



OCTOBER 2023



*The Faith Based Solution to the  
Addiction Epidemic*



## A NEW LIFE THROUGH HIM

My name is Dakota. I'm 30 years old and from Franklin, NC. I had a great childhood and was raised in church.

When I was 16 years old, I started using cocaine. I didn't like the way it made me feel so I started using marijuana and then meth at 18. When I was about 20, I got a larceny charge and joined the Air Force to drop my charges. Due to medical problems, I got a medical discharge and came home.

When I came home, I got married. We had two little girls, bought a home and I was off meth for five years, but turned to alcohol. That led to divorce.

A week after we separated, I turned to IV use. I lost everything. After some really bad choices and a crime spree, I ended up in prison. While I was in prison, I gave my heart to the Lord. Before I went to prison, I had filled out an application for Men's Challenge of the Smokies. I got accepted, but had to do the time first. I finished my first sentence and I still had a place at Men's Challenge of the Smokies, but was given another sentence. After a total of 13 months, I finally got to come to Men's Challenge of the Smokies. The Lord has shown me that He giveth and He taketh away. But praise God He gave me a new life through Him. I'm thankful for a mother who has never stopped praying and trusting God to save me.

Being in the program here is the best thing that could have happened to me. God really works through the staff to help us with our beliefs, faith and addictions. Each day is filled with Bible study and devotions. My brothers here help raise me up when I'm having a bad day. I would still be lost if it wasn't for God's word and the kindness of everyone here.

Psalm 127:1 "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city the watchman waketh but in vain".

Isaiah 12:2 "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation".

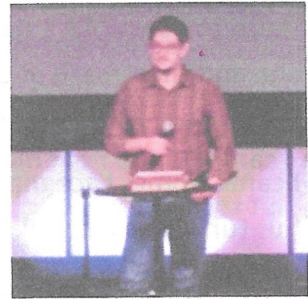
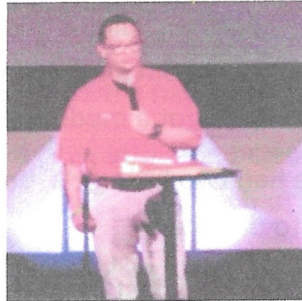
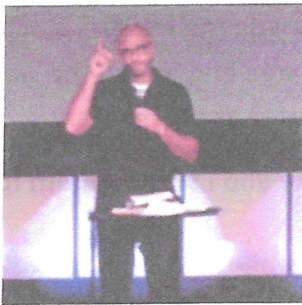




# CONGRATULATIONS



Michael graduated last month and will be staying on as an intern and living in the dorm. **There will not be a graduation in October.** Our next graduation will be November 18, at 10:00am.



Thank you to Cullasaja Assembly of God, Cowee Baptist and Cornerstone Community Church for having our men come to give their testimonies and sing this past month.



## TO MAKE A DONATION:

P.O. BOX 2157, Franklin, NC 28744 /OR GIVE ONLINE at our website: [www.livinghopeway.com](http://www.livinghopeway.com)

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US AT: 828-524-2157/Thrift Store: 828-586-9966

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