



Adult & Teen Challenge
Western Michigan

OCTOBER 2021

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The men and women who come to Teen Challenge come because they are consumed with life controlling addictions. These addictions have such an incredible hold on an individual's life. They realize, sometimes through countless attempts to make changes on their own, that it is impossible to get rid of the temptations they face and then cycle back into addiction again. Repeating this same cycle over and over again they find themselves a slave and bound in their sin. This sin not only holds them captive, but robs them of everything: freedom, family, friends, financial stability and more. They then realize that they cannot do it on their own, they need something . . . someONE more powerful to help them. They no longer want to be bound in slavery. The Prophet Isaiah says in **Isaiah 61:1b** "he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound"

"And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Romans 5:5. I see the men and women at Teen Challenge ready to surrender to Jesus Christ and allow the Holy Spirit to take over in their lives. I see the many tears shed in prayer at our altars. I see hands raised in praise and worship. I see men and women on bended knee in surrender to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Oh what a wonderful thing it is to see so many come through our doors ready and willing to accept a life filled with the Holy Spirit leading them in a life of victory!

Our graduates this month have accepted a life filled with the Holy Spirit and are living a life of victory today.



GRADUATE TESTIMONIES

TESTIMONIES
CONTINUED
ON BACK

Janice Phelps

All my life, I have desired to have a close personal relationship with God but I could never grasp it. I would strive but always chose a lifestyle consumed with alcohol and sin instead. Finally after years of self-sabotage and losing everything I quit running and surrendered my life and Jesus was able to work! My life has been completely transformed! Today, my life is filled with the Holy Spirit. He guides my every move. The desires of the flesh become less as I draw closer to Him and walk in His love. He is the Lord of my life! Nothing is better than being in the will of God and working for the right kingdom. **"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you."** Matthew 6:33

As always, we are grateful and blessed by all of our many supporters. You are a treasure to us! We are so thankful to the Lord for putting you all in our lives. Your faithfulness and giving is such a blessing to us. As the uncertainty with coronavirus remains, we have again had to make the hard decision to continue to wait before we have any banquets. Therefore, we will continue to pray and seek the Lord's wisdom for resuming our public fundraisers in the next year. Please continue your giving through this time as we continue our ministry to the lost and brokenhearted.

In Christ's Service,

Phil & Michelle McClain

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Western Michigan Teen Challenge Director



GRADUATE TESTIMONIES

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Jennifer Pflug

I grew up in Niles, Michigan with two amazing parents who raised me in church. At the very young age of 14, I moved out of my home. I am a mother of 3 children. My addiction began at age 16 with prescription medication and progressed to crack cocaine and methamphetamines. I was also involved in a lot of gang violence and human trafficking. Since coming to Teen Challenge, I have been able to build a relationship with the Lord and have been truly delivered from the chains of addiction and depression by the power of God. I stand on **Hebrews 12:2a**, “**Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.**”

Carissa Tollett

Before I came to know my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the strongholds of addiction controlled my life. No matter what I did, I couldn't escape. I thought the life of an addict would be my fate. What a rehab, a jail, or the world couldn't do, Jesus picked me up and made me brand new. “**I, even I, am the Lord and beside me there is no savior.**” **Isaiah 43:11**



Darius Tillman

For nearly 10 years, I have been fighting for change. For nearly 10 years, I have been haunted by my past. There was a tragedy that left me shot multiple times and critically injured while my brother was shot and killed. I lived in the belief that it had been my fault, and I used it as an excuse to drink beyond comprehension. For so long, I have been a prisoner to my past. However, in this season of my life, I have learned to let go of the darkness of my past, and have let in the light of my future, Christ Jesus. “**Either way, Christ's love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life. He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead, they will live for Christ, who died and was raised for them.**” **2 Corinthians 5:14-15 NLT**

