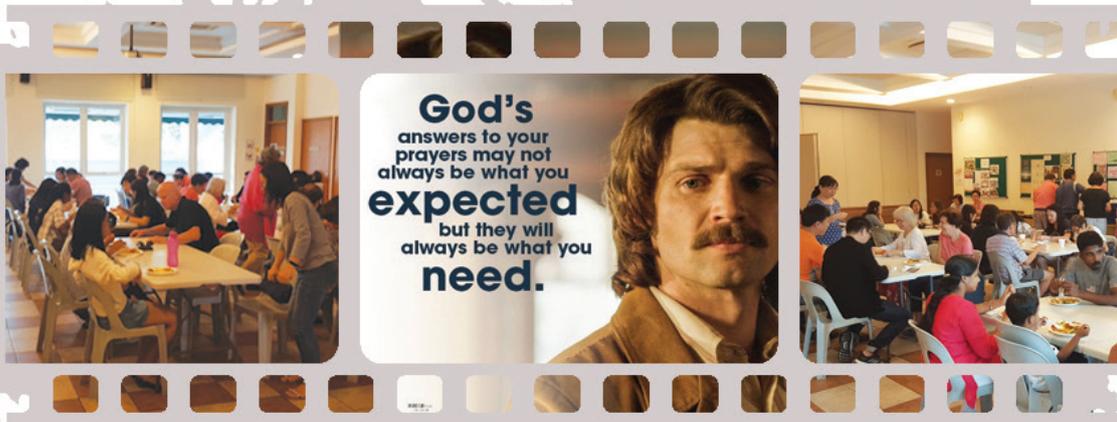


THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY !

THE CASE FOR CHRIST

By Steven Seow | 23 March 2019



Despite watching this movie twice, I still cried. This is a story of anger, addiction, skepticism, faith, redemption, salvation, love and grace. This is a touching true story of Lee Strobel, an award-winning investigative journalist at the Chicago Tribune. Since young, Lee had a frosty relationship with his father, a member of the local Lutheran church. When he was young, his father said to him, *"I don't have enough love for you to fill my little finger"*.

Lee moved out of his parents' home the moment he got a job. In an interview, Lee said that as an atheist, he had concluded that the best way to live his life was as a hedonist. *"Just pursue pleasure, this is all you get in this world. So, that was my number one goal in life"*, said Lee, *"to bring maximum pleasure into my life. And so I lived a very immoral, and drunken, and profane, and narcissistic, really self-destructive kind of a life. That was my life."*

When Lee's wife, Leslie, became a Christian, it compelled Lee to leverage his journalistic and legal training to try and disprove the claims of Christianity - over a period of one year and nine months. He interviewed 13 well respected authorities for historical evidence on the existence of Jesus. At the end of the journey, Lee said *"I came to the conclusion ultimately that based on the avalanche of evidence that points so powerfully toward the truth of Christianity, it would have*

taken more faith for me to maintain my atheism than to become a Christian".

Eventually, Lee left the journalism industry in 1987, took a 60 percent pay cut to work as a teaching pastor at Willow Creek Community Church in South Barrington, Illinois. Since then, he had written many books. I highly recommend you to read *The Case for Grace* next.

This is a testimony of redemption and salvation that many of us can relate to. In Acts 2:21, it says *"And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"*. God's Grace works in amazing and often mysterious ways. During the time when Lee's resolute atheism clashed with Leslie's growing faith, coupled with Lee's drunken and violent domestic behavior, Leslie prayed regularly. During one of those days, she read Ezekiel 36:26 *"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh"*.

Eventually, Leslie's prayer was answered. Lee became a Christian. In His time, in His way.

During the season of Lent, we had a special screening of the movie "The Case for Christ" on Saturday 23 March 2019, followed by a fellowship meal. About 40 people attended the screening. Steven Seow from the 1st Service shares his thoughts on the movie and the story that inspired it. - By Siok Tambyah