



# A Temple Open House Opened My Heart

*With the announcement of the temple open house, I felt as if the Lord was personally inviting me to enter His house.*

I was baptized when I was 15 years old. A lot of people didn't understand my new faith. Some, including my friends, even made fun of me for my decision to join the Church. My parents weren't members of the Church, so I didn't have their support.

As a result, it became difficult for me to continue attending church and to keep living the gospel. By the time I was 19, I had stopped going to church.

Ten years later, I heard that a temple would be built in El Salvador. I was surprised to hear that a house of the Lord would be built in my country! Four years later, the San Salvador El Salvador Temple was completed, and a temple open house was announced. When I found out that the open house would give me the opportunity to enter the temple,

I felt as if the Lord was personally inviting me to enter His house.

The day I walked through the temple was one of the best days of my life. During the open house, I learned more about what happens inside dedicated temples. I also learned about sacred temple covenants that individuals make with God.

As I walked through each room of the temple, I felt God's presence. I felt at peace. Visiting the temple gave me the desire to come back to the Church and to live the gospel again. When I realized I could take part in God's great work, I wanted to complete temple work for my ancestors and to exercise the priesthood.

My experience in the temple that day changed me. Now I help members in my ward prepare for the temple and assist them with family history so they can do temple work for their ancestors.

It is never too late to return to the Church. It is never too late to do good. The Lord, with His infinite love, is always with us. The temple is a place that unites us with Him and allows us to one day return to live with Him. ■

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