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Dear Friends,

Hebrews 4:15-16 (ESV) says, **“For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”** Jesus was fully God, yet fully human when He was here on earth. He too was tempted, yet did not sin. He faced temptation just as humanity still faces today. And because Christ knows, He can relate to us today and throughout generations.

When we experience weakness, Christ is moved with compassion and is able to meet us in our weaknesses. In our faith we can confidently draw near to our Lord knowing that His grace and mercy are far bigger than any weakness we have. This world is a dark place and evil is lurking around every corner. A world full of addiction, depression, sorrow, and untruth. I am so glad that God is bigger than anything this world offers. He is bigger than any weakness. He is bigger than any temptation. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (ESV), **“But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”**



## GRADUATE TESTIMONY

### CALVIN COOK

All my life I have been carried by God’s grace and goodness. I was saved as a teen, but I tried to serve God and the world at the same time. That did not work very well for me. I have been through three marriages, four DUIs, five rehab centers and much more all due to my bad choices. When I finally hit rock bottom and was ready for change God put people in my life that got me through the doors of Teen Challenge. Since coming here I have been able to build my relationship with my Lord and Savior. He has delivered me from my addictions of sin. Thanks be to God! Psalms 103:1-2, **“Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul; and forget not all his benefits:”**

I want you all to know that you are loved by all of us here at Western Michigan Adult and Teen Challenge. You are all important to us. We pray for you and your families. Your prayers and financial support for us are also very much appreciated.

The Lord keeps Michelle and I encouraged, strengthened and joyful in the work of the Lord. Please continue to pray with us for the lost to come to Christ and experience deliverance and freedom from bondages and addictions. We are thrilled to continue to tell the story of God’s love and redeeming grace!

In Christ’s Service,  
Phil & Michelle McClain

