“Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”

This summer I helped begin a student-led college ministry in my hometown called, “Next: College Worship Experience.” Through this ministry my faith has been strengthened and lives have been changed, including my own. I have watched people that I know transform their lives and make the wonderful commitment to follow Jesus. By making this commitment they are allowing the Holy Spirit give them a new life, cleanse them of their past and fill their hearts with God’s love. I am so thankful and blessed that I allowed God to take control of my life as a young child.

Once God is the driver of your life, you can face any obstacle that may come your way. Growing up as a Christian has brought its challenges with the choices that I have had to make. I have had to give up many things I know are not pleasing to God, and by choosing things that instead glorify God, I have been blessed in numerous ways.

Being a Christian is not supposed to be easy, but the more we are focused on His will for our lives, the more we can find peace as we face the world each day. No matter what battle you may be facing at this moment, God is always with you. If you put your whole trust in Him, you will begin to see God work through you in ways that you never knew imaginable.

Life Question: What areas in your life could you re-evaluate to be more pleasing to God?

Prayer: God, help me to live my new life according to your will. Help me to make the right choices and to sacrifice the unworthy just as you made a sacrifice to me on the cross. Amen.

Matthew Fowler, Class of 2016