

Jonas Trofort

February 6, 2023

Start Time: 9:20 pm

Week 3 Journal

This week's journal is very interesting to me and I love that it is actually a chance to free write. Believe it or not a lot of times we have things that we want to get out of us and the only way to express what we feel is by taking the time to put it on pen and paper. This week I want to take this time to share one of my many life experiences growing up that actually changed my life and it is my hope that the story will encourage you too.

Growing up in my homeland of Haiti is something that will always and forever stick with me. There is one experience that you have in life no matter how small you were every time someone has the opportunity to tell you the story it makes you grateful for life more and more. As a young boy in Haiti I was probably just a few months old when my parents left me home with my brother to go outside and the house that we were living in at the time caught on fire. At the time my brother who was also just a child maybe about 5 years old didn't know what to do. As the house went up in flames and my brother went to try to find an adult to help him save me he left me in the burning house. When my brother could not find anyone to help, he walked back into the fiery house, he grabbed me out and threw me on the ground as he watch the house burn because he didn't know what else to do.

When our neighbors were finally able to realize that our home had caught on fire I already faced serious burns and damaged to my hands but I am so grateful to be alive today. The scares that I have on my hand today remind me that I was not supposed to be here but God's amazing grace saved me because he had greater plans. When people see my hand they are always curious

to know what happened to me and I am never afraid to share my experience. To many it may have been seen as a big shame but for me it is part of my many testimonies and a chance to live again because it could have ended another way. Sure, this childhood experience was traumatic and growing up with the scar wasn't always easy but it gave me to understand that I am unique and not like everyone else. Lastly, this experience has given me the courage to embrace myself for who I am because I know God is not done with me yet.

End time 9:35 pm