

Jason Gilbert's Testimony

My walk with Jesus began at a young age as I have been blessed by a family of believers in Christ. My family has always set a wonderful example of Christ's love for others and prioritizing Him in your life. My entire childhood was filled with prayer, Bible reading and church. I have attended the same church for pretty much my whole life, which is currently the church where I work.

At six, I accepted Christ personally. I knew what it looked like to be a Christian and I knew the right answers and part of me, at that young age, just didn't want to go to Hell. Years later in college, I deepened my personal relationship with The Lord and it allowed more maturity in my faith. Even though I knew I was a Christian I was still just going through the motions at times. It wasn't until I was 22 that I truly knew what it meant to follow Christ with everything you have.

During that season of my life, I believe my life truly changed. I began serving in my church, I started having a daily quiet time and really working on the relationship that I wanted to have with Jesus. After a couple years of continuing this walk, I could hear The Lord opening my heart to ministry.

At that time our Children's ministry leader had just stepped down and I was praying and asking God if that was something He wanted me to pursue. Spending several weeks stuck on that prayer, my lead Pastor and I had lunch together and had a great conversation about that role.

Afterwards, we both were on the same page that Children's ministry would be a good fit for what I felt God was calling me to do. I served as the children's minister for two years before my lead pastor asked me if I would be interested in leading student ministry.

Three months later, full of prayer and conversation with my newlywed wife, we took the leap of faith and accepted the position as Student Minister in 2014. I have been serving as the Director of Students since then and God has shown me very clearly that students are where I need to be.

I met my wife, Madison in 2008 at a concert in Charlotte. It was by chance and coincidence I bumped into her and her friends and ended up seeing her two more times that night before I went up to her and introduced myself and got her number. We talked for a while and later that summer we started dating.

We dated for five months but decided to break up that December. Madison was a senior in high school at the time and I was in college. We didn't really talk for the next year and half, Madison went off to college in Wilmington and I was in school at UNCC. The summer of 2010 we started talking to each other again.

My brother was getting married that August and his now wife, Camille, told me I couldn't bring anybody else to the wedding except Madison. (They had formed a great friendship while we were dating in 2008).

I asked Madison if she would want to go to the wedding with me. She accepted and it was at Justin and Camille's wedding that really started our relationship again. Few months later we started dating. We got engaged in 2013 and married in July 2014. We both absolutely love working with students and guiding them through a challenging life towards Christ.