

# CAMPFIRE

July 2023

## "What's your success rate?"

What's your success rate? This question is consistently asked of us from people touring Dunklin, family members desperately seeking the place that can cure their loved one, or the potential client himself, as they investigate what we are all about. It's a good question to ask. This number could possibly be an index that reveals whether or not this regeneration program brings validity and credibility.

I love the way Brother Mickey would answer that question when he was alive. He would simply say, "100%". Of course, the inquiring individual would be taken back by such a percentage and Mickey would then elaborate on that answer - "100% of the men who walk through these doors are introduced to the person of Jesus Christ. They are afforded the opportunity to lay hold of a new life in Him." This is the truth. From the very first day, the man who is brought to us is introduced to the 'Solution' to their affliction. Now, whether or not they lay hold of Him and all the blessings that come with God's Kingdom can be another story. This goes for all of us.

Philippians 3:12 sheds some light on this reality. Paul wrote, "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of *THAT* for which Christ Jesus took hold of me." The King James version reads, "...that I may apprehend *THAT* for which I was apprehended by Christ Jesus."

What is **THAT**? If we back up a few verses to Philippians 3:10-11, we find that answer – "I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, and so, somehow attaining to the resurrection from the dead...." This scripture reveals **THAT** is 'knowing Christ'.

We believe the Lord apprehends the men brought here. He rescues them from the plight of death and brings them to a 'Promised Land' where new hope arises and the opportunity to live abundantly is presented to them. This is 100%. The problem, not just for the men who arrive, but for all of us, is that we do not apprehend all there is to apprehend. We have been given an inheritance, a multitude of spiritual blessings. If we look closely at the first chapter of Ephesians 1, we find out we are 'chosen, blameless in His sight, adopted as His sons and daughters'. Also, we 'have been freely given His glorious grace, redeemed through His blood, and marked with a seal, the Holy Spirit.'

Paul later writes in that same chapter, "I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation that you may know Him better." If we were to put a number on our success rate in Him what would it be? Have I taken hold of all there is in Him? Do I know Him and the power of His resurrection? Do I lay hold of Him and the riches of my inheritance?

We recently graduated 12 men from the program. This is a success, for sure; however the more important question is, "Will they walk in the fullness of knowing Him as the mystery of His will has been revealed to each one?" This is our prayer and our hope – that we all attain the full measure (100%) of knowing Christ Jesus.

Take hold of THAT!

belonged and

Nick



Jason Hahn, Gannon Davis, Tim Hunt, Wyatt Woodruff, Marcus Howard, Justin Coslow, JB Mcdaniel, Andrew Bruscini, Manny Rojas, Joey Calautti, Nick Molina, Chris Cartier

I came from 7 years of addiction to different substances. I left a path of destruction behind everywhere I went. I hurt my family and friends who love me the most. I was hopeless and lost, but the Lord was gracious with me. He pulled me out of my mess and brought me back to Dunklin. He's restored me once again and has filled me full of hope and peace."

#### Marcus Howard

Upon arriving at Dunklin, I was at the lowest point of my life. I was hopeless and had no real desire to live. I had 25 years of addiction to drugs and sinful living behind me. I was reluctant to come, but also knew that if I didn't I wouldn't be part my daughter's or grandchildren's lives. To say I struggled in the program is an understatement. There were many days I didn't think I could make it, but God carried me through. He changed my heart and gave me faith. By His grace, I was able to fulfill my commitment, first to the Lord, then to my daughter and Dunklin."

Time Hunt

"I come from 5 years of drug and alcohol abuse. I was full of pride and spiritually dead. I would reject my loved ones and do all I could to stiff arm the Lord. By the grace of God, I ended up at Dunklin. Since being here, my relationships and life are better than ever. I have been restored to my family and the Lord has given me peace and hope today!"

### Wyatt Woodruff

I come from a 23 year addiction to drugs, alcohol, and pornography. I spent my life numbing myself from reality. I lived in fantasy and blamed others for my actions. I never wanted to face the damage I had caused my family and others. I was hopeless and accepted the fact that I would die in my addiction. But God, who is rich in mercy, saved me by His grace. Today, because of Jesus Christ, I am a child of God and have a hope and purpose for my future.

#### - Nick Molina

I come from a 10 year addiction to many substances. I started with being prescribed Xanax and Adderall at 17. I quickly became addicted and found my identity in it. In the end, I was using heroin and fentanyl. I overdosed multiple times. The last overdose put me in the hospital on a ventilator and in a coma. By the grace of God, I survived and was able to come to Dunklin. The program was the hardest thing I have ever done. For the first time in my life, I had to slow down and trust the Lord. After completing the program, a door opened for me at Liberty Lodge, which affords me the opportunity to continue growing. I'm forever grateful. "

- Gannon Davis