

Jesus Saves at PGM!



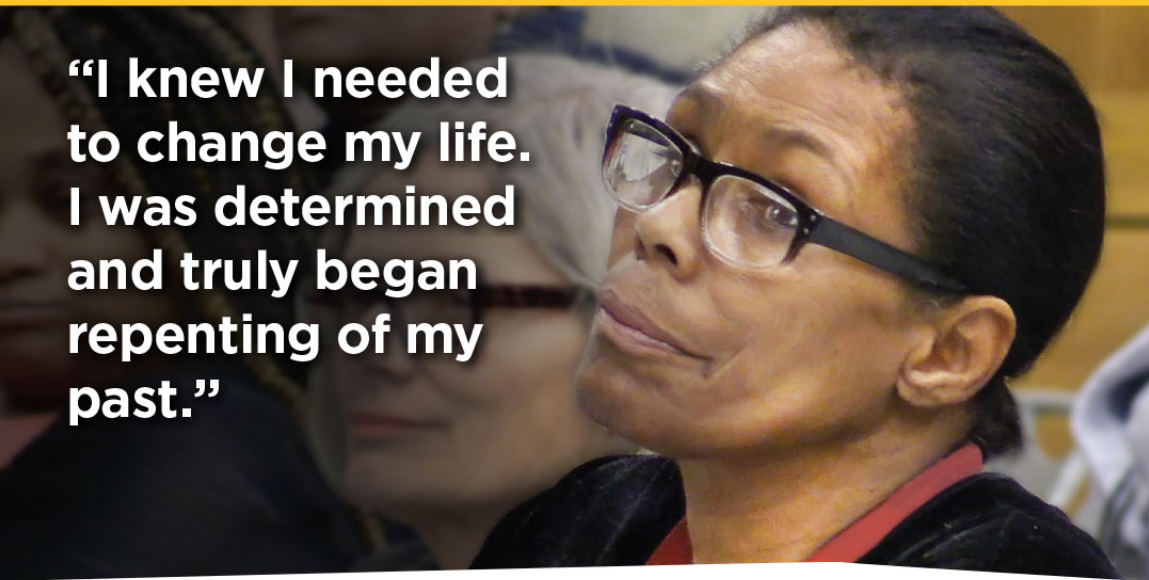
THE GOSPEL IS BEING PROCLAIMED AT PGM BECAUSE OF YOU!

Knowing the truth, power, and beautiful simplicity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ can be enlightening wisdom to a believer. Souls are being saved at Pacific Garden Mission, and the peace and contentment this knowledge brings is what we strive to share in the lives of the lost souls that come to us. You are an active and important part of this ministry. Many of those we help come seeking food, shelter, and safety and end up leaving with a gift from God that can never be lost—eternal salvation! Whether young or old, lifelong transformation at any age is possible. The beginning of this spiritual journey begins here within

these walls of hope which you help to provide.

NOVA

"I started getting high at the age of 13. I would sneak behind my mother's back and drink her alcohol. During my childhood, I was molested. And because of this, I really didn't have any feelings. My emotions were numb. The drug use continued, which seemed to be driven mainly because of the abusive relationships I found myself in. At the age of 20, I went to Gospel League for help. This was the PGM's women's facility back then, but I was still in my madness and left there



“I knew I needed to change my life. I was determined and truly began repenting of my past.”

without changing my ways. My lifestyle of addiction and pain continued for another 40 years.

“Recently, right before I came here, a man forcefully shot me with a needle of heroin behind my garage, and I overdosed. They announced me DOA (dead on arrival), but God was good and brought me out of it. When I was in the hospital, I talked to some of the ladies that worked at PGM and also talked to Pastor Phil. They gave me hope and invited me back again.

“From the age of 17 to 59, I had been coming through the program at PGM off and on. That is a long time to struggle with something so painful and powerful. I used to think I was really strong, but He broke me down until I had tears in my eyes. I promised God if he kept me in the right state of mind and helped keep me off of drugs and alcohol, I would graduate this time from the New Life Bible program. I felt like I owed that to Him. God has

pulled me out of so many gutters. He knew I was tired, and I think He found ways to make me tired, but He kept me from taking my life. I have two children and five grandchildren as well, and because of that and my age I knew I needed to change my life. I was determined and truly began repenting of my past.

I used to think I was really strong, but He broke me down until I had tears in my eyes.

“This time, I graduated the Bible program. I have been clean since I came here. Out in the streets, I didn’t have any support. But when I got here, I had support. It took me awhile to adjust to having people help and care for me because I was so used to being on my own. I asked God to remove the urges to use drugs because I know He is the one that can keep me going and kept me clean. I know where I have been, and I

“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”

—Jeremiah 29:13

know the things I have done, and I am looking forward to the journey God has for me now. I hurt a lot of people out there doing the things I was doing—and when I felt guilty about something, there wasn't any hesitation for me to go get drunk or high. But now, I pray and get into the Word. While I don't understand the whole book, I put into practice what I *do understand* and continue to ask God to reveal what I *don't understand* . . . because everyday, I want to be more like Him.

“When they told me I was going to graduate, that was the best day of my life. It took me 42 years of trying to get clean and finally graduate from the Bible program. I was so excited when I graduated—I didn't know whether I should cry or be happy and laugh. It showed me that God changed me and kept me. I have still been struggling with

some things. But God didn't let me go back to using drugs, and that's one way I know things have changed in me. I often turn to my favorite verse in the Bible.

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and



Nova volunteers in the laundry department cleaning the linens for over 150 women staying at PGM

Nova has found genuine support and friendship among the staff and sisters in the PGM programs



I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

—Psalm 23:1-6

Nova has been freed from a life of addiction, pain, and guilt. Turning her life over to God, she is now able to begin the process of healing and mending broken relationships. There is a lot to work on after living a transient life of addiction for over

40 years. She can have peace and take comfort in the support and love surrounding her in this nurturing ministry. Everything she needs, both spiritually and physically, are available for her as she learns to walk in a Christlike way. It is truly never too late for someone to transform their life through Jesus Christ. Your support helps provide lost souls with the resources to build a new life.

"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENS ME."

—PHILIPPIANS 4:13

When we open our hearts to Christ, our burdens fall away. Once we take in the Gospel's message, through the Word, anything is possible.

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



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

FIGHTING ON THE FRONT LINE OF BATTLE

**“The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.”
—Ecclesiastes 1:9**

The headline of an article in Forbes says, “Why suicide has become an epidemic and what we can do to help.”

Another headline in *The New York Times* says, “THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC, A CRISIS YEARS IN THE MAKING”.

We at Pacific Garden Mission agree...we continue to see so many affected by opioids and individuals that have contemplated or attempted suicide. But is this actually a new crisis, and is there an answer? I recently was sent a booklet written in 1901 titled, “Record of the Twenty-Fourth Year of the Pacific Garden Mission.” What struck me was a section that talked about individuals experiencing hopelessness, who “in their desperation they are driven to

what is becoming a dreadful mania-suicide. The coroner’s inquests, the victims of the lake and the alarming increase of the opiate curse all confirm this fact.”

This could have been written in 2020, not 1901. Man’s problems are the same, but so is the solution—**not behavior modification but spiritual transformation by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Pray for us as we continue to see a number of both young and old struggling with heroin. Some are depressed, some suicidal, but we will continue to do what we have always done—offer hope through Jesus Christ. Thank you for your support, and continue to pray for us. Your prayers lift us up on the front line of the battle.

Reference:

Suicide is a #GlobalHealth #Epidemic. Especially among the world’s young people. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/nicolefisher/2018/06/15/suicide-isnt-a-u-s-problem-its-a-global-health-epidemic/>



Nova celebrates her transformed life in Christ with Pastor Phil



GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

Many people ask what makes Pacific Garden Mission stand apart from other treatment facilities and shelters. The answer, which you already know as a faithful supporter, is that we are centered upon the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

A majority of people who come here have tried every other treatment and measure possible to escape addiction or to overcome the circumstances that led them to become homeless. A young woman who recently graduated from our New Day Program wrote:

"Having a faith-based drug addiction program at PGM is really good. I don't think I would have made it through if it wasn't. I feel like a weight has been lifted off of my shoulders because anywhere I am, whether on the train or walking down the street, I can call upon the Lord. I am just really grateful for

this experience. It was like I was drawn to it, and I am more than grateful for my dad telling me about PGM and helping me to get here."

—Bethany

As we partner up in ministry always be prayerful and aware of anyone in need around you who may benefit from joining either our free addictions recovery program or our one-year Bible discipleship program. Your heartfelt advice may connect someone to a life changing opportunity. Together we are ambassadors for Christ and reach the lost with the Gospel of Christ.

Thank you for your prayers and faithful support that keep the Gospel message alive through radio and television at America's oldest Gospel rescue mission, where JESUS SAVES! Together we are called according to His purpose and will worship Him forever.

On Sunday, April 12, we celebrate our risen Savior. Have a glorious Resurrection Sunday. Jesus is Alive!

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 who need your help the most. In February, your support made a true difference:

On average, **515** homeless people received aid and Gospel services each day

107 men and women were enrolled in Bible study programs and provided room and board

About **74,600** plates of food were served

13 mothers with their children stayed at PGM

17,860 items of clothing were distributed

236 patients received free medical/dental treatment

221 people professed faith in Christ

3,138 media outlets around the world broadcasted *Unshackled!*