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I don't remember much about my life before becoming a Christian because I prayed the prayer to ask Jesus into my heart when I was 4 years old. It was at a Christian family camp that my family still goes to every year on Memorial Day weekend. I grew up in a Christian family, so I never knew anything other than going to church every Sunday, praying before every meal, and saying my prayers at night.

When I was 13 I started going to Youth Group at my church and it was there where I really dedicated my life to Christ. I had always believed in God and did everything I could to be a good person, but it was at this point that I really started to understand what it meant to have a personal relationship with Jesus. My youth pastor was also my children's church pastor when I was younger, and he had a very large influence on helping me understand what a personal relationship with God was all about.

The first time my faith was tested in a significant way and the most challenging time in my walk with the Lord came when my parents went through a nasty divorce that was strung out over 3 years. This started when I was about 15 and ended when I was 18, which was right before I left for prep school. I still don't understand everything about that chain of events and I'm sure I never will, but I do know that it ultimately strengthened my relationship with God so much because the only way through it was to depend completely on Him. I didn't understand how my parents could teach me all these Christian values my whole life, just to contradict them in their own lives. It was the first time I ever really questioned God, but this situation also led me to really seek out God for understanding. I began to see that we aren't supposed to understand everything about what goes on in our life because God wants us to put all of our trust and faith in Him, and this is not something that is to be based on how our life is going. He wants it in the good times and the bad, and I believe that's why we're tested.

When I got to Brown I was shocked to find such a strong community of believers because when people told me about the school all they said was how shocked I would be at how liberal and crazy the people are here. Without AIA, Geoff, Jarrod and Matt I don't know how my walk with the Lord would be, but it was those people who set a solid foundation and were great examples to me in terms of being a Christian man at Brown. I was even fortunate enough to have all of them at my baptism, which took place at Jarrod's church in the fall. It was one of the most significant events of my life and having them there was such a huge blessing and meant so much to me. That pretty much brings me to where I'm at today.