

MEN'S CHALLENGE CONNECTION MAY 2025

HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY



I'm thankful that the Lord is giving me purpose in my life and he's restoring my family, my health, and my future.

My name is Dominic. I am 22 years old and I am from Johnson City, TN. When I was four, my mom and dad split up. I was raised in a Christian home with my mother, sister, and brother. In school, I had a rough time trying to fit in and pass classes. In my early teens, I started using drugs. I noticed that drugs took the pain away and made me feel different. I still knew something was missing, so I tried to fix the problem with drugs, money and relationships.

At my lowest, I felt hopeless. I couldn't hold a job and I was dependent on my family to pretty much take care of me. My family finally realized after multiple attempts of trying to help that I needed professional help that they couldn't give. My mother was taking me to church at the time and the pastor knew I was struggling with fixing my life. He recommended that I come to Teen Challenge to get the help I needed.

After many tries to do things myself, I came to Men's Challenge and surrendered. I saw how others had joy and peace and I envied that. I wanted what they had and that took me giving up my past and surrendering. Since I have Christ, the Lord has showed me that I didn't just have a drug problem but a character issue. He is also showing me there is hope, peace and love through him. What I'm working on right now is learning how to be a stronger man for my blood family, and my family from Christ. I'm also learning how to live by faith and not by sight. I'm thankful that the Lord is giving me purpose in my life and he's restoring my family, my health and my future.

"He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along." Psalms 40:2



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MEN'S CHALLENGE HAPPENINGS

Save the Date



**Our next graduation:
Saturday, June 21st 10am
336 Living Hope Way
Reception immediately following
Everyone is invited to attend**



Thankful for the recent opportunity to share testimonies and worship with these wonderful congregations.

*From the Executive
Director's Desk*



In Matthew 12, Jesus and his disciples were accused of breaking the Levitical Law when they, on the Sabbath day, plucked grains to eat. Jesus responded by telling them that King David, as well as the Levitical priests, had done the same thing in the temple, yet the Pharisees honored and revered them. He then went on to say *"That in this place there is one greater than the temple"* (Matthew 12:6). Those struggling with addiction will need more than religious structures, rules, and programs to deliver them from the stronghold of addiction...they simply need Jesus. Yes, addiction is a major problem in our communities with 87,000 drug overdoses in FY 2023-23 (Center for Disease Control). However, the One who is Greater than the temple is also Greater than addiction. Our main goal at Men's Challenge of the Smokies is not to lead men into religious structures (i.e. the temple), rather it is to lead men to the One who is greater...Jesus.



We want to recognize and express gratitude to the following Businesses/Organizations for underwriting and sponsoring our first annual Hope Gala this past March. We will continually recognize in our newsletters the many groups who sponsored the Gala and made it such a special evening.



TO MAKE A DONATION:

PO Box 2157, Franklin, NC 28744 or 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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