

KELLY'S STORY

When I was a little girl, I remember so vividly the moment I would hear a first responder car siren, and I would stop whatever I was doing and say a little prayer for everyone involved in that situation. It happened so naturally for me, and I felt such a deep connection when praying. It's something I still do today. I am unsure how I knew to pray at such a young age. Even without being brought up in the church, I always knew in my heart how to pray.

Growing up, my only experience with church was going to the Easter service with my Great Grandma. I know my whole family did it for her, but I had a hunger for it and wanted to know more. I remember in my Elementary school years one of my friends attended church every Sunday, and I remember feeling jealous. I took every chance I could get to attend with them. I was even part of a play their nursery school kids put on. I never fully understood why my family didn't attend a church and those wonderful Easter services stopped the minute my Great Grandma passed away. I always felt like I was missing something in my heart after that ended. It wasn't until I met my husband, years later, that I sought to explore "religion" on a deeper level.



SCOTT, KELLY, MILES & ELLA

After years & years of infertility, instead of doubting God, it drew me closer to him. I would pray, write to God, and ask him daily to give me a sign. I always felt like my purpose in this world was to be a mother but never understood why we struggled until we had our miracle babies. The pain and the struggle gave me a much greater connection with God. At that point, Scott and I were ready to open our hearts to God on a much deeper level, for ourselves and for our kids. We were looking for a church that loved all people and really practiced it. We wanted a place for our kids to be who God meant them to be without judgment and to feel constant support, love & connection within the church family and with God. The moment we walked into Ethos, we felt that connection and knew we found our place to allow God back into our lives and to teach our kids Christian values. Our first Easter service with Ethos was last year, and it is a moment I will forever hold in my heart. I remember walking to our seats with our kids, and the music started playing and all of a sudden uncontrollable tears started rolling. I am talking like sobbing the entire service, and I could not stop. It was a moment I have never experienced in my life, but all I could think about was my Great Grandma & God smiling down at me and filling my heart with such a sense that I was finally home where I always wanted to be. I am forever thankful for that moment & grateful Ethos opened the doors for our family to let us feel just that ... we belonged here, we are home.

YOUR STORY MATTERS