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My Great Grandmother's Legacy

When I was a young boy, I visited my great grandmother at her retirement home. During these visits she always talked about God. However, as a child, I had very little understanding of who this God person was; therefore, my great grandmother would always hold up her Bible and tell me, "This is his word, and it's the most truth you'll find anywhere." Years later when my great grandmother died, I was asked what I wanted to remember her by. I quickly said, "Her Bible." Years after I acquired her Bible, it became much more than just my way of remembering her. Her Bible became a symbol of my faith.

Most people might look at her Bible and think it is just like any other old and tattered Bible. However, the cover alone holds more memories than most would expect. The outside of the Bible is dark red and covered in wrinkles. This reminds me of how angry my great grandmother would get when people questioned her faith. Then along the spine there are noticeable tears from being opened frequently. The spine reminds me of my faith. While there may be a few tears, the backbone stays strong and does not break. The last noticeable thing about the outside of her Bible is the tears on the outer edge. These tears are very special to me. These tears are each about half a centimeter long and about one inch wide. Each of these tears reminds me of a time in my life when I really needed God's help. I would pray with my Bible held tightly in my hand, causing the cardboard cover to slowly rip under the pressure.

After noticing the seemingly normal damage to the Bible, someone might open it to

unknowingly find more memories held within each page. The first thing that is noticeable in the inside of the Bible is the distinct curve and wrinkles in the front pages. This is from bending the Bible while opening the pages. This reminds me of every church service I have ever attended. This also helps me to realize how I sometimes bend my morals so I do not feel bad about doing certain things.

The next noticeable thing about the Bible is its thin pages. These pages help to remind me of how I present my faith to others. When I first meet people, I seem like someone who never goes to church. However, after a person gets acquainted with me, he or she will learn that I am a devout Christian. This also causes the pages to be a symbol of my faith. While at first it seems weak, when one takes a closer look, it is stronger than it appears.

The third thing that is most noticeable about the inside of the Bible is its print. The print in the Bible is large and bold for people that cannot see well. The print helps remind me of how God communicates to me. God's message is always presented to me in a way that I can easily understand; however, I sometimes trick myself into believing that I am not reading God's message the way God wants me to.

The final thing about her Bible that sticks out is the fact that everything Jesus says in the Bible is in red print. Some people would say that this is just a way to point out Jesus' speech. However, to me this symbolizes the love and passion Jesus has for everyone. The red print also represents the blood spilt for everyone on the cross.

My great grandmother was a devoted Christian. She planted the seed I needed to be who I am today. She also left me her Bible as a reminder. Her Bible and the faith I have gained from it have brought me innumerable memories and joys. These joys and memories that spawned from her legacy have inspired me to pass on her Bible to my future children. This way her

legacy and the faith she shared with me can live on through their lives as it has lived on through me.