

My Testimony

Katrina H

"I, Katrina H..., am a 41 year old mother of three and I am an addict in recovery."

Prior to surrendering to Christ I was on a search for fulfillment through self-satisfaction.

Lately, I have asked myself just what am I recovering from. My answer: I am on the road to recovery from life's disappointments, pressures of parenting, roots of rejection and everything else in between. Renouncing my dependence on crack cocaine to soften the blows of my life's failures has allowed me to freely and honestly admit that life is complicated, difficult and quite frankly impossible to deal with without the presence of Jesus Christ.

Over the course of ten years of ups and downs, I had been laid off four times by two different companies. I struggled to become gainfully employed and simply could not withstand the pressures of the financial obligations that were required. I was a single mother who didn't receive any support from my children's fathers. I had a failed marriage and I just gave up. I was very unsure of my future. I had a strong desire to be in a secure relationship. Unfortunately, one relationship after another failed. I began using crack cocaine to fill my void, at first slowly but eventually became a full-fledged addict. My addiction took over my life at a slow pace but not as slow as I should have hoped for. I began being very negligent with my finances to the point of not paying anything at all. The drugs soon took over my life at such a rate that I didn't even see it coming. My entire world had been turned upside down all within one year. I had lost my house, my cars, my family and my job.

My mother had been calling all over God's creation trying to get me some help. I even tried to get help by visiting a local area hospital, but they would not provide any help for me because I was not on a detoxification narcotic. I lived out on the Camden streets for three more months, where I finally met Mr. John Maloney who works with an organization that, ministers to the homeless and addicted. Mr. Maloney put me in touch with Lucy DuBose from Fellowship House. On my 41st birthday, I met with Lucy at Fellowship House, where she prayed with me and for me, to trust in the Lord to guide me on my journey. After we talked more, Lucy recommended that I should go to the Bowery Mission in New York City, saying "this program is a wonderful once in a lifetime opportunity, please don't mess it up"!

Since I have entered into this program I can honestly say that I have learned so much about life's expectations through Christ. I am truly grateful for this opportunity, and I am learning that through Christ all things are possible. I refuse to continue to believe that I can control my destiny. With God as my strong hold, I will be able to conquer all. This is a significant message that plays constantly in my head. I have learned through my

spiritual lessons that going my own way and doing my own thing is not pleasing to God. God is waiting for me to be obedient to His will. God will bless my life through my faith in Him. I am learning to remove the influential hooks that Satan has put in my life. The events and circumstances in my life have caused me to accept Christ as the ONLY solution to my search for happiness and prosperity. I trust in God. I have been so impacted with God's love and forgiveness of my sins. Since my time at Bowery Mission my spiritual lessons have influenced and guided me towards Christ allowing me a thorough understanding of how and what it means to adore Him and to live in God's will. My thoughts, attitudes and emotions towards my family in Christ have been changed in such a remarkable way. I would have never imagined that I could possibly live and love this way. All my needs are being met through my faith in Christ. My relationship with the Father is so personal now. I look forward to being amazed by His work each day. My convictions are now welcoming signs of my acceptance of the Holy Spirit. I am convinced of the Lord's love and grace by his works in me.

Update

Since this testimony Katrina has graduated the program and has been working a full time job in New York. She recently has been offered a job in Florida and is excited about all God has planned for her.