

Janet Boynes Testimony

I was raised by a single mom with seven kids and four different fathers: One of the four fathers was a rapist and the other one that raised me was an alcoholic. Many fights between my stepfather and my mom broke out in our home because of his drinking. However, I would soon adapt those same behaviors that were demonstrated to me by watching how my parents dealt with their issues, how they treated each other and what they said to each other.

I went to school and started acting out of my pain by beating up my peers. Being the middle child of seven in my family was hard for me because I was overlooked. I would do anything for mom's attention. My life began spinning out of control. I was getting suspended from school, being mean to teachers, and bullying my peers. No one understood why I was such a bully or what they called me a 'bad kid'. Nor did they know about the physical and mental abuse I endured at home.

I would talk with my 8th grade teacher who was intentional about spending time with me. I told her everything except the mental & physical abuse I endured as a child. Nor did I share with her when I was raped by one of the four fathers at the age of thirteen. I didn't feel like I couldn't share my dark secret with her or anyone else.

Who would believe a bad kid like me. Most people would have thought I was saying that for attention. I told no one about the rape till I was 21 years old. I suffered in silence. When I decided to tell my mom and my recovering stepfather I wasn't believed.

As I got older, my heart hardened & I decided that I would never live the life my mother did, men will never abuse me mentally or physically, I will never marry a black man, and I will not have kids' wedlock.

When going through this trauma I thought who would want to marry a man after being rapes and physical abused. I later moved to Minneapolis MN and met a guy after I got saved. He courted me for three years and asked me to marry him. I said yes but that day would never happen because I had a sexual

relationship with a female friend. I called off my wedding and lived as a lesbian for fourteen years. As time went on, I became bored and lonely. My girlfriend was not filling the emptiness and the void I was feeling at that time. After fourteen years I decided to rededicate my heart to Jesus. Getting to where I am today was a process. I thank the Lord for all those in the church that helped me in my journey.

Janet Boynes founded Janet Boynes Ministries in Maple Grove, MN in 2006. She wrote her first Curriculum, Faith's Fight for Godly Culture / Dealing with the Gay Agenda, authored the books: *Called Out- A Former Lesbian's Discovery of Freedom, God & Sexuality* & her latest book *God & The LGBT Community*. She challenges individuals and the church to reach out with a message of hope and restoration to those who struggle with identity issues. Her life is proof that the love of God has the power to heal and restore the brokenness in our lives. It's been over twenty years since she was called out of the lesbian lifestyle. Janet is an ordained minister Under the Assemblies of God and travels the U.S and overseas sharing a message of redemption. Her desire is to bring hope through the power of Jesus Christ.