



Lighthouse

News

Issue 7, Volume 70

THE STORIES YOU'RE CREATING  THE LIVES YOU'RE CHANGING

FREE DOM

in Christ

JULY 2019

From the Desk of Matt Dildine

This month we celebrate our country and the freedom that we are able to enjoy as citizens. It is a time of celebration because we all know that the freedoms we enjoy were not free, but earned through great hardship and loss.

When we met recently at the Academy Townhall meeting, there was no discussion about our Country or some theme for July. There were no red, white, and blue streamers. However, when the men shared their thoughts and feelings, there was an obvious theme: freedom.

Story after story, the men in our Academy program shared how free they felt from their old lives. Their past feelings of insecurity or shame have been replaced with hope. This kind of hope can only be found in a new identity in Christ. I felt so grateful to get to be part of this change. The men are so excited to tell about their new found freedom, we practically have to pry them away from the microphone. (You'll get the chance to hear some of their stories in this issue, as well as all of our ladies who are in the Rescue the Children program.) But as you looked around the room, you could not help but also see those who are still trapped. Christ has paid the debt for our freedom but that does not mean finding freedom is not without difficulty and hardship.

It takes a lot of hard work to kick an addiction. It is never easy and can be very painful to face the emotional trauma of our pasts. Growth is rarely without pain. So while we celebrate the freedoms that some men and women have found, we also pray, and ask you to pray with us, for those whose battle is still raging. We know that the people in the midst of these life-changing battles do not fight alone. Their battle is being fought by the person who already paid for their freedom.

P.S. If you want to see some fireworks, pay attention to what we have going on over the next six months. I can guarantee we will be making some explosive announcements.



Matthew Dildine
Chief Executive Officer



Because of your prayers and thoughtful donations, many of our men celebrated a fantastic Father's Day with their families.

Thank you!

FREEDOM

IN CHRIST

Freedom in Him has given me the love needed to overcome fear: to be firm and face decisions with Christ's word in my heart and to count it all joy. To love, even when it's hard, and to accept other people for who they are and what they do.

-Robert

I have freedom from my past, my mistakes, and all regret, because I am a NEW CREATION in Christ Jesus. No matter what is going on in my life, I have a soothing PEACE running through my heart, mind, and soul.

-Andre

Mary

Natalie

Andre

Freedom in Christ is knowing Him. It's having a relationship with Him. No matter what your temptation is, He will provide a way out if you ask Him. Being open and honest with Him is freedom. There's nothing He can't handle. You just have to give it to Him. He has freed me from my addiction. He has freed me from the cycle of abuse. He has freed me from my past hurts.

-Desiree

Robert

Freedom in Christ means getting a whole new life. I get to wake up in the morning with a smile on my face instead of a frown. Throughout the day I am able to use Christ and the word of God to get me through the rough spots instead of running and self medicating.

-Mary

Desiree

My whole life I've been looking for truth and freedom. When I came here I was in all kinds of bondage. This is real freedom. This freedom gives peace, strength, joy (even on the hard days), and a release from anxiety. In my daily life, freedom has allowed me to live in the moment. I get to become who I really am.

-Natalie



Kristin

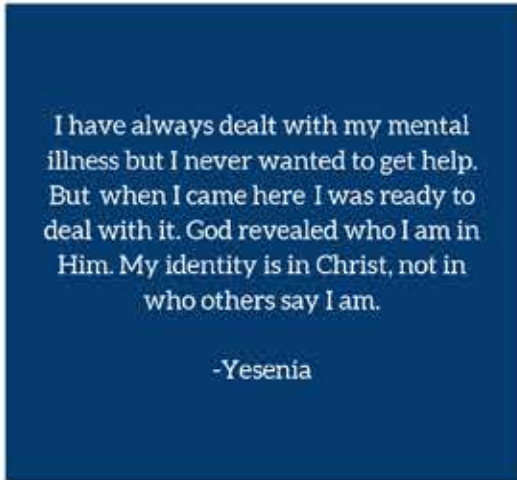
Freedom has allowed me to push forward in my life and not let my past define who I am today. I have been released from any strongholds in life that were holding me back from my potential.

-Nick

**AS WE CELEBRATE
OUR FREEDOMS IN
THIS GREAT NATION,**

**WE ALSO CELEBRATE
OUR NEW FOUND
FREEDOM IN CHRIST!**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY**



Yesenia

I have always dealt with my mental illness but I never wanted to get help. But when I came here I was ready to deal with it. God revealed who I am in Him. My identity is in Christ, not in who others say I am.

-Yesenia



Luis

I was really bound by all my brokenness. Coming here and getting closer to God taught me that life is worth living. I now have the ability to love myself and to love the people around me. I have the *freedom* to love myself and others.

-Kristin



Linda



Yesenia

Jesus Christ has forgiven me from addiction, suicidal thoughts, anger, lust, and feeling like I'm worthless. I thank my Lord, Jesus, for the precious blood He so graciously shed on the cross. Freedom in Christ to me means that all my chains have been broken.

-Luis



Nick

Freedom in Christ means that we are able to break the chains of our addictions. We are able to let go of that worry, anxiety, shame and guilt. We have self-worth and strength through Him. We're able to be still and know that He has us in any circumstance.

-Linda



"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." – James 5:16

1.

Praise God that He is bringing HOPE, HELP AND HEALING to all who are hurting.

2.

Pray for the Lord's protection over the homeless during these hot summer months.

3.

Pray for Mission staff to have strength and wisdom throughout this season.

4.

Pray for God to inspire our community to serve our hurting neighbors this summer by volunteering at the Mission.

5.

Pray for hope and healing as men & women seek new beginnings through our recovery programs.

6.

Pray for guests to experience God's love through our Chapel and meal services and committed volunteers.

Your prayers are POWERFUL.
Thank you for your support that changes lives!



Please copy and share with others!



SHARE YOUR
SUNSHINE!

92-DAY SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Please
help
today.



**Help our homeless neighbors
all 3 months of summer!**

Homelessness. Hunger. Struggling to make ends meet. Urgent needs for food, safe beds and immediate care don't stop during summer.

But with fewer donations at this time of year, it's more challenging to help men, women and children who are hungry and homeless.

PLEASE HELP TODAY! Just **\$2.05** provides a nourishing meal and care that will be the first step to a new life for hurting people right here in Fresno County this summer.

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me" - Matt 25:40

Scan now
to donate!



**To give now
scan with your
smart phone!**

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY

To benefit you & Fresno Rescue Mission

Would you like more income and financial security?

Do you own assets that produce little or no income?

Have you considered a charitable gift annuity in the past but weren't ready?

Learn more at **mbfoundation.com/cga**

For additional information on planned giving opportunities, contact Rick Porter | Email: Rporter@fresnorm.org | Phone: 559-293-4517



Let's hit the greens!

**2019 Healing Hearts Relief
GOLF TOURNAMENT**
September 16, 2019
Sunnyside Country Club

Title Sponsor

**Register to play or sign up for a
sponsorship on our website!**

FRESNO RESCUE MISSION, INC.

To mail a gift:

P. O. Box 1422, Fresno CA 93716-1422
Phone: (559) 268-0839
Fax: (559) 268-1317
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – 263 G Street, Fresno CA 93706



Please remember the Fresno
Rescue Mission
in your will or trust.

**Fall Celebration Banquet
October 22, 2019**



Tickets are available on our website!

FRM THRIFT STORE AND CARS – Sandra Patel, Director
181 E. Sierra, Fresno CA 93710 (559) 440-0870

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