

Example 2: So You're Dead - Part 3 of 3 - Tadd Grandstaff

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"So anyways, **when I was a kid**, I was 8 years old, I remember like it was yesterday. They had the **neighborhood vacation bible school: V-B-S**. Ya'll ever been to VBS before? Come on VBS? Alright. Great week **in my friend's backyard**. We hung out, we **did** the vacation bible school thing. **We did the crafts. We did all the stuff. I ate the cookie. I drank the Kool-Aid. It was a fun week.** When all of a sudden it came to the last week of vacation bible school. **I remember like it was yesterday**. They **got all the kids onto the driveway**, right there on the pavement, and **we sat in a circle, we were all Indian style**, sitting right there. And **the grown-ups**, they came in and they said, "We want all the kids to bow their heads and close their eyes," and they said, "How many of you today, if you died, you knew for sure, you know right now for sure, that you're going to heaven?" And **I was like, "Well how can you know for sure?"** I mean, you can never really can know for sure. I mean, **how can you really know for sure. I'm not really sure.**" And they followed up with the next question, "Now nobody looking around, nobody can look. Alright." And they said, "How many of you, if you're not sure if you died, you'd go to heaven?" Well **evidently I was the only kid that wasn't sure** because **I raised my hand**, and **they snatched me up and took me** into the garage. And **this grown-up is sitting there, and he looked me in the face** and he says, "**Tadd, if you don't accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then today, if you died, you're going to hell (echo), hell (echo), hell (echo).**" And that's not the way **it actually sounded**, and I knew they had good intentions, but I'm telling you **as an 8 year-old kid, when they told me I was going to hell, it literally scared the you-know-what out of me.** Man I shook loose, I shook free, I hit the road, I ran all the way home, I jumped into my bedroom, **jumped into my closet**, and I began to pray, "**God please, please, please don't send me to hell.**" I was scared to death. I used to pray that prayer every night of my life. **I'm serious.** I was scared to death of hell. I would lay in bed, and maybe some of you have been there before as a kid, and **I'd pray every night**, "God please don't send me to hell, God please don't send me hell, God please don't send me hell," and **I'd pray until I'd fall asleep.** Then **I'd wake up the next morning so terrified, and so glad I didn't die because I didn't say "Amen"** before I fell asleep, and **I thought if I didn't sign out**, that it didn't really count. **I'm serious.** God "Thank you." **I was terrified of hell.**

Bold = Same details

Yellow = First person testimony