I done a 9-week remand and committed my life afresh to Jesus, I came out and committed myself to going to a local church, got baptised & a few months later started bible college where I spent 2 years growing in knowledge and understanding of God & faith. When I was in college I was involved in starting a new church campus in Drumchapel and then went on to help start on in Rutherglen. I now know God has great plans for my life, I'm part of the leadership team in Destiny & preaching regularly which is brilliant. I started my own business two years ago and also met my wife in church. Life with Jesus is the way to go, I never thought I would be doing what I am doing now and be enjoying it. I always believed I'd either be murdered or be doing a life sentence. But that cycle that I couldn't break, Jesus broke for me. And he can do the same for you. I've now been out of prison five years.