



David recording the Saturday night Praise and Testimony Service for PGM's Television Program

BECAUSE OF GOD'S WORKMANSHIP I NOW SEE WITH NEW EYES


What speaks of the ever-present power of Christ more than witnessing a newly resurrected life? Pacific Garden Mission has been a spiritual hospital for countless lives over the years, and as we share in the celebration of the resurrection of Christ, we would like to share one example of God's workmanship. The story of David is about a young man who faced and overcame hardship with the help of God.

David

As David looks back, recounting his story of what led him to PGM, he is clear that he believes it was God.

Having asked for directions to a homeless shelter, David was told about Pacific Garden Mission by a friendly stranger on the street. "Just look for the 'Jesus Saves' sign, and you will know you've found it," the stranger told David.

Over the past several years, we've seen the population of homeless youth rise dramatically. Most of them find themselves without homes due to broken or troubled family life. Growing up, David too had a difficult childhood. Raised in a single parent household, David faced both verbal and sexual abuse. He also struggled through school while dealing with a learning disability and speech impediment. In



I learned how to let God guide me and to stay in communion with Him throughout the day.

his last year of school, David was attacked and beaten by a group of gang members, an attack that later required eye surgery and exacerbated David's existing struggles.

When David finally stepped into the dayroom at Pacific Garden Mission, he felt shock at the despair he felt when he acknowledged the state of his life. As he carried his only possessions upon his back, he did not know what to expect, but he knew something had to change.

"They told me about the Bible program at first, but I brushed the idea aside because I was too busy

trying to get to work and trying to survive. I wanted to save up and move out as fast as possible, but one day I had enough. I was tired of living the way I was, and I wanted to begin a new life."

David soon joined the New Life program and took the initial first steps on his new journey. He began to see the world differently.

"And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way." —Mark 10:52

"As I continued through the Bible program, I received new eyes for the world. Instead of seeing only injustice and trouble, I began to see hope and light in my daily life. I learned how to let God guide me and to stay in communion with Him throughout the day. I learned patience and trust again. My life path had led me to a point where

David volunteers at PGM's Unshackled! radio program. He is shown here with his mentor Martin Robinson.



“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” —Ephesians 2:10

I didn't trust anyone, but after being at PGM and experiencing brotherhood and fellowship I began to trust others again.”

David graduated from the New Life Bible program and is now in our second-year program. He has a job working at a local business and is a member of a church, attending weekly services and Bible studies. David has a family of believers behind him when he volunteers in the Unshackled! and television ministries. He may have come here for a plate of food and a safe place to rest, but David found a new foundation to build a God-honoring life. That foundation is Jesus Christ, and since 1877 has been the single most important part of Pacific Garden Mission.

“I am starting to trust others again. My childhood caused me not to trust anyone at all. I learned to let God guide me instead of trying to do it myself. I stay connected with God as much as I can. I read my Bible, pray, and stay away from those not living the way God intends. I have learned patience. If you can't trust anyone else in your life, I assure you, you can trust Jesus Christ.”

David's life has been made whole. The transformation that David has undergone through the power of God's spirit working in him would

not have been possible without you. To some, Pacific Garden Mission is a homeless shelter, to others, it is a church, and to others it is a spiritual hospital where the essence of Jesus Christ flows through the living to reach those that are still searching for new life. Through teamwork and faith, God is working through you to help us continue our legacy of sharing Jesus Christ. David's story is just one of so many lives forever changed in His name, and you help make that possible through PGM's ministry. A ministry that takes dedication and patience, and yields an eternal difference as we advance the Kingdom together.

David working at the register at a local business





RESURRECTION SUNDAY AT PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION

Small gestures of love can speak volumes to the hearts of people struggling. A warm meal served by caring hands of smiling volunteers can shine light in the most powerful darkness. Whether it is a mother and child, a man or woman in our Bible programs, or a lonely lost soul searching for answers, the Gospel message and the love of Jesus Christ

will be shared this spring season because of you.

“And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole” —Matthew 14:3

GIVE NOW pgm.org/donate





A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

HELPING THE ADDICTED

"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Psalm 11:3

David asks a great question that is applicable to today. The foundations of our society are being destroyed right before our eyes; biblical morality is being replaced by a trendy subjective morality that is no morality at all. The legalization of marijuana, and the drive to legitimize gambling and the like will have profound effects on society. Many enrolled in our addiction program will tell you that marijuana was the gateway drug to many others.

One resident writes, "I was introduced to marijuana by my family at the age of ten. From then on I could never get enough, which led me to alcohol use and heroin addiction. I found myself stealing from my parents, neglecting my hygiene, and stealing from stores, which led to my incarceration for ten years. As I reflect back on my life I realize before marijuana I was a good kid. I decided to come to PGM's Bible program, which helped me

become rooted and grounded in the Lord, which in turn granted me a new perspective and meaning in life."

Another guest writes, "I started smoking marijuana at the age of 13 and continued until the age of 27. This became a vicious cycle which led to my experimenting with other drugs such as cocaine and heroin. Being here at PGM has opened my eyes to the destructive path my life was on. Now, as I'm learning what intimacy with Christ looks and feels like, I no longer have to look for love in all the wrong places."

These stories are reflective of the many I have heard. These men and so many others can only be set free by the gospel of Jesus Christ. To answer David's question, as society continues to struggle with the consequences of their decisions, we need to proclaim the truth. And, as light shines in darkness, we realize no matter how dark it gets the Lord promises, "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Thank you for your support of the New Day biblical addictions recovery program. On behalf of so many that have been set free, thank you. Your loyalty to our ministry makes this possible.

Pastor Phil greets a disabled guest in the PGM men's day room.



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GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

**“Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.”
—Isaiah 56:7**

In the late 1800's Pacific Garden Mission was incorporated as a church. We have never been a Mission with a chapel in it. We are a church and a house of prayer, and for that reason, this Gospel Rescue Mission became a steady and narrow path to the Kingdom because, like Jesus, we put prayer first.

We love God first, and after that, we love our neighbors. Who are our neighbors? The beneficiaries (our guests) and our donors (you). We

love, bless, and minister to all the guests who walk through these doors of hope. I myself meet, share my testimony and the Gospel with, and pray for the new men who arrive on Saturday nights.

We also want to love, bless, and minister to our family of donors. We know you have a heart for ministry, and your desire to help those who have lost hope and need Jesus Christ inspires us every day. You are a blessed part of this ministry, and it is our honor to pray for you.

From October 2018 to March 2019 we made over 2,300 prayer calls to our family of donors across America to thank them for their faith and support. If you would like someone to pray with you or for your family and if you haven't heard from us yet, please fill out the enclosed prayer card and return it to us. It is a blessing to serve alongside you in our shared commitment to live out and share God's Word.

THE IMPACT WE MAKE TOGETHER

Pacific Garden Mission's budget is completely donor-funded. We receive no government funding. We are eternally grateful for the individuals, businesses, churches, and foundations that make it possible for PGM to serve thousands of homeless men, women, and children each year.

When you support us financially, you're not only giving *to* the Mission, but *through* the Mission to people that need your help the most. In February your support made a true difference:

On average, **579** homeless people receive aid and Gospel services each day

129 men and women are enrolled in Bible study programs and provided room and board

12 mothers with their children sheltered

About **51,284** plates of food served

39,738 items of clothing distributed

257 patients treated in our free medical/dental clinic

411 people professed faith in Christ

3,104 media outlets around the world broadcasting *Unshackled!*

Learn more by visiting Pacific Garden Mission, where lost souls find hope, compassion, and purpose.