



WHEN I WAS 14 YEARS OLD I WAS LIFTING 85 KILOGRAM BAGS OF SUPERPHOSPHATE

By the time I was 18 my spine was damaged and the damage became progressively worse over many years. X-rays taken in 1975 (at age 33) confirmed 'spinal degeneration'. I had many treatments by medical practitioners in different specialities.

A spinal specialist in Melbourne made a steel brace to support my degenerated lower spine, but I couldn't wear it as it just transferred the pain and weakness further up my spine.

I had to exchange my wonderful job of flying around Central Australia to remote cattle stations for one walking around watching boring needles flicker across dials.

A spinal physiotherapist gave me 23 exercises to do, which I did religiously twice daily. Nothing that I tried gave any lasting improvement, and finally I was told, "We've done all we can, but it is incurable, you can expect to be confined to a wheelchair in 3 to 4 years' time!"

My back was so incapacitating that if I leaned forward I could not pull my upper body upright again, and I often had to drop to my knees and crawl to something to pull myself up with! I could not bend over and pick up our two little boys, and if I dug a few spadefuls of dirt I would have to lie flat on the floor for about half an hour while my back recovered.

One night I was praying, and I realised that having a right relationship with God was the only thing of value that I could have at Jesus Christ's return. At that exact moment I received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues!

Two days later my wife noticed that I had been doing things I had been unable to do for years, and we realised that my spine was healed at the same moment I had received the Holy Spirit. That was in June 1978. I was totally healed, and my spine is now still one of the stronger parts of my body.