

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

“Victory through Christ”

September 2022

Turn to me
and have mercy, for I am
alone and in deep distress.



Psalm 25:16

“Filling the Spiritual Void”

Have you ever woke up one morning and felt like something was missing or just not quite right in your life? Maybe you’ve gone through an entire span of life feeling lonely and/or unhappy. If you can recognize and identify the root cause of these feelings, you are truly blessed. For most of us, we can not understand what is causing this lonely, depressing unease. It’s an empty, spiritual void. One of which is real and we may not know exactly how to understand or deal with it.

(Continued Inside)

199 E. Magnolia-Lisbon Road Magnolia, NC 28453
Phone: (910) 532-2175 or (910) 549-8130 Email: opendooraddictioncenter@gmail.com
www.opendooraddictioncenter.org

Staff Thoughts



(Continued From Front)

Some of us try to reason with this void by seeking the help of professionals to identify and treat the affliction with therapy or even medication. Others find themselves “self-medicating” with narcotics, alcohol, shopping, working, and any other temporary selfish acts to keep their minds away from the root cause. If they are not careful, all of these may become addictive patterns to a sense of false happiness and content. But, the void hasn’t gone away and still remains. The question we most often ask is...why?

Your spirit is starving! As Christians, our first response for a person in this situation is to tell them to “pray about it”. While this a correct and biblical response, take it a step further: Pray with and for them. We have all been there and know how hopeless it feels when faced with this spiritual void. What we have experienced is the lack or disconnect of a true relationship with Christ. **“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest”.**(Matthew 11:28). He will comfort and guide you on the path that your heart and soul most need and desire. Once you have diligently sought after Him, you will know true peace and come to realize that only through Jesus Christ, can you fully fill the void.

Roby Jones - ODM Program Director

Testimony



My name is Anthony W. and I am 37 years old. I would like to start by saying that I was raised in a great, supportive Christian family. I was taught right from wrong with Godly manners and respect. Starting in middle school, all of that was about to change. I started to become stubborn and prideful. I thought I had it all figured out and that’s when it all went downhill.

Due to clinical diagnoses, I started abusing my prescribed medications at this time; Adderall and Ritalin. I have always liked anything that would get me up and going. Before long, I went from prescriptions to smoking “weed”. I then moved on to smoking crack cocaine, taking more pills, and drinking. Next, I caught myself moving on to “bigger” and “badder” drugs like powder cocaine, meth, and heroin. I say this because these drugs grabbed a hold of me and I couldn’t just walk away.

My poor decisions while trying to support my habit landed me in prison when I was only 18. I spent my 19th, 20th, and 21st birthdays behind bars. I finally went home and maintained for a while with Suboxone to substitute but eventually gave in and went back to the same madness of “street drugs”. Before I realized, I was so dependent on them that I had to have them every day. I tried different ways to stop but nothing ever worked for long and eventually it ended up getting me into a load of trouble, which I can’t even remember half.

I met a woman that I eventually married and we had a little girl, who is now 10 years old. I wanted to stay clean and sober for my family and I did for five years. I did have the help of Suboxone and was still replacing a drug for a drug. Unfortunately, we ended up getting a divorce and after that, I fell right back

down the hole in my next round of addiction. Needless to say, I ended up back in prison looking crazy and going through the worse withdrawals of my life.

When I finally got home, that time, I was there for one day and my probation officer locked me back up for failing a drug test. So, when I got out of jail, I went back to Suboxone through Port Health. I spent seven days there getting my head right while they just threw more drugs at my problem to keep me in line. When I left there, I realized that I could use Suboxone with meth, and boy, it was on...again! I tried to stop a few times for a week or two, but would end up getting high on something else. I was at the point that I convinced myself that I could never get clean. I really wanted to get clean but couldn’t admit it.

Finally, my family told me about Open Door Ministries. I really didn’t want to hear it, but I also wanted it all to stop because my way was NOT working. At this point I was so full of confusion and anger that I was trying to fight the ones that loved me. That’s what did me in...my real breaking point. So, one day I finally surrendered to everything they were telling me and all I heard was Open Door. I was brought here the next day not knowing much about the place except that it was Christian-based and that was good enough for me. I walked in thinking that I was able to stay on Suboxone, but they told me that I could not have that here. At that point I wanted to walk out the door, but didn’t. I told myself that it doesn’t matter what I had to do this time, I’ll do it. I have had enough! So, I signed up and prayed to God that he would just heal me and something gave. God came back into my life through what I learned here: **2 Corinthians 5:17; “This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!”**

Thank you to everyone at Open Door Ministries for showing me the way I didn’t know how to find on my own. I thought the only thing that was keeping me going was the one thing that was holding me back in the bondage of active addiction. I was trying to hold on to what I thought I needed or wanted. When I finally stopped, gave in, and came to ODM, I knew it was time to let go and let God.



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