

# How Colson found God via a senator

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WASHINGTON — Charles W. Colson, a former White House legal adviser indicted in the Watergate cover-up, said in an interview to be broadcast today that he turned to religion to relieve "a great emptiness" he felt after leaving the White House.

Sen. Harold Hughes (D-Iowa), who guided Colson's spiritual revival, added that he believes that Colson, once known as President Nixon's "hatchet man," has truly become "a baby in Christ."

Colson, regarded as one of Nixon's toughest loyalists during his three years as White House special counsel, discussed his spiritual conversion in a televised interview with CBS-TV newsman Mike Wallace and Hughes, the liberal Democrat who is Colson's mentor in the Brotherhood in Christ prayer group.

The interview, on CBS-TV's "60 minutes," is to be aired today at 6 p.m. (PDT).

"When I left the White House I felt a great emptiness," Colson said.

"I had survived the bureaucratic in-fighting in the White House to become one of the President's top assistants. I was 42 years old. I thought to myself that I really—what am I going to do next?"

"I'd like to say that I had a spiritual longing, (but) I didn't really. I had an emptiness that was based upon wanting to find some other high mountain that I could scale or something else I could achieve in my life so that I could point to my friends and my family and say, 'look how good Chuck Colson is.'"

Colson said self-examination led him to Hughes' Christian Brotherhood group.