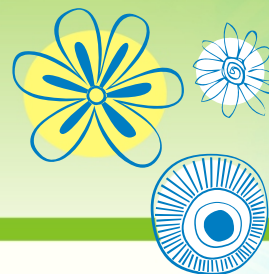


WESTERN MICHIGAN TEEN CHALLENGE

August 2016

440 Pontaluna Road | Muskegon, MI 49444 | 231-798-7927



Dear Friends,

Jesus had a meal with Matthew in his house. Matthew had been a tax collector, but Jesus called Him to be one of His followers. Many publicans and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples. When the scribes and Pharisees saw Him eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto His disciples, **"How is it that He eateth and drinketh with publicans and sinners?"** When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, **"They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."**

Jesus, the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. **Luke 19:10.** Jesus has always had a heart for the sinner, and these are the ones he came to seek and to save. **I have before me five people in the program who were sinners and miserably lost.** The beautiful thing about it is these are the very ones Jesus came to save.

One young lady says, "I was lost, broken and in prostitution. I was miserable and struggling to find a way out. I was using various drugs as well as crack cocaine. I was weary with life." **Another girl says,** "I was full of shame and guilt because I had let my family and son down due to my manufacturing of methamphetamines and heroin use. My life crumbled when my boyfriend blew up himself and our house while cooking meth. I was devastated. My only hope was God." **Brandy says,** "I was looking for love in all the wrong places. That led me to the street life, drugs, prostitution and prison. All of this left me empty and searching. I was tired and close to death." **Casey says,** "My children were all taken away because of my association with those doing drugs and a drug bust in my home. I became my own customer of the very drugs I was manufacturing. This eventually landed me in jail, facing ten years in prison. My heart's cry was to go to Teen Challenge because I knew God could change my life." **The last girl says,** "My life was literally a disaster with drug addiction and heroin use. I was in a car traveling at over 100 miles per hour when we hit a tree. My nose was ripped off as I was ejected through the windshield. The surgeons did a great job through surgery. Still that was not enough to change me. I continued in my mess: hallucinating, freaking out, thinking I was literally pushed into hell."

All of these girls conclude that Jesus was their only way out of the utter chaos and former life style. Satan literally had them bound, and **Jesus was the only one who could set them free.** Today each of them is gloriously changed and saved. All have a perfectly sound mind, good attitudes, are happy in their new life style in Christ and radiate the love of Jesus Christ. To God be the glory!



GRADUATES

Beth Bedsole



Ben Carlson



Chris Allen



Ashley Murray



ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP

Friday, August 19 at 7:00 PM.

I look forward to seeing all of you there!

BIKE-A-THON

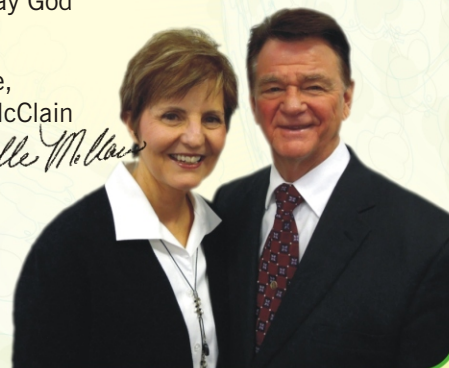
Wow, what a great day! The weather was perfect, no accidents, great Christian fellowship, great service after the ride and a great time of food and friendship. Also, it was a great financial blessing to Teen Challenge.



The love of Jesus continues to move and motive my wife and I to move forward in this ministry of Teen Challenge. We love Jesus, the staff, the people and what we do here in this ministry. We preach the Word, teach the people and encourage them in the Lord. They are all growing and maturing in Christ. Thank you for helping us help them. **We need you!** Your encouragement, prayers and continued financial support are vital. You are in our prayers. We are happy serving Christ. May God bless you!

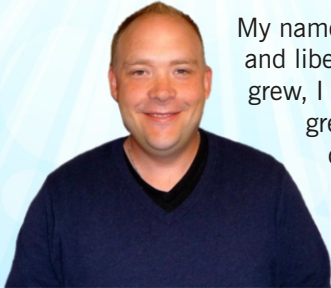
In Christ's Service,
Phil & Michelle McClain

Phil & Michelle McClain



GRADUATE TESTIMONIES

My name is Chris Allen, I am 29 years old and I am from Livingston, TN. I grew up in a broken home where I endured physical abuse and became very angry. At the age of 15, I started using drugs. It rapidly increased, and I was exposed to IV drugs, which took me down a bad path. After multiple felonies and overdoses, I finally found myself at the end of my road. I cried out to the Lord, and He brought me to Teen Challenge. Since being here, He has transformed my life and restored to me my family and things I had destroyed. I see how far He has brought me in this short year. I can't wait to see what He does in the future. I stand on Proverbs 3:5-6.



My name is Ben Carlson, I'm 35 and from Muskegon, MI. The home I grew up in was loving and liberal; but also, due to the lack of money, it was very stressful and at times angry. As I grew, I became very distrustful and angry with people. By 12, I was introduced to drugs. As I grew, so did my use and the variations of drugs I used. By 25, I was married and went on to have my kids, but even that didn't settle my anger or pains. I came to T.C. in objection to God, but through the love of Jesus and the redemption of the cross, I have been blessed and redeemed. Deuteronomy 29:29, "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever..." Amen.

Hi! My name is Beth Bedsole and I'm 21 years old. I was raised in an incredible, loving home, was very involved in the church, and even attended a private Christian school; but just as God is no respecter of persons, neither is the devil. In middle school, I began a life of immorality and "small" compromises to lie and manipulate. This, paired with the desire of people's acceptance, led me into several bondages, including heroin addiction by age 18. I lived in darkness for years, wishing for death on a daily basis, wanting so desperately to escape the pain of life. I never thought that God could be the answer to my problems, because as much as I knew about God growing up, I had never known Him through a personal relationship. After several rehabs and meetings, I had lost all hope in hearing "once an addict, always an addict." Through my family's intercessory prayer, Jesus quickly acted on my behalf and delivered me from the powers of darkness and made me a new creature. Today, I stand firm knowing that "Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world," (1 John 4:4), and I purpose to keep eternity in perspective in all of my decisions.



I'm Ashley Murray, 31 from Cookeville, TN. Growing up in the consequences of other people's sin, I learned early on what pain was all about. By the age of 14, I had become a victim of abuse at the hands of 5 different men. Misunderstanding what love really was, I went looking for it...anywhere. By 17, I was an IV drug user, and at 25 I began manufacturing meth to support my own habit of having to numb myself. As my family prayed, God released His Holy Ghost hound dogs to bring me to my knees. I faced 20 years in prison with charges of manufacturing and felony resale of meth. BUT GOD - being so merciful & full of grace, gave me yet another chance to follow Him. On Aug. 1, 2015, I came to Teen Challenge broken, on my knees, and with a heart condition. Jesus is our Great Physician! As He said in Ezekiel 11:19-20, "I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh. Then they will follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. They will be my people, and I will be their God."

BUT THE HOUR COMETH, AND NOW IS, WHEN
THE TRUE WORSHIPPERS SHALL WORSHIP THE
FATHER IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH: FOR THE
FATHER SEEKETH SUCH TO WORSHIP HIM.