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I often reflect on how our students feel prior to coming in. The anguish, heartbreak, and desperation they must feel when their peace, hope and joy are stripped away because of sin.

Many times our new students describe how they feel when they arrive at one of our centers. They say they can finally feel peace, that they can sense the presence of the Holy Spirit. Our staff will often celebrate with them letting them know that their choice to come to Teen Challenge is not defeat, but that they should consider it their first victory. It is a victory to finally make that choice...to choose God's way not their own way. It is wonderful how when a new student decides to commit their life to the Lord that many will gather around them and celebrate with them. Each month new students have an opportunity to be baptized in water. The expressions of joy they have on their faces when they come up out of the water is so wonderful!

It is a beautiful thing to watch hearts change and walls come down in the lives of our students. God is certainly doing an amazing work!

**Psalm 51:9-12 says, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me."**

## STUDENT TESTIMONIES

### Michelle Cooper

I started drinking very young. I was first married at age fifteen. As years went by I started trying drugs as well as drinking. I tried everything to the extreme. My life became so unmanageable. I lost my family and friends. Anyone who I thought loved me was through with me. At that point I didn't care if I lived. I wanted to die. Since coming to Teen Challenge I found what I had lost...God! I knew of God, but Teen Challenge showed me how to have a relationship with God. My eyes and heart are open to a new way to live through Jesus Christ!



### Anthony Impellizzeri

I grew up in Grand Rapids in a good home. I was always trying to fill a void in me by doing whatever I could to gain respect and acceptance from the crowd. This ultimately led to being thrown in and out of jail and in a vicious cycle of drug and alcohol abuse. Functioning abuse spiraled into an uncontrollable heroin addiction and a lot of burnt bridges. By the grace of God I able to hold on to my girlfriend and daughter and two hopeful parents. I came to Teen Challenge broken and defeated, but I was shown God's mercy and found hope and purpose again. I am a new creation in Christ and am forever thankful. **"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."** Romans 5:3-4 (NIV)

The Lord is faithful! We are blessed that He has brought you into our lives as supporters of this ministry. What a wonderful God He is! We pray for you and your families that the Lord will bless you and your giving. Thank you for your continued support! As always you can continue to mail your donation. You also can visit our website at [www.wm-tc.com](http://www.wm-tc.com) to give. May the Lord bless you abundantly! Thank you.

In Christ's Service, Pastor Phil & Michelle McClain

*Phil & Michelle McClain*

