

Jordan packed their rainbow flag and headed off to the Pride parade. Jordan struggled with their sexuality and gender for many years. "Finally, I can be who I am!"

On the way, Jordan came across a smug looking man wearing priest's clothes. He began to wave a Bible in their face. "You are going to hell!" the man screamed.

Jordan told the man to leave them alone, but he persisted. Jordan began to leave, but the man shouted to Jordan as they ran, "You can run, but you can't hide! GOD HATES YOU!"

Jordan finally got away from the man. "Why are people so horrible?" Jordan thought. "Why can't they just let me, be me?". Undeterred, Jordan continued on.

Jordan then saw 2 thugs beating up a young man wearing a "Pride" T-Shirt. As they pushed him to the ground, a woman saw what was happening and ran over and put herself between them and the young man. She then should at them to leave him alone.

The 2 thugs began to laugh and walked off. Jordan went over as the woman helped the young man to his feet. "Are you okay?" said the woman.

"Thank you for helping me." said the young man.

Jordan noticed the woman was wearing a cross necklace. Remembering the encounter with the man in the priest's clothes, Jordan asked the woman "Aren't you a Christian?"

"Yes, how did you know?" said the woman.

Jordan answered, "Because I saw your necklace. Why did you help him? I thought you hated us."

The woman replied, "Where on earth did you get that idea from?"

Jordan said, "On my way here, a priest told me that I am going to hell and that God hates people from my community."

The woman said, "God does not hate you. He loves you more than you can imagine!"

Jordan was confused. "If God loves me then why did he make me this way? And why does he want to send me to hell?"

The woman answered Jordan. "But God didn't make you this way. And He doesn't want to send you to hell. Just the opposite."

"God loves you so much, that He sent His one and only Son, to die for you. Jesus came to save that which was lost, and the sad reality is that we are all lost. Including that priest!"

The woman then gave Jordan a small booklet called the Gospel of John.

The woman said. "Don't believe everything that you hear or what other people tell you. Read this and make your own mind up! It tells you exactly who Jesus is and why He came."

Jordan took the small book and put it in their bag. "Thanks! I will try to read it later."

Later that day, Jordan read the small book. Jordan was amazed. They read that everyone in the world has sinned, not just members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Not only that, but that God took it upon Himself to save us. God loved us so much, **in that** while we were still sinners, <u>Christ died for us</u>.

Jordan then did something they didn't do since they were a child. Jordan sat down on the floor and closed their eyes and began to pray.

"Dear God. I know you don't do politics, and I know you don't show favouritism. I don't know if you are real or not, but I have a feeling that you not only see me, but that you have **always** seen me."

"All those years of questioning my identity. All those times I didn't know who or what I was supposed to be. And all this time you saw my pain! Not only that, but I now understand that you wanted me to come to you so that you could heal me, **but I kept pushing you away**. I don't want to push you away anymore. I want to know you!"

Jordan then began to cry. They didn't know why, but something deep within their heart began to move.

"Jesus, can you please forgive me for my sins? Can you please heal me and help me to know you? The real you?"

Jordan then made a decision. A decision to turn away from sin. It was going to be difficult, but since when was life not difficult?

Meanwhile, the priest that shouted at Jordan was also saying a prayer.

"God, as you know, I am not like those sinners at the Pride parade. I am a good person, and I will see you in heaven very soon!".

Dear reader, I tell you truly, that in the story that you have just read, Jordan is <u>closer</u> to salvation than the man dressed in priest's clothing is!

God loves you and sent His Son to die for you. Yes, even you reading this now!

The gospel is inclusive! It does <u>not</u> exclude the LGBTQ+ community. All you need to do is to respond. The requirements that God lays down is the same for everyone, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, class or ability.

The entry requirements are this: to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross (paid for your sins), trust Him as your saviour, and repent of your sins.

The bad news is that hell is a very real place. But God does not want to send you there.

The Bible says "God is not slow, as some count slowness, but is patient toward YOU. Not wishing ANYONE to perish, but that ALL would come to repentance."

In the story, Jordan read the Gospel of John. This is a small part of the Bible written by a man who not only knew Jesus, but was also present at His death. He was also one of many eye-witnesses to His resurrection. We would love to send you a copy for free!

If you want to find out for yourself (like Jordan did in the story), then get in touch below. We would love to hear from you!

Email: beholdchrist@outlook.com | Online Web Form: https://beholdchrist.org/contact

Who are we? We are sinners who have done some truly terrible things, but we have been forgiven, changed and healed by the power of God. We have seen God move in mighty and powerful ways – just as He did in the Bible! God is still doing miracles today!

He wants to do a miracle in YOU! Will you let him?

Instead of putting this in the bin, why not pass it on to a family member, a friend or a work colleague? You can also leave it somewhere to be found like a waiting room or in a book library.



