

PRAYER REQUEST

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

“Cast all your cares upon Him; for He cares for you.” (1 Peter 5:7)

As we pray together in faith, much will be accomplished. Open Door Ministries of Sampson, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, gifts to which are deductible as charitable contributions for federal tax purposes.

Open Door Ministries of Sampson, Inc.
199 E. Magnolia-Lisbon Rd.
Magnolia, NC 28453

Open Door *Partner*

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE

Day

For you
WERE CALLED TO
freedom.

**ONLY DO NOT USE
YOUR FREEDOM**

**AS AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR THE FLESH,
BUT THROUGH LOVE**

serve one another.

Galatians 5:13

JULY 2022

“VICTORY THROUGH CHRIST”

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David's Desk



“A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seed fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.” Matthew 13:3-8

I have talked with a lot of men here at Open Door, who have never been in a church. And it is true that with all the churches around us today, men are growing up without a clear witness of the Gospel. But on the other hand, there are people all across our area who have heard the Gospel over and over, but their hearts have been hardened. Now that's a dangerous place to be because Proverbs 29:1 says, *“He who is often reproved, yet stiffens his neck, will suddenly be broken beyond healing.”* God's patience will not always persist with man. And unfortunately, I'm afraid there are so many people sitting around us in churches today that have heard the Gospel many times but have never really trusted in Jesus Christ. They grew up in a Christian family, their parents took them to church, but they've never had an experience of salvation in Jesus. So ask yourself this simple question: *“Which soil am I?”* Do you just perform the Christian routine out of habit, or are you truly bearing spiritual fruit? If you're the first, it's never too late to recommit your life to Christ and experience the joy of truly walking in his light! During this time of year, declare your freedom...in Christ!

Don't just go through the christian routine with a hardened Heart, but commit your life to christ and walk in his light. Pastor David Chestnutt - ODM, E.D.

Testimony



My name is Trip C. and this is my story. I want to start off by saying that I grew up with a good family in Mullins, SC. I was raised, mainly, by my mother who made sure that I was in school up to the 12th grade. I never really had a “father figure” in my life. My biological father was killed when I was five years old. When I was around eight or nine years old, my mother remarried, but my step-father was not a very good role-model in my life.

I had a problem with authority throughout my life. I was two weeks away from graduation and was expelled because I was in my car smoking a cigarette. When I was approached by school officials, I bucked at them and refused to comply while trying to be “cool” in front of friends. That same year, I was hanging out with the wrong kind of friends and started smoking weed and drinking. Because of these friends, I made some really poor decisions. Mostly, burglary and larceny charges and at one time, went really bad. I stayed in and out of jails and prisons throughout my years and even served five years in prison. Every time I was locked up, I'd lose

more and more family and friends. For some reason, each time I would get out, I'd turn right back to drugs and alcohol. I just didn't feel “normal” unless I was high. I pretty much stayed high and/or intoxicated from ages 18 to 35.

Fast forward to age 36, I quit doing drugs for my mom and myself, but started drinking daily. Of course, this became a serious problem...as you can imagine. The alcohol helped with the thoughts and pain of watching my mom go through life hurting, and being helpless to take away her pain and suffering. I just wanted to be able to fix her because she was diagnosed with a severe type of cancer. So, my plan was to get help for my addiction so that I could be there to better help her. I wanted her to be at peace knowing that I was going to be ok.

Things didn't quite work out as planned. God had a different plan for me and it started with Him and Open Door Ministries. I went to a Celebrate Recovery meeting in Mullins, SC where Pastor Art Ramsey of Making Disciples for Christ, told me about Open Door. He felt that this would be a good match for me to get the help I needed. While being here I have had a really tough, life changing event. My mother lost her battle with cancer after my first month here and I had to return home long enough to bury her. That has been the hardest thing I've ever had to do. But I know, as well as I'm sure she did, if I would not have been here at Open Door that I would have been dead as well. I am so grateful for everyone here and know now that God has a plan for me. I still have a lot of growing to do and give it all to God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit to keep my focus on only Him. It's such a great and overwhelming feeling to know that I have a purpose in life through my Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 29:11 – “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”



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Hoodies: \$30.00 Donation

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Your Donations To Pay For Monthly
Operating Costs. May God Bless You!