

**LITTLETON COLORADO: THE GIRL WHO SAID "YES"**  
**(AN INTERVIEW WITH CASSEY BERNALL'S PARENTS)**

On April 26, 1999, 20/20 (ABC television broadcast) interviewed the parents of Cassey Bernall, one of the victims in the Columbine High School shooting. The following excerpts are from the interview:

Interviewer's voice : "In Littleton, Colorado, was the worst school shooting in American history. It was a rampage of horror and a senseless tragedy. Cassey Bernall was 17 years old. She had once been a suicidal and violence prone teen."

Cassey speaking (from a video made of her): "You really can't live without Christ. It's like impossible to really have a true life without Him."

Interviewer's voice: "A death loomed over her in the high school library. Cassey's road from troubled teen to committed Christian was anything but straight and narrow. Cassey was developing an interest in witchcraft as well as drugs and alcohol. Cassey's parents were faced with the question of how to deal with a rebellious, possibly dangerous teen. The Bernalls decided that the only way to stop their daughter from making any more bad decisions was to make good decisions for her."

Cassey's parents speaking: "For a long time all she could do was youth group stuff at church. It's hard because you know you are driving your child further away from you. They hate you for that."

Interviewer's voice: "Church worked! Cassey's parents say her dramatic turn around happened one weekend when they allowed her to go away on a church youth retreat. There, Cassey says, she found God and everything changed."

Cassey's dad speaking: "When she left, she was this gloomy, head down, say nothing. When she came back, her eyes were open and bright and she was bouncy and just excited about what had happened to her, and just excited to tell us. It was like she was in a dark room and somebody turned the light on and she saw the beauty that was surrounding her."

Cassey's mom speaking: "She looked at me in the eye and she said, "Mom, I have changed; I have totally changed; I know you're not going to believe it but I'll prove it to you.""

Interviewer's voice: "She was reading Shakespeare in the school library."

Cassey's pastor speaking at Cassey's funeral: "Jesus fed five thousand with seven loaves and fish. Cassey fed the world with one word: "YES.""

Cassey's dad speaking: "As a parent, you worry about your kids when you don't know where they are. But we know where Cassey is."