

A sister from Lebanon

Marie Bond
November 16, 2018



It was Christmas 1980 when someone knocked on my door one evening. The country was in the midst of a civil war. He was selling Christmas cards. I invited him and offered him a cup of tea. His name was Adel. He promised to come back again. Six months have passed. I thought he forgot but he didn't. This time he came back with another brother named Alfred and later another brother joined them as well. His name was Sabah.

I found out that a French missionary came to Lebanon around 1970 and lived for few years in the country and witness to some of the brothers.

Adel started teaching me Divine Principle. There was no center so I use to go for a picnic with those brothers where Adel brings his guitar and we sing holy songs and listen to a lecture. My parents loved the brothers. They trusted them and they let me go with them. My mother used to cook dinner for them and enjoy their visit to our house.

But as the country was in war, many times my family escaped to the village and stay there for many months until the situation calm down. Meanwhile, the brothers left to France to join the church there doing fundraising and witnessing and I didn't see them for long time.

In 1984 I went with Adel to Greece to attend a 7 days Divine Principle workshop and one morning I woke up remembering a dream that I had when I was around 15 years old.

In the dream I saw a saint from Lebanon named saint Charbel who came and asked me to become a catholic nun. Then I saw myself getting married with someone that I didn't see his face. Saint Charbel was there and instead of being upset that I didn't become a nun he was very happy saying God bless you, God bless you.

In that time I didn't understand the dream. Does the saint want me to be a nun or to be married? But when I attended the workshop I understood that the saint wants me to not have relationship until I get blessed.

In the same year I decided to leave home after I graduated from college and join Adel and a Japanese couple, the Narihatas, as a full member. I start going fundraising with Adel selling small prints.

Then within a year, my friend from college, Vera, joined me to become a full member as well.

And a new chapter begun.

To be continued