

Luke's journal

1 Week One

2 If I wrote the story of my life now it would be called *The Steady Rollercoaster*.
3 The reason I would name it this is because not everything we do in life we are
4 going to know about. It could be an up or down but you know that it is always
5 steady because God is there with you. Just as you have ups and downs in life
6 you will also have ups and downs with God. God is like our seatbelt on a
7 rollercoaster. He will keep us safe during the ups and downs.

8 I think that my story would have about 5 or 6 chapters. They would be:

9 1. When I'm born until around 2 years old

10 2. from 2 till 5 years old

11 3. from 5 till 10 years old

12 4. from 10 till 13 years old

13 5. from 13 till present.

14 I couldn't think of names for the chapters but I will still tell you of their
15 significance. The first chapter would just be telling the reader really of how
16 my life was set up and how I was brought up for the first two years of my
17 life. It would also talk about the start of my religious life: my Baptism.

18 The next chapter will show my thoughts about different things and just
19 wonder about different things.

20 Chapter 3 is the start of my schooling. It will show how people taught us at
21 school and also the way we were taught religion. It will also show how I
22 formed my friendships and relationships.

23 Chapter 4 brings up the sports. It will tell of all the sports that I started to
24 play. It will also tell of the next steps that I took in my religion: my First
25 Reconciliation and First Communion. It would also tell the story of
26 beginning my musical career.

27 Chapter 5 would be the longest chapter in the book. It was when
28 everything started making sense. Things like youth groups, more music
29 and more sport would be included, as well as some of my greatest
30 achievements. during the last few years I would tell of how it was the
31 closest I have ever been to God.

32 Chapter 5 would be the chapter which had the most to do with God. I think
33 that religion played a big part in the way I acted and that helped me
34 through those years because often people find them the hardest. I believe
35 that God gave me my talents to use so I started playing music at Masses
36 and that, I believe, has brought me closer to God because I have met new
37 people because of it and also been able to get together with others and
38 share ideas and other things about God.

39

40 Week Two

41 A moment in my life would have to be at a youth camp we had. There
42 were about 150 kids all in this room from ages 12-18 and we were listening
43 to a talk that a guy was giving and he had been in a crash (car). His story
44 just hit me and made me think. From the things he was telling us that
45 were happening, they couldn't have happened without God.

46 There are so many other moments, but there is one person who convinced
47 me that God exists. I met up with this person through the band that I play
48 in at Church and him and his wife are just awesome. They are like perfect
49 people and will do anything to help you. This person is always happy and
50 just has the perfect attitude to life. He has the ability to talk to people and
51 make them feel really good about themselves and is just always so
52 genuine. I just love being with him and his wife. They are just beautiful
53 people.

54 My thinking about God changed because of these two things because they
55 showed me what is possible.

56

57 Week Three

58 I can't think of an actual lesson but I think that they all did their little part.
59 We would talk about certain topics and they would reinforce what I thought
60 already, or they would make me stop and think about it. However, they did
61 help me when it came to other religions. We learnt a lot about other
62 religions and it shows you how much they all have in common which helps
63 my belief that there is a god. I remember learning about four different
64 religions and all of them believed in certain things which were all common
65 to us as Catholics.

66 There must be something big to make us all believe in the same thing.
67 How could all of these people on different sides of the earth, speaking
68 different languages, believe in the same thing as me. There's only one
69 thing: God. Once this connection was made my faith was just
70 strengthened because it was easier to believe and suddenly it all made
71 sense.

72 This changed my attitude towards God and religion because I was now
73 sure of it. I could do things now, not just because I had to or to please my
74 parents, but to please God because I was sure that he was there. Even
75 though I had believed in him all my life, it just helped to know.

76 The way that I prayed had also changed. It had turned from just a ritual
77 with words to words that actually meant something. This was a change for
78 the good and made me as a person feel better about myself and others.
79

80 Week Four

81 I think the next chapter of my book would be *The Real World*. It would be
82 all about how I continued my life spiritually and physically. It would show
83 what I did and how they both interacted with each other. How my spiritual
84 actions affected my physical and vice versa. This would probably be the
85 most interesting because all the people I had known and had been there
86 teaching me would be gone. I would be on my own finding things out for
87 myself.

88 I would hope that my relationship with God would only get stronger in the
89 future. I know that there will be points in life when I question it and wonder
90 why but I would hope it would be strong. There are so many influences in
91 my life at the moment but most of them are good which to me is a good
92 sign. I have many religious influences as well that I will keep no matter
93 where or what I do. This is what is encouraging: to be around so many
94 people that are just like me. I will try to be around people like this so that I
95 can feel good and it reminds me of what is important in life. When I am
96 with them I don't think about other things in life. I just think about them and
97 how good it is being with them.

98 Involvement also helps me to keep my faith with God. While I'm involved
99 at churches, I will go, but that isn't the only reason I would go. It does,
100 however, help me to go if I ever lose that faith and through that I would
101 hopefully regain that faith.
102

103 Concluding Remarks

104 Influences are one of the biggest parts of your life. People can influence
105 you in both good and bad ways but we need to focus on the good. I have
106 been lucky and had mostly good. They have allowed me to be the person
107 that I am and hopefully I can pass these influences on to others in order to
108 help them see what I see.