

## **BATTLEFIELD FAITH**

### by SCOTT MYLER

Born to a 17 year old mother out of wedlock with no father present I grew up faster than most. With my mother being so young when she had me, things were always pretty difficult. This left me to be raised without much knowledge about God with little to no faith. My grandparents along with some extended family did their best trying to introduce church while also helping to raise me.

My first real experience with God was when I was around 8 yrs old. My stepfather was abusing my mom and I stepped in to defend her. This led to him taking his anger out on me and kicking me out of the house. Although it was late and I was alone and scared, I felt as if I had a responsibility to protect her from harm. As I was walking around the block I felt the Presence of something telling me that everything would be okay. At the time I didn't realize it was Jesus himself comforting me in this dark time of my life.

an elite unit and served in 2 combat tours. On my second tour, we were informed it was going to be a deadly conflict. There was no guarantee we would make it back home. With this knowledge, I knew I had to speak with someone about my feelings and fears of dying. I reached out to the only person I could think of, my army chaplain, who also happened to be Catholic. He put my mind at ease and told me to put all my fears and doubts in God's hands. At the time I didn't fully understand what that meant. How to give up my fears to Someone I barely knew anything about.

Fast forward to when I met my wife. I had been in the military in

After trying my hardest to give everything up to God, I realized just exactly what I was missing. What I needed in my life. My wife was raised by two amazing, devout Catholic parents. Seeing them and just how strong their faith was, I desired what they had. I started the RCIA program. My wife was my sponsor. Going through those classes helped me learn more about God than I ever knew was possible, but that doesn't mean I didn't struggle trying to understand it all. My wife never gave up on me. Her brother is a priest and answered questions she wasn't able to answer for me.

It wasn't until my mid to late 40's that I finally started to feel a difference in my faith. It was around that time, after reflecting about things of my past with my wife, that I realized God had been walking with me that night when I was 8 years old. We've had many struggles throughout our marriage due to my past and my military experiences, but our faith in God has always remained strong and led us through

experiences, but our faith in God has always remained strong and led us through.

You don't have to be raised Catholic to become a good Catholic,

and that's one thing my wife has always made sure I knew.

"Do not be afraid or discouraged.... for the battle is

not yours, but God's." 2 Chron. 20:15



have been married for 28 years. They have been blessed with 4 children ages 26 to 18, and two grandchildren. They live in Waterville and are parishioners at St. Joan of Arc parish. Scott is an Operations Manager for the Ohio Turnpike and Tonya is a Nail

**SCOTT & TONYA MYLER** 

Technician at Villaggio in Whitehouse.

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Right now you can think of at least one moving moment in your life. An example of "God with us." Please take a moment now to simply email me the possible subject of your story. If you're motivated, sure, write it out (no more than 500 words). We'll help you land it. Many will be blessed. We want to feature a new story every week.

Thank you in advance!

So blessed to be united in building the Kingdom,



**Greg and Stephanie Schlueter** Image Trinity | Mass Impact

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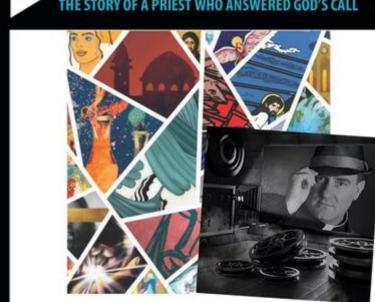
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FOREWORD BY SCOTT HAHN

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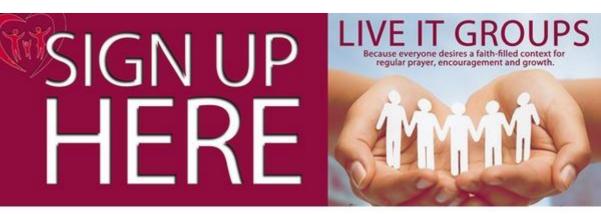
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