

EASTER



April 2018

THE FAITH BASED SOLUTION TO THE ADDICTION EPIDEMIC



Curtis

GOD NEVER GAVE UP ON ME

I was raised in a good Christian family in eastern North Carolina. However, in my early teenage years my father got into some legal trouble resulting in a prison sentence. By this time I had already started experimenting with drugs and alcohol to seek popularity among my peers. For years I had told myself that I had a relationship with God but that was a lie.

By the age of 16, I had begun a downward spiral which led to doing hard drugs and finally IV drug use. I lost so many friends over the years to drug overdose and suicide. I tried running from my addiction that I had become a slave to, but I could never get away. I know God had a call on my life, but I didn't think I was good enough. I would lay in bed at night and pray "God help me", but I never expected what would happen next.

One morning after getting high, the police busted into my bedroom where I was laying and had arrest warrants for me. While in jail, I received several felonies that the authorities had on me from previous months. I started to feel hopeless and alone. Withdrawal from opiates and benzos led me to a psychotic breakdown which resulted in me hanging myself in a jail cell. The enemy thought he had me where he wanted me. I was on the brink of death, but God wasn't finished with me. Philippians 1:6—and I'm sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion on the day of Jesus Christ.

A couple of weeks later after being released from the hospital, I was sent back to jail. One night I cried out to God in a small jail cell all by myself. I confessed, "God I can't do this on my own. Please change my life. Save me from what I've become". Then I felt the presence of God and His mercy.

A couple of days later, I was bonded out of jail by my brother who had never given up on me. He and my parents have stood in the gap and prayed for me over the past 20 years. I contacted Pastor Mike at Teen Challenge and told him I needed help. Now I've been here at Teen Challenge for 7 months and I've realized that God's plan was perfect and He never gave up on me. I know God is going to use my brokenness for His glory.



Thank you to those who donated towards the addition on the cabin for our teacher, Aaron Morin, and his family. Our guys are working along side of Harold Johnson to complete this project.



Each Sunday we are doing services at area churches. Pictured above the men are at First Alliance Church in Franklin. Mike spoke about Men's Teen Challenge of the Smokies, a student gave his testimony and all of the men sang.

NEEDS:

- ⇒ Additional Van needed because of the increase in students- 10, 12 or 15 passenger
- ⇒ 2 large capacity Microwaves, knife set, large crock pot
- ⇒ Gravel for parking area and driveways -\$400
- ⇒ Road scraped and gravel -\$2000
- ⇒ Guttering -\$2500



Mike and Betty

TO MAKE A DONATION:

P.O. BOX 2157, Franklin, NC 28744 /OR GIVE ONLINE at our NEW website: www.mtcots.com
 FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US AT: 828-524-2157/betty@mtcots.com /Thrift Store: 828-586-9966
 Like us on Facebook "Men's Teen Challenge of the Smokies" and share our page