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Hi, I'm Kenda Hobough, and this is my story.

I grew up in a moral home, but not a Bible-teaching home. It was my dad, mom, younger brother, and me. I had a safe and carefree childhood without trauma or hardship that I can remember. My dad was in the military, so we moved several times. I was born overseas, and so was my brother before we moved to the States. My dad was stationed overseas during my fifth-grade year. When he returned, my parents divorced, and he moved on to his next duty station.

Adolescence: The following year, we moved to a new city, and changing friend groups was difficult. Not having my dad in the picture was also hard. I fell into the wrong crowd during junior high. I began smoking cigarettes, smoking marijuana, underage drinking, and engaging in relationships too young. I was searching for identity and belonging.

A friend from junior high introduced me to church, attending with her family after sleepovers. While I started hearing the truth of the Word, I was also exposed to hypocrisy among some churchgoers, which turned me away.

Teen Pregnancy and Abortion: In my junior year of high school, I found myself pregnant. Without guidance or support for other options, I chose to have an abortion. My mom and boyfriend drove me to the clinic. I cried silently the entire way home. At the time, I thought it was a practical solution, but I now see it as a deeply impactful and painful decision.

Life After High School: After high school, I dated a responsible, working man who was past the partying stage. I was seeking purpose and meaning. I later broke up with him and dated someone else, eventually getting engaged. However, he lacked spiritual interest, which I was increasingly seeking. When he moved away for the summer, I met the man who would become my husband.

Meeting My Husband: I was drawn to my husband because of his godliness and the way he lived out his faith. I shared my past, including my abortion, with him. He responded with grace and shared the Gospel, emphasizing God's love, forgiveness, and redemption through Jesus Christ.

Marriage and Parenthood: We married about a year after meeting and had our first daughter early in our marriage. The weight of parenthood was heavy, and I felt lost without proper guidance. This led me to seek a church where I could find wisdom. While I had accepted Christ, I still struggled with grief and shame from my past.

Healing Through Christ: The grief from my abortion lingered, often manifesting as seasonal depression. I eventually attended a post-abortion recovery class where God brought healing. I later volunteered as a counselor at a pregnancy center, sharing my story to offer hope and life-affirming options to women facing unplanned pregnancies.

Impact of Choices: My abortion didn't just affect me. Years later, my former boyfriend reached out, still struggling with the pain of our decision. I've also seen how my choices influenced others around me. It reminded me that sin has a ripple effect, but God's grace and healing are available for all.

Health Challenges: In 2022, I faced a health scare with a tumor on my cheek and neck, which required delicate surgery. Trusting God through the process, I was relieved when the surgery was successful, though a slow-growing lymphoma was later diagnosed. Despite the uncertainty, I continue to trust God with my health, choosing faith over fear.

Encouragement and Faith: Throughout my life, I've found Jesus to be enough. My mother-in-law's words during a vulnerable moment reminded me: "It's all been washed under the blood of Jesus." I share these words with you today. No matter your past, Jesus has already paid for your forgiveness. He loves you and offers grace if you seek Him.

Conclusion: If you're hearing about Jesus for the first time or want to deepen your relationship with Him, I encourage you to surrender your life to Him. Say a simple prayer, invite Him into your life, and start seeking a relationship with Him. God is faithful, and He will walk with you through every trial and triumph.

Thank you for listening to my story. Jesus is enough.