

Mighty to Save ministries

Offering hope and new beginnings to young adults who want to be free from addictions by providing mentoring, discipling and transition assistance.

In This Issue...

Issue No. 16 - March 2015

The Prodigal Child
Page 1 & 2



Participant's Note
Page 2

Parents Supporting Parents
Page 2

Upcoming Events
Page 3



Join the Team / Contact Us

The Prodigal Child

Most of us have heard this story before. (Luke 15:11-32 NKJV) Jesus is telling us a story about a man with two sons. The younger son asks for his inheritance early, which, in those days, was a huge insult. It was pretty much saying, "I wish you were dead." The son takes off, lives recklessly, squanders his father's money, and ends up with nothing. He has to take work feeding swine, the ultimate shame for a young Jewish man. In verse 17 it says, "**But when he came to himself**, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare; and I perish with hunger!'"

"**He came to himself.**" I love this; and I have spent some time praying and wondering about it. To me, it means he had a revelation, an awakening. He came to understand what he was doing was wrong, and it needed to change. He then got up and went home. He confessed his sin to his father (repentance) and that was it; he was done.

In the world of addiction and recovery, you don't hear very many stories like this one. Most of the time, it is

a long road, filled with ups and downs, and hopes and disappointments.

Sometimes, they end up in jail or in prison; and they become sober-minded. They begin to think clearly. It feels good. You have your child back, even if they are incarcerated. There are times they "find Jesus". They pray and read their Bibles, and make a commitment to live for Him; but, when they get out, they leave Jesus behind bars. Let me say here I do believe their commitment to Jesus is real. I believe their heart is to be in relationship with Him; but something happens when they walk out that door. Something gets lost.

I spend a lot of time thinking of my own prodigal child. He is so dear to my heart and I love him very much. Some days, it is so hard to not be in a day-to-day relationship with him. He is still living in "a far country", like the prodigal child. I cherish the rare phone calls and text messages. Even in his prodigal living, he is still my son. He still has my heart.

There are days when it is so hard. My heart aches for his return. Those are the days when I have to get face to face with God. Those are the days when I surrender once again my child to Him. He is actually HIS child; and HIS love for him

is greater than I can possibly imagine. Those are the days when God so graciously reminds me of the promises that He has made over my child's life.

It has been prophesied that "he is a general and will touch his generation for the glory of the Lord. Freedom belongs to him."

Jeremiah 31:16 & 17 was given to me almost 6 years ago; "*Refrain your voice from weeping, And your eyes from tears; For your work shall be rewarded, says the Lord. And they shall come back from the land of the enemy. There is hope in your future, says the Lord. Your children shall come back to their own borders.*"

I stand on these promises and others given to me. I declare them out loud when I am talking to God about my child, and I say, "Lord, you said..." Our Lord does not lie. He paid the price on Calvary for my child. The victory has already been won. I know what is happening now is not my child's forever. I know this is a season; and I know that he is a mighty man of God.

See "Prodigal" on page 2

“Prodigal” - from page 1

Parents, if you too have a Prodigal, do not give up hope. If you have verses, promises or prophecies for your child, stand firm. Pray those over your child. There is so much power in your prayers for your children. If you don't have a promise or a scripture, ask God to give you one. Do not be discouraged or dismayed. The enemy will attempt to rob you of your hope and your joy. He will remind you of the current circumstances; but we live above those circumstances. We live in the promises of God for our children. Let's remind the enemy of who God says our children are. I will continue to pray that my prodigal will "come to himself", that he too will have that revelation, that awakening; and he will "arise and come home."

Jeremiah 29:11-13

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and go and pray to me and I will listen to you. And you will seek me and find me, when you search for me, with all your heart."

~ Christina

Participant's Note

Hello. My name is Bethany. I'm 32 years old, and have battled with addiction for the majority of my life, with only short periods of sobriety, the longest time being when I found out I was pregnant, and for the first couple years of my son's life.

Thanks to Christina and MtSM, I found out about the Dream Center. Christina sent me there; although, the first time I went, I only stayed a couple weeks, I just wasn't ready.

Drugs had ruined all my relationships; and were threatening to take my husband and son from me. I had reached rock bottom, and nothing really mattered anymore. I was so paralyzed with guilt and fear, which I now recognize as a very big tactic of the enemy. I was so consumed with guilt that I just wanted to stay numb and run from

my problems. I was miserable and cried every day. My parents and siblings loved me, but just didn't know what to do anymore. I was always so defensive and angry, my brother had pretty much stopped talking to me (I had made some really poor choices in that relationship that has hurt him and his wife very badly as well.)

Every door in front of me was closing. I avoided my family unless I needed money for drugs. I had dug myself into a huge pit. I was going to court for felony charges; and after reviewing my case, my lawyer said that my best option would be to go to treatment; and he would try to keep me out of prison.

Since I had been to the Dream Center before, I knew I needed something more than treatment; and quickly asked everyone to start praying that I would be able to return there. Well, our prayers were answered, and I left for the Dream Center October 25th, 2013. God met with me there and began to transform my life, I was able to let my walls down; and the Lord just really started to do some serious healing, not only in me but in the relationships of my family.

By the end of the year, my whole family came to my graduation including my sister who flew all the way in from New York. Things have never been better. I talk with my brother and sister daily via



Bethany and family

group chat on my cell phone; this is huge, considering my brother basically wanted nothing to do with me prior to my leaving for treatment. It would take

forever to tell you, and quite frankly I would rather not, how much I had put my family through; but they chose to forgive me as Christ forgave us.

My whole family has been restored. My Husband and I work continually on our relationship; and my son is thrilled to have me back at home. What a beautiful picture of Christ they have shown me! All the glory belongs to Jesus Christ, my savior!! He is our healer, our deliverer, our constant help; and He is in the business of restoration!!

I just want to end this by saying that anyone who is grieving for a family member who is lost right now, I encourage you to keep praying because He is listening and He will restore your loved one to Him and to you!! Micah 7:7 in the Amplified Bible says, "But as for me, I will look to the Lord and confident in Him I will keep watch; I will wait with hope and expectancy for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me!"

Parents Supporting Parents

Tap into Hope, Encouragement and Love as you meet together with "Parents Supporting Parents!"

A support group for the parents of sons and daughters who are struggling with Alcohol or Chemical Addiction is now meeting at the YD building in Anacortes. This is not an Alanon meeting, nor is it a Bible or book Study of any sort, although such may be addressed in the course of our sharing with one another. The purpose of the group is to provide a "Safe Place" to meet other parents with like issues, to share and be cared for, and to gain knowledge of various resources that are available.

Meeting place: The Youth Dynamics Building at 2410 "J" Ave, in Anacortes

Dates and time: The 1st and 3rd Monday of each Month at 6:30

Questions: Beth (360) 840-3256 & Sherri (360) 202-1272

Show Your Support

If you've been receiving our prayer email for awhile, then you are familiar with J & K. Well, today I get to give you their real names and an update.

Josh and Kadie... came to MtSM in January 2013. They are married and have a young daughter. Both of them were addicted to heroin. In February 2013, MtSM took this little family away for a week to detox. Within a few short months after our return, both had relapsed. It took about a year and a half but, last October Josh and Kadie entered into a one-year discipleship program called Mountain Ministries. This program allows children to come with their parents and they have a wonderful school and daycare set up for the kids. It is a pretty amazing place.

In the five months that they have been in the program God has done amazing things in their lives. Neither of them had withdrawals when they arrived. God delivered them both. They went on a marriage retreat last month with Shiloh Christian Fellowship, the church that the residents of Mountain Ministries attend. Shiloh rents space at the Woman's home, which is an amazing old school building.

Kadie called me yesterday with some very exciting news. She gets to go with Shiloh Christian Fellowship on a mission

trip to Netzahualcoytl, Mexico, which is near Algodones, MX, just west of Yuma, AZ.

She is beyond excited and can't believe that this is really happening. She is in total amazement over all God has done in her life and the life of her family in five short months.

As usual, a mission trip requires a little fundraising for this to happen. If you are willing to support Kadie in this adventure, she would be most sincerely pleased and blessed. She said prayers are definitely the most needed form of support for her.

Here is a link to the church's website. <http://www.shilohfellowship.org> The trip is April 2nd - 11th. The cost is \$400 and covers the registration, building supplies, (they are building two houses in five days) and the cost of the travel, insurance and fuel. They have also suggested each person that comes brings along \$150 to \$200 spending money for personal needs, food and other expenses.

If you would like to donate to support Kadie, a check can be sent to;

Shiloh Christian Fellowship Church
701 East E Street
Rainier, Oregon, 97048

In the memo, please write, "Mexico Mission Trip" and include a small note

letting them know the funds are for Kadie Haggren.

If you feel compelled to support Kadie personally, you can send a check in her name to the same address.

Thank you so much for your prayers for this family. What a wonderful testimony God is creating with their transformed lives.

Love and blessings to you,
Christina

ART SHOW COMING SOON

Inmates are producing art to support the kick off our Transitional Housing Fundraiser Campaign

You will be in awe over the gifts and talents of some of our participants.

Stay tuned for more information.



**2308 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, Washington**

A non-profit re-sale shop with the purpose of converting donations of gently used household items into funds to support ten local Christian groups that work in, or from, our area.

**Stop by the store, check them out at
newliferesale.org and find them on
Facebook.**

Mighty to Save Ministries is blessed to receive support from the sale of designated donations.

To Support MtSM

Commit to Pray — Email

prayer@mightytosaveministries.org and request to be

added to the email list.

Finances — MtSM is funded solely by private contributions.

Your ongoing support helps in funding the purchase of

Bibles, teaching materials, travel, meetings, volunteer

training, counseling and so much more. Please consider

supporting MtSM on a monthly basis.

To Donate

Mail checks to the below address or go to

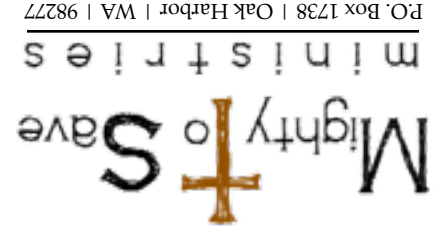
mightytosaveministries.org and donate online via PayPal.

Contact Us

Mighty to Save Ministries

P.O. Box 1738 Oak Harbor, WA 98277

info@mightytosaveministries.org
(360) 929-2959



P.O. Box 1738 | Oak Harbor | WA | 98277

Join the Team

Prayer: Your prayers are powerful and effective! If you would like to join our team of Mighty to Save Ministries Prayer Warriors, please send an email to: prayer@mightytosaveministries.org

Financial Support: Please consider MtSM in your monthly giving. You can give a one time donation or schedule monthly giving using PayPal. Go to mightytosaveministries.org for details.

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