

STUDENT JOURNEYS

Merri Kris Winey

It was August 7th that God spoke, “Say it out loud.” The walls shook and it startled me, but I knew what the words meant. I yelled, “I quit!” I have never drunk since that day.

I struggled with alcohol addiction almost my whole life and started getting drunk when I was about seven years old. I tried everything to quit. I'd been in detox and different treatment facilities for years but finally just gave up and felt I was destined to a life of hell.

God kept me alive through the many trials of my drinking career, and it's by His mercy and grace that I am alive (and sober) today.



I was homeless in Colorado Springs - living under bridges and out flying signs that said, “Will work for food.” One night I was trying to cross Academy Boulevard and was hit by a car. **I died three times on the operating table that night.** I was in a coma, but I heard my brain surgeon tell my knee surgeon that I would probably never walk or talk again. I spent three months in a rehab hospital learning how to feed myself as well as other basic life skills that I'd lost because of the brain trauma. I was released from rehab and got black-out drunk that same night.

It was thirteen years later when I heard that Voice, and I knew it was my last chance.

I found a spirit-filled, faith-walking, Word-teaching church and got baptized in the Holy Ghost. I praise God for this church and several other ministries where I learned that God is a loving, forgiving, good God.

**... and just when ya think you know a little,
here comes some more revelation knowledge!**

I started watching a man named Andrew Wommack on television and, boy, I liked what he was saying. It went right along with everything I believed – the Word! Then I found out he had a ministry in Colorado. Eureka! I was born and raised in Colorado!

That summer I went to his healing conference in Woodland Park. **I was so overwhelmed with the beauty of Charis Bible College and its surroundings.** I wanted to be there, but I was taking care of my mom and couldn't move. Instead, I started taking online courses.



Through several miracles, I'm now living in a log cabin smack-dab in the middle of Woodland Park. I've been volunteering at Andrew Wommack Ministries, will finish up my first year of Charis as an Online student, and then plan to attend the Woodland Park campus for my second year.

This whole universe is a word-based, word-created universe, and God blesses us beyond our wildest dreams when we speak His Word and follow Jesus.



If you would like to share your Student Journey, email us at **DistanceEd@CharisBibleCollege.org**.

A staff writer will contact you if your story is selected to be featured in the Charis Online Community.