

Zion Tuma

Sabatino Mangini Life Choice Memoir Draft 2

English Composition 1

### Awaken Memoir

As a crisp air frosted my nose and the path of the granite pavement trailed toward the main buildings of the buildings of the campus which where the dorms, the cafeteria, the computer lab and lunch room, I walked with, Xih, Paolo, Amil, and Elane and my grandma. The OBI campus is surrounded by wildlife and forests, and neighboring residents . Oneida Baptist Institute is a boarding school in Oneida, Kentucky, to be particular Clay County but it was in the middle of nowhere. As I was looking at the scenery of the boys and girls dorm that spanned to the “bank” , and the girls dorm. I thought to myself from the presentation video of how I had to make a choice, if I would like to stay at Oneida baptist institute. I thought I was to say yes. I had this energy inside me where I thought it would be a good decision because I felt compelled.

Welcome day is on sunday, and every sunday OBI students went to church twice. Once in the morning 10 am and a 6pm afternoon Praise and Worship service to our lord Jesus Christ. Since OBI is a church school they love to take the time to honor our Lord and Messiah, around 12 pm of the school day. Our Lord Jesus Christ is the Messiah that came through the Holy Mother Mary for the forgiveness of sins to cleanse those who are sinful and the lord also bring our lord's

tidings of a new covenant by his son. So we rejoiced in that honor to be able to praise the lord and learn of his ways in such a young age range.

On welcome day it was 6 o'clock and it was time to go to the chapel and I was inquisitive to find out what the pastor would talk about, I was wondering how one could just have a spiritual awakening and know the Lord. As I walked towards devotions with my peers the chapel was on top on the main office, the building is below a steep hill that leads to a grave memorial. The main entrance was located at the back of office building that had stairs toward iron maroon doors. Inside the Chapel there was a stadium that was covered with a carpet that spread to cover the chapel floor. The wall was beige on the top half. Wood covered the bottom of the wall, on the window they hanged transparent cotton window shade. Facing the piew we could see distinguished alumni that were honored athletes left and right. On the back walls beside the soundbooth are lined with metals from scholastic, and athletic competitions. Were hung to show the lord his blessings.

The Chapel I felt like a small fish in a pond. I did not know anyone at that time so was a little lonesome. I came to realize that when it is God's will it happens, I started to make friends all of a sudden, it started at the cafeteria where there were tables in a horizontal pattern. The group of high schooler called me up to sit with them. Randy is her name and she started to get me talking to people. So in a small amount of days at OBI, I felt a little more safe than before,

because at first I had nobody to play with but God had nudged me in a right direction to find friends. When I was studying at Penn Wood we did not have access to courses that helped us learn more about the the Israelite religion, specifically the new testament. I was looking for school that was ideal for me but i did not know what was missing, but in OBI i felt like i had found a community and spiritual growth. One way I would get to know my peers better was during devotions, my teacher mr/mrs Bunch guide students during devotions which were on Thursdays. The meeting was held in a conference hall that was to the right hand side of the main office building. There was a gazebo that was made by wood, and they had a long wooden seat that could fill up to 25 people sitting on it. There was also five rocking chair, all various colors. They also put in a vending machine that was attached on the granite wall. In the conference room the Bunch's would give sermons of our lord's gospel and sermons of how to practice the Lord's will. They would also run events that would engage student and off campus life by: christmas caroling, babysitting night, praise, and worship. During Devotions, I felt very connected to the spiritual environment, my peers and my teachers made me feel like I belonged in the environment I lived in.

Many teachers at OBI felt a close connection to the Lord because of their experience with him. They always felt a need to communicate in fellowship, praise, and worship to Lord. OBI teachers really tried to make the boarding experience really comfortable, simple, and less

apprehensive. Some teachers would sign students out of the dorm for special reasons like going to a chinese buffet, a grocery store, or thier own house. Some of these teachers were really close to me one of them -Ms.Kelly- sewed my jeans. To be honest I would hang out with the Bunch's, because they were really cool people, they would help me when I needed to figure out a situation big or small. Now in the middle of nowhere in Clay County, Kentucky there was still a smell of ethnocentrism of white privileged men against the sight of beautiful dark skin people,Outside the campus area. The neighborhood was a little tense from the black and white discrimination the southern states still carried. It was rumored that the campus and the ku klux klan had an agreement to permit any members to the kkk from stepping onto the campus. I did not like that i was able to understand that discrimination was so prevalent in that area. There was a lot of black people and africans in OBI so when our neighbors were painted as threatening I felt like I was not welcomed because I "could" have died because off campus of my skin color. Well since the campus residents were stuck in the dormitory it felt like a treat for a teacher to sign us out of the dorms just to watch a movie with the team members. When the teachers would sign us out it was more than a norm because not a lot of people could leave the dorm. there was minimal to do on campus, we could not use our phones. These teachers really stated their opinions or ideas in a primary agent that is like a guardian figure, since they lived by the neighborhood Church below the boy's dorm the teacher were role models for how a christian could live. OBI teachers during

praise and worship would testify their life in the journey of christ. This was all because the teachers wanted the students to know who to give thanks to and for what reason

Thomas theorem- "if men define situation as real, they are real in their consequences I realised The water in baptism is the cleansing of sin and prepares the body for the Lord. My spirit felt the need to join the Lord's people and continue my journey with supplications to the Lord. At Oneida Baptist Institute, my spirit was up lifted. One testimony was a woman, she had many tangles in her life when she was growing up. It was hard for her sometimes, she said. when she would live in her youth she was a little depressed, but In her isolation she was able to find the Lord. And the Lord untangles her messy situations. When I heard how she was able to have a spiritual awakening and felt more and more compelled to praise the Lord, my faith suddenly trembled. I wanted to be able to be able to recognize the Lord Jesus Christ in my life like she did and my faith pushed me to be baptised in the neighborhood chapel. The chapel was down the hill of the boys dorm. Such a tremendous atmosphere to praise and glorify the Lord. The congregation would sing hymns and pray to the Lord. When I got baptised I saw that my life had gotten a little brighter because of how the light shined through the window to brighten up the chapel. Well around the month of Passover, Mr. Bunch were talking about the passion of the cross. Which is the trail, death, and resurrection of the messiah Jesus Christ, for the deliverance of the worlds sin. When a priest becomes initiated the former Priest would place their arms on

the pastor and say, “you are now a priest” now the pastor is then able to become a priest and perform their respected priestly duty. Due to the lineage transferred through one another, it seems more pure when they call upon Christ blessing and the eucharist. Well in that week of passover Mr. Bunch also spoke of the work martin luther did for the church. Where he thought that the faith in Jesus Christ was enough to relinquish our grip on death, he argued with the catholic that it is not the lineage or good works but in the love for Christ.

So After Mr. Bunch shared how their faith let’s christians eat the Eucharist. Mr. Bunch spread out whole grain wheat thins and grape and prayed over it to invoke our lord’s blessing. Then he gave the eucharist to the members of devotion that thursday. To think of the reproccation was not in hand because, I felt my heart make a decision that stood its ground. I did not know what to do because I was raised catholic and thought the eucharist was really Holy and was an essential part of the catholic church. So I took a moment to pray to our father, because I did not want to upset the Lord and wrong myself by not fully willing to accept our Lord’s body. Well I thought to myself , I long to be protected by the lord for he did give himself up for those who want to be free from the suffering, Sin, and death. For our Father let Jesus Christ came to show mercy and peace in the first coming.

At the Chapel I heard a testimony of a woman who was severely depressed and she did not know how to cope, she hung out with the wrong crowd and got herself into very troubling self

realizations until she had a revelation to love herself the way the Lord loves her. At the end of her story she told us to close our eyes, and if there was a conviction to follow the Lord then the member should stand up; whether it was to accept our Lord or to renew our faith in the word. As I closed my eyes I felt my heart telling me that it was the right time to recognise the Lord. So I stood up in an earnest acceptance of the lord and the suffering I have to endure. I saw in the womens eyes that even though she had been depressed for a while, she was filled with joy in the Lord's grace/mercy and I could see my suffering is ready to begin in this world. I am very happy that OBI was a way for me to understand the Lord and how much he loves. I was able to find my religion due to the conditions Oneida Baptist Institute had as a means of how to understand how the world worked.