

Testimonials from victims and parents

“Our daughter regularly was required to meet with her minister. We believe it was weekly to talk about her developing beliefs and if they aligned with the church. She also was rebuked for different things she was doing that were “incorrect”. They closely monitored her behavior. We noticed the way she began to speak about herself and others was very critical, judgmental and shame based. At one point our daughter shared with one of her siblings that she had to do budget meetings with her minister. They went through their spending and made sure they were being faithful with their resources. The church has a spreadsheet that they give to kids to “track things”. We thought this was very controlling behavior from a church. We have later learned that this is a standard practice and they monitor their giving to the church and their finances. Our daughter also changed her major from one which she loved and excelled at, to one that would be more suitable by the churches standard. “

“I can only wish that I had known in 1999 what I know now. Being the parent of a college student who was 1800 miles away home we weren’t aware of everything that what was going on. Only after she graduated, married and had children did I become terribly terribly concerned. We started seeing the strict discipline imposed on our grandchildren when we visited. At that time, I started researching this church and making phone calls. I was shocked and appalled at what I was learning. What we were learning at that time, began to explain her early behavior towards her friends...There was so much I didn’t understand but it began to make sense when we learned how FCC was impacting our daughter and so many other students. She had become a person that I didn’t understand.”

“For 2 years I've said there is just something not quite right, but I couldn't figure out what. My child became more judgmental and separated from our family. I went to the church on Sunday and nothing was obviously wrong with their doctrine. So I lived in the belief that at this age kids get to make their own decisions and they'll figure it out. DANGEROUS THOUGHT that works in their favor. It starts with parental apathy and lack of information. We ignored all the smaller red flags until the offer to go on staff and the tactics they used became very obvious to us, but even then it's hard to fight kids trying to become autonomous.”

“In my own experience with the Resurrection Church I witnessed numerous instances of wrong-doing against young individuals seeking a religious foundation of their own.”

“Bible studies that were designed to pressure an individual to feel a lack of commitment toward God. Chris Martinez and Luke Abel insisted that meeting with them in private was crucial to embarking on a road to finding God. After relentless text messages and short conversations after running into members of Resurrection Church on campus, I felt obligated to meet for a private Bible study. I attended a few of these sessions; each time feeling an increasingly uneasy feeling as Chris and Luke were very persistent that I start spending more time with them and less time with my friends and schoolwork. I remember being asked what my major was and how much time I had to spend studying, what my future plans after college were, and even if I had a girlfriend. “

“Luke and Chris even plainly stated that in order to embark on a path toward God I must surround myself with people like them and distance myself from any friends or family who did not follow the same exact beliefs. I remember a line they would always use on me; “You cannot be a successful Christian on your own in this world. Additionally, they would text me almost daily and ask when I would have a few minutes to meet with them, and they would always be near the business school when they would text me. I found this peculiar because this began to happen soon after they discovered I was an accounting major and spent most of my days in the business school.”

“I had an overwhelming sense that something was off. I informed my parents shortly after the baptism of my interactions with the Church. Thankfully, my mom was instantly alarmed. She was well aware that her nephew, my cousin, had become involved with the same church in Fort Collins. He eventually completely cut off any communication with his family. She knew that this group was extremely good at using a false interpretation of the Bible and manipulation tactics to recruit members. She quickly provided me with more than enough information and evidence to prove to me that the Resurrection Church was, in fact, partaking in occult practices. I will admit that at first I almost felt betrayed by my own parents for not supporting my desires to become closer to God. Luckily, after a few discussions I realized that I was actually straying from God and being manipulated by a group experienced in using occult practices to acquire and retain members for a lifetime.”

“From the former members, we found out the additional facts about hitting of children and dogs. And we had noticed that the dog was afraid of our son and the oldest child was becoming very complacent and a pleaser. We found out that as our son grew into the organization, that he, too, was required to know everyones business - including sex life! Husbands and wives are encouraged to tell on each other “for their own good”, so that they can be reprimanded, repent and be forgiven. If anyone does escape, they are shunned. There are so many heart wrenching and disgusting stories about how these kids have been changed, their view of God and Christianity has been changed, and of broken relationships with families and friends. The former members can give you first hand detail. Some of them have damaged self esteem and been diagnosed with PTSD. Their resumes don’t look good and it’s nearly impossible to explain what they’ve been through, to someone on the outside.”

“Over the next years the babies arrived and our visits to see them became very controlled and always supervised. We were never allowed to be with our grandchildren without their watching us. We were not allowed to stay at their home overnight and not allowed to visit until our son was present. Our daughter in law made no independent decisions as our son said he was now the “man of the house.” We didn’t witness the discipline measures as our son would take our grandchildren into another part of the house. “

“Our whole family has actually been victims of Steve Hall’s abnormal teachings as our son no longer communicates with any of his extended family.
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“The day after graduation she moved into the pastors basement which is when the brainwashing started. We noticed even more of a change in her. She was exhausted all the time. She missed holidays with us, her dads big 50th birthday, fathers day, mothers day, Easter any day that celebrated our family she was busy. There was another girl who lived in the basement with her who was engaged and married quickly.”