

Norfolk

RESCUE

Mission

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*Helping the Hurting and the
Homeless
in the Name of Jesus Christ*

Every few days it seems as if spring is truly here... **that is until we wake up to snow or ice or freezing rain.** It's as if winter isn't ready to fully surrender and release its grip. One day we're raking leaves and the next we're scraping ice.

The struggle is real.

This struggle between winter and spring reminds of the battle between the spirit and the flesh.

Paul wrote this to the churches of Galatia:

*But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for **these are opposed to each other**, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.
(Galatians 5:16-17)*

For the Christian, **there is an ongoing battle raging inside of each of us.** At any given time we can follow the leading of the Spirit or we can give in to the demands of our sinful and selfish flesh.

Here at the **Norfolk Rescue Mission**, we witness this drama in the lives of our guests on a regular basis. Most of them have, in times past, fully surrendered their lives to the works of the flesh. The consequences they have faced and are now facing stem from so many years of gratifying these desires.

One of our main goals in the ministry of Rescue is to introduce our guests to the **beautiful and powerful Gospel of Christ.** When a guest receives this life-changing Gospel, the battle lines are immediately drawn up, and it's time to roll up the sleeves.

He brought me out into a broad place; He rescued me, because He delighted in me. 2 Sam. 22:20 ESV

A man with a new life in Christ begins to **experience what it feels like to be the rope in a game of tug-of-war**. He wakes up wanting to do what is good and pleasing to the Lord, but finds himself often tempted to return to his too familiar old life of sin. (See Romans 7)

On the New Life Program, men and women need not fight through this struggle alone. Not only are they surrounded by a loving, well-trained staff day and night, but they also have their fellow disciples to lean on. On top of that, our New Life disciples are making great connections with their local pastors and church congregations. **Have you considered how you might be a friend to one of the men or women on this program?**

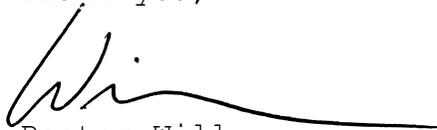
Two of our ladies, Chrystal and Katie recently graduated from the New Life Program. In their many months here at the Mission they fought many battles and in the end came out victorious! As I shared in their graduation charge, the struggles are not over.

Yes they have won this first great victory, but in all reality, they need to **continue to walk steadfastly in their faith**. They need regular fellowship, strong accountability and Christian discipleship. If you have any connection with either of these two gals, **would you please commit to helping them remain victorious** in their battle between the Spirit and the flesh? Maybe you can commit to praying for them as well as for the other men and women who are currently enrolled in *New Life*.

As always, your ongoing financial support makes this all possible. We couldn't do what we do without all of you doing what you do so well. **Your generosity fuels us to keep fighting.**

As of this month, we are hitting a wall in regard to cash-flow. **Our 2019 reserve funds have been exhausted and we will be falling behind if we don't get some extra help soon.** Anything you can do above and beyond your regular giving would be much appreciated.

Thank you,



Pastor Will

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