

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.

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Jail Visits

Jail visits. When I first started doing them, it was a little bit scary. Until Samantha was arrested, I had never been to a jail and it felt very weird. You have to be "buzzed" in. You talk to someone behind a dark window and enclosed counter. You can't see the face of the person to whom you are speaking. It's a bit intimidating, or maybe I should say it used to be intimidating.

I knew jail visits were going to be a very important part of our ministry at Mighty to Save. The first time the Lord put MtSM on my heart was when I was praising and thanking HIM for the healing Samantha had received. HE clearly said, "This is not just for Samantha. I want it for all of them."

Most of Samantha's healing occurred while she was in the Island County Jail. Our friend, Neil Harmsworth has a ministry called Nobel Maritime Ministries. He is trained to do inner healing and is very good at what he does. We asked Neil to go into the jail to see Samantha once a week which he did for the next eight months.

As we watched Samantha's heart heal, we knew Neil's ministry would be a

very important and helpful part of our ministry to the other inmates as well.

When we became an official non-profit organization and started doing ministry full-time, we asked Neil to partner with us to do jail ministry. We make a donation to Noble Maritime Ministries for each inmate that he visits in the jail. Yes, sometimes it seems expensive but it is **always worth it**.

Let me tell you a little bit about how it works... When we go into the jail we do one-on-one sessions in one of the two interview rooms.

How do we make our connections? Because my children used to run with this crowd, it has given me influence and an "in" with this group. Most often, when I hear that one of them has been arrested, I will write them a note asking them if they would like a visit. If they say yes I will go in and do a general visit with them.

In these visits we get to know each other a bit better. I hear their story and share mine with them. I explain about the healing sessions and ask if they want to try one. They always say, "Yes."

The following week, Neil and I will go in and do a session. It doesn't take long for them to warm up; and very

soon, you can see the change begin to happen. They look forward to our visits and come prepared to hear from God.

Other times we get requests to see inmates through the inmates we are already seeing. Actually, this happens quite often. When they go back to their pods and share what they are doing, others also want to experience it.

When an inmate is transferred, I keep in touch with them throughout their time in prison. We write back and forth regularly; and I often send in resources to help them build their foundation with God.

When an inmate is released, we also stay in touch, or at least try to do so. When they get released to the streets, it is a bit harder to maintain relationship, especially if they do not have a safe place to be released to. Someday soon, we hope to be able to have them released to one of our own Transformation Homes, but that is for another newsletter.

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“Jail Visits” - from page 1

I've asked some of our friends with whom we have done ministry at Island County Jail to write about their experiences. I am praying their stories will inspire you and offer you hope.

As I stated earlier, the cost of jail ministry can really add up, but it is vital that we use this opportunity of their time there to come along side these young adults and help them heal. They are safe. They are sober; and they are ready to make changes in their lives.

God has great plans for these “kids” and HE is passionate about them. You can play a vital role in this ministry. In order for this ministry of hope and healing to continue for these hurting men and women, we need your financial support. Please consider making a donation or becoming a monthly supporter. Your help will mean so much to many.

~ Christina

Participant's Letters

Zach's Note

Hi. My name is Zachariah Llewelyn, and I'm writing to tell how MtSM's jail ministry has helped to make a positive transformation in my life.

I met Christina Bowling when I was at my rock bottom. I remember the first things she said to me. “Zach, it's so good to finally meet you. I have been praying for you.” And that's where it started, the transformation of my thoughts. “Wow, someone who has never even met me took the time to pray for me.”

Shortly after this divine intervention, shall we call it, I found myself in the Island County Jail, waiting on prosecution for charges from the previous year, wondering why I keep making these stupid repetitive mistakes. Christina asked if she and a friend could come see me in a clergy visit. I said, “Yes”, and that's when my walk with God started.

I always would shy away from God until they came for their first meeting. They showed me how God works miracles in my life today; and they prayed with me about some things I regretted doing and saying, helping to bring much needed peace in my life.

They showed me that God cares about me, and is willing to help me through the rough patches in my life. And most of all, peace was brought to my heart when I thought it to be not possible.

Thank you, Christina, for all the help, and for helping me create a personal relationship with Jesus.

Chance's Note

When I first got the letter from MtSM, and read that Christina wanted me to write a letter about how their ministry has affected me, I said, “NO WAY!” Not only do I have a hard time opening up to people, I'm just not a

“good enough” Christian. I've had too many speed bumps and misdirections to write a testimony. That's what I believed anyway. I didn't completely throw out the idea, however.

I spent about a week wrestling around with the idea and praying about it. Finally I came to the conclusion that it was something I had to do. I owed it to the Lord, to MtSM, and to the other people out there who feel inadequate, because the truth is I'm not “good enough” and I never will be. My sufficiency is from God. He makes me adequate, because He is more than enough.

See “Letters ” on page 3



“Jail Visits” - from page 2

I have to give credit where it is due, so I want to recognize the huge role MtSM played in, and still plays in my journey. Without them, not only would I not have the tools to see past, the lies the enemy was planting, but I would not have had the confidence in my relationship with Christ to write this letter. Working with Christina and Neil during my time at Island County Jail, helped prepare me for not just my time in prison but also my life after prison. Without them, I would still be so scared to open up that I could never give a testimony. And, I would still be so worried about being “good enough” that I wouldn’t be able to grow in my relationship with Christ.

I still have struggles every day. I still succumb to temptation. I still fail the test sometimes. That’s why I’m in Closed Custody right now, and I have to put in a request at my next review to get some good time back. I’m far from perfect. Thanks to the ministry of MtSM, however, I know that Christ will make me sufficient. The times that I fail are when I lean on my own instincts and understanding instead of leaning on the Rock.

Thank you, Christina, Neil and MtSM for being His hands and ministering in my life, and most importantly, thank you Jesus for being good enough.

With His Love, Chance

Derek’s Note

“The place where God calls you is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.” (Author unknown)

For those who know me, please forgive me for my wrong as I will forgive all who have wronged me. I want to thank the person who referred Mighty to Save Ministries to me. The person I was last year was scary to say the least. When I got picked up and brought to the Snohomish County Jail, I was spiritually bankrupt, suicidal, filled with hate and disrespect. By the time I was transferred up to the beautiful Island County Jail, the drug withdrawals were gone, but the severe depression was still there. I kept asking God to help me, but it seemed like bad news along with more bad news kept coming in.

“Mail Call!” - Mighty to Save Ministries, I’ve heard of these people, somehow they got my name. I opened it and there was a card explaining that they offer some counseling for young adults that have drug problems. Let me tell you, that was me for sure. I had some serious issues.

So, I wrote Christina back and said that I would like to try whatever might help. The next week, I was starting my trial; and they (Christina and Neil) came in. Right when I walked into the little interview room, I saw sincerity in their eyes along with a true happiness. They really wanted to be there. They wanted to help this person that has been to prison numerous times. Every week, they would come in and spend an hour with me. We would pray for the Holy Spirit to come in to our lives and guide us. Being a convict with the mentality of one, I did not open up to them right away. It did not take long for me to stop beating around the bush and reveal to them the true, honest reasons I was an addict and why I act out.

Once I was able to forgive each and every one of the people that harmed me, I was able to receive the Holy Spirit into my heart. Talk about goose bumps. This is what happened in that room; and I even cried in front of two other adults. Tears of joy. I now am saturating myself with the teachings of the Lord. I am more free than I have ever been, even though my release date is September 5th, 2019.

I have enough time to fill myself the Lord. I now have a working knowledge of the true trinity. Thank you everyone for help along the way. God Bless.

“Don’t ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that because the world needs people who have come along.”(Author Unknown)

I AM ALIVE,
Derek Cartmell

Night of Hope

Last year we presented our first **“Night of Hope”** at The Depot in Anacortes, WA. The evening was filled with music, stories of transformation and Christina presented a vision for the future of Mighty to Save Ministries to be able to offer Transitional Support and Housing to those who qualify who are being released from jail, prison or rehab.

Currently, Compass Health has six beds available to serve all of Island County. Consequently, many end up returning to the same places and behaviors that landed them in custody in the first place.

At this year’s Night of Hope, we will once again be sharing music, stories of transformation and the need for Transformational Housing. We will also be highlighting the Jail Ministry that has become such an important part of MtSM and enables us to identify those in need and develop relationships while they are incarcerated.

We are excited to have Potter’s House Band this year to share a song story and a song that intersects with the Mighty to Save story.

This year’s Night of hope will be held on Saturday, November 23rd at the Oak Harbor Senior Center at 6:30 pm. Please mark you calendars. We hope to see you there!



Prayer Request

Please keep **Transformational Housing** in your prayers. Finding a safe place for someone to go once released from jail, prison or other programs is very important. It’s our heart’s desire to own, operate and offer MtSM Transitional Housing to potential candidates.

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.

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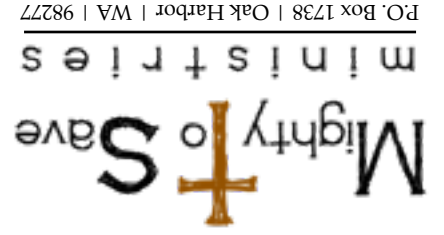
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Join the Team

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

Volunteer Opportunity: Grant Assistant - You would be working directly with our new Grant Writer. Contact Christina @ 360-929-2959.

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.

Mighty to Save Ministries is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)3 entity. Contributions to Mighty to Save Ministries are tax-deductible.