



DECEMBER 2023



The Faith Based Solution to the
Addiction Epidemic



HE HAS SHOWN ME A BETTER WAY OF LIVING



My name is Alden and I'm twenty one years old. Growing up for me was good and I lived with my Papaw and Mamaw pretty much all the way through Middle School.

My addiction issues started when I was a freshman in high school. I started smoking pot and I was prescribed Adderall, which I started to abuse. I ended up dropping out of high school and started doing just whatever I wanted to do. That's when I got introduced to Meth. After I began using Meth, everything spun out of control. My addiction got so bad that my family didn't want me around. I ended up in jail, got out of jail and went straight back to getting high on Meth. The next time I was arrested, they didn't let me out and I stayed in Jackson County jail for six months.

During that time in jail, I decided that I wanted help. I didn't want to keep living the same way and I knew my family wanted to see me get help. What really locked my mind on getting help was my mother. So I came to Men's Challenge of the Smokies. All of my family is proud of me for coming here and getting help. Since I've been at Men's Challenge of the Smokies, I've surrendered to Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. Also, I got baptized in the river here on campus.

The Lord has been showing me that He loves me and is proud of me. He has shown me that there is a better way of living. I am to walk with Him and trust that He will work everything out. I'm thankful for my awesome family that God blessed me with and for saving me. I'm also thankful for Men's Challenge of the Smokies because it has been a real opportunity and blessing getting to come and learn about how to live a better life.

My favorite Bible verses are:

Luke 18:27 "And He said, the things which are impossible with men are possible with God".

Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, do it from the heart, as something done for the Lord and not for people".





CONGRATULATIONS



Three men graduated in November. Congratulations to Dakota, Cayden and Bobby! Our next graduation will be Saturday, January 20, 2024, at 10:00 am. Please make plans to join us.

Merry Christmas

VISIT OUR THRIFT STORE FOR YOUR SHOPPING NEEDS

Make sure to visit our **Thrift Store** at 4812 US 441 S, Sylva, NC for your **Christmas decorations** and **presents**. We also have **GIFT CARDS** available. Like us on Facebook (Teen Challenge of the Smokies Thrift Store) and look for updates on a visit from **Santa!**



Congratulations to Guy on his Baptism this past month!



The men are getting our Christmas cards ready to mail to you.

TO MAKE A DONATION:

P.O. BOX 2157, Franklin, NC 28744 /OR GIVE ONLINE at our website: www.livinghopeway.com

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US AT: 828-524-2157/Thrift Store: 828-586-9966

Like us on Facebook "Men's Challenge of the Smokies" and share our page