

## Vice President Mike Pence – So Help Me God

Michael Pence served as the 48th Vice President of the United States from 2017 to 2021 under Former President Donald Trump. He previously served as the 50th governor of Indiana from 2013 to 2017, and was a member of the U.S. Congress House of Representatives from 2001 to 2013. His autobiography, *So Help Me God*, was published in November '22.

### Discussion Questions

1. Although raised in a Christian family, having had social and academic success in high school, Mike no longer felt the need for a "religious crutch" (as he describes it) and walked away from his faith by the time he left for college.

**Question:** Do you, or have you ever considered faith to be a religious crutch? If so, is it a necessary and helpful crutch...or one which robs us of our innate possibilities? How would you respond to someone who considers faith a crutch?

2. While in college, Mike met a group of friends who referred to themselves as *Christians* with a personal relationship with Christ? He asked one of those, who wore a cross, where he got it and said he wanted to order and wear one just like it. To this, his friend responded that he would need to wear it in his heart before he could wear it around his neck. That incident convicted Mike that he was only posing, and that faith was not actually real in his life.

**Question:** Have you known "faith posers?" Have you ever been one? Are you, to some extent, still posing...or is your faith a real, living and vital part of your life?

3. Several weeks later, Mike attended a contemporary Christian music festival and conference at Asbury University in Kentucky. There he heard a sermon in which the preacher quoted John 3:16..."For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Upon hearing that, as if for the first time, Mike was compelled to find and speak to a young pastor. In his own words..."not because I was convinced in my mind of the truth of the gospel, but because my heart was broken by what was done on the cross for me, and I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior...and it changed my life forever."

**Question:** Have you ever had an experience similar to Mike's, where it was as if you heard the truth of the gospel for the first time and that moved you to commit, or perhaps to recommit your life to Jesus Christ?