



JUNE 2023



*The Faith Based Solution to the
Addiction Epidemic*



I FOUND WHAT I WAS SEARCHING FOR

My name is Pierceson Greenway. I am 20 years old and from Royston, Georgia. I was raised by my grandparents from the time I was 4. I would say I was a drug kid—drug to church every time the doors were open. I was saved at a young age but since being at Men's Challenge of the Smokies, I have come to know what it means to be genuinely saved and have a relationship with Christ Jesus.

When I was 15, my grandparents separated and I had to choose to go with my mom or dad. I went to live with my mom in Jacksonville. I tried to heal my pain with anything I could get my hands on from alcohol to black tar heroin and prescription opiates. I dabbled in it all. Eventually, I got locked up at the age of 17, for grand theft auto. I was given great mercy and got off easy.

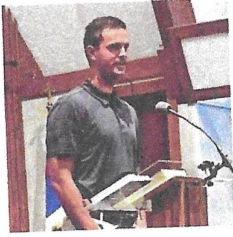
I ran away to Georgia to my dad's when I was done with court. I used my dad to build up money just to go back out and party all my money away. I did this repetitive process until I was 19. I could tell drugs and alcohol were already taking its toll on my body. I knew what I was doing wrong, but the snare of condemnation from Satan just had me feeling sorry for myself and doing more bad things to cope. But thank God Jesus kept intervening. July 6, I was released from jail and was headed to Men's Challenge of the Smokies.

On August 3, 2022, 8:15, I truly found what I was searching for the entire time, and that was the peace and understanding He gave me when I proclaimed Jesus as my Lord and Savior and surrendered to His will and plan for me.

My life verse is 2 Timothy 1:9 "He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time."

1 John 3:1-3 "See what great love the father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is because it did not know Him. Dear friends now we are children of God and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."





My name is Kylar. I was raised in a Christian home, went to a private Christian School, and was active in my church. My parents provided everything I needed and taught me right from wrong. I first accepted Christ into my heart as a little kid, but I didn't understand what it meant to have a personal relationship with Christ until 15 years old, when I truly experienced the Lord for the first time at a youth camp. Two years later was when signs of my addiction started. I tried marijuana for the first time and it quickly escalated into a habit my senior year of high school.

After graduating high school, I attended Liberty University, and during this time I was able to stay sober the first 2 years of college. I had become a Resident Adviser by my junior year, but I couldn't handle all the responsibility that came with that. I ended up drinking, smoking and breaking numerous rules behind leadership's back. I got caught and lost all my scholarships. That day, my life began spiraling out of control and I turned to drugs and alcohol to cope.

This led to my first drug-induced psychosis in December 2019. I went into psychosis again 3 months later in February of 2020 and I decided to stay sober after the 2nd time. Unfortunately, this only lasted 8 months before I was getting high again. A few months later, I moved out on my own. This is when other drugs came into play. I went from only smoking pot to trying mushrooms, LSD, cocaine, ecstasy, MDMA, and several others within the span of a few months. I became hooked, and there was no sign of stopping.

In July 5, 2022, I went into psychosis for the 3rd time in 3 years. After 2 ER visits in 2 days, I finally realized that I had a problem and needed help. This is when I discovered Men's Challenge of the Smokies.

Although I surrendered to Christ in the past, I deliberately walked away from the faith for a few years. It wasn't until coming to Men's Challenge that I truly surrendered to Jesus, understanding Him as my Lord and not just my Savior. Since I've been here, God has been teaching me how to be still and simply know Him. True satisfaction only comes from an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

My favorite Bible verse is Psalms 46:10a "Be still and know that I am God."

Because our expenses were greater than our income January through March, (due to the increase in students, need for more staff, and effects of inflation), we sent out a letter in April asking for help. Thank you to all who have responded with special one-time gifts and for those who have increased your monthly giving.

THANK 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

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