



YOU ARE HELPING TO SHARE THE GOSPEL

When Judy took her first steps into Pacific Garden Mission, she felt a peace within her heart, and without words, she somehow knew she would overcome her troubles. She might not have known at that very moment that she would soon become a born-again believer in Jesus Christ, but God gave her a feeling of peace that led her to be still. Be encouraged as you read her testimony, and know it is only because of your help that Judy's story is possible.

JUDY

"I am from Tulsa, Oklahoma. I was in a common law marriage for 26 years,

and we were using drugs all during that time. At the end of my marriage, which was right before I came here, I decided I didn't want to use drugs anymore. The person I was with was still using methamphetamines and had no intention of quitting. I was giving him money to pay the bills, but they were not getting paid. We had already been kicked out of two houses and were living in a motel room. The morning I left Tulsa, he came in and said 'Judy! We are about to get kicked out of here. If you are going to work, you better get ready right now.' I was so upset. I just started crying, and something came over me . . . *I just didn't want to be there anymore.*

"I left Tulsa. I stayed with my



sister-in-law for about three months. Then, I called my daughter, who was in Chicago, and asked her to buy me a bus ticket to come. I had never been in a city this big—I was a little scared. My daughter came to pick me up, and we took the bus around Chicago to look at different shelters for a place to stay. My daughter and I didn’t have a lot of bus money, and every one of the shelters we tried said, ‘No, we are full. It’s wintertime . . . we don’t have any openings.’ And about halfway through our search, we ran out of bus money

and had to walk the rest of the way.

“We found PGM, and as soon as I stepped onto the property, I had this feeling of calmness come over me—I just felt at peace instantly. Once inside, I went through intake, then into the auditorium where everyone sits . . . I was a little taken aback. They started talking about God immediately. I had always believed in God, but I was the type that only called on God when I needed Him.

“The next morning, we had pancakes, and we began to go to church three times a day. I was in the day room for a good

nine months, and one evening, I heard another pastor speak. I never knew what ‘born again’ was. I had heard the words before, but I didn’t know what it meant. So, when this pastor explained it here in a service, it just all hit me like a ton of bricks. I was like ‘wait a minute . . . born again means being renewed.’



Judy and Craleasha have cheerful fellowship in the women’s library.

"I knew that if I was really going to do this and follow God, I needed to get off marijuana. So, I decided to go through the drug program, and I made it! I haven't smoked weed for over two years now, and I am so proud of myself because I didn't think that I would ever be able to do that.

"This place has such an airy feeling . . . like a sanctuary, I guess you could say. The counselors were great. They were always nice, and their doors were always open if we wanted to talk to them. They would help us anyway they could. They just wanted us to know that Jesus is real.

"I graduated from both the 90-day New Day drug program and the one-year Bible program. I am happy about that. With all this schooling, I didn't think I would be able to do it. But now, I actually look forward to the classes. I love learning about Jesus and the Bible—there is nothing like it, and I just love it all the way. To come here and not know anything, what's inside of it (the Bible), to knowing what I know now is great. I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world.

"I found out that everything they say about God is true. You feel so good inside. You're just happy, and you wonder, 'Wow, why didn't I do this sooner?' I could have had this feeling all



Judy participating in a Career Development class in the PGM courtyard.

those years, while instead, I was making myself feel horrible with drugs. So, it's amazing, and I would tell anybody who is thinking about doing this to come to the place where 'Jesus Saves' because He really does save. I know that in my heart and have no doubt at all."

From the first intake counselor Judy met, all the way through to the pastors, teachers, and mentors who aided her through the New Day and New Life programs, Judy has been surrounded by support. Together, we can provide both the physical and spiritual resources needed to build a new life in Christ, including the vital human elements of support, wisdom, and fellowship. As a donor, you are helping to provide an environment that's safe and nourishing, and more importantly, a message that's transformational.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" —John 1:12 KJV

THE HUMAN ELEMENT —WE THANK YOU

One of the most effective and powerful methods of reaching someone in the depths of hardship and torment is through our compassion, time, and outreach. As physical needs are met and our guests begin to learn how to live a new life in Christ, the relationships and fellowship they experience at PGM become vital sources of encouragement and wisdom for these recovering, newly-born believers.

And through God's healing hand, this fellowship also begins mending the hearts of those who have lived in strained relationships for much of their lives. They learn to build trust in people again through daily interactions here, leading to some of the most meaningful moments of healing and growth in our guests. But without you, these human elements of ministry—through counselors, teachers, pastors, and all other forms of fellowship reflecting Christ—would not be possible. So, on their behalf, we thank you.



With your encouragement and support, we minister hope to the homeless, addicted, and brokenhearted.



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski
President, Pacific Garden Mission

BECAUSE FAMILY MATTERS

“And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.” —Luke 18:1

“And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?” —Luke 18:7

A sign in the auditorium in the old Mission building used to read “Mothers’ prayers follow you.” That saying still rings true today. I have heard countless testimonies of people who have come here, because of unforeseen events, saying they have a praying relative or parent.

Recently, we had a graduation from our New Day addictions program, where I heard a moving testimony. Graduate Erving Kyles stated that his brother came to the Mission in 1989, and Jesus changed his life. For years, his brother would always tell him about the Lord and encourage him to go to the Mission—and for years, he refused. Things continued to go downhill for Erving, until he remembered his brother’s admonition.

But now, on graduation night, with Erving’s children and brother sitting in the audience watching, I saw a man testify to his faith in Christ and deliverance from drugs. His brother prayed for over 30 years, and on that night, answered



With tears of joy, Erving is embraced by his brother at the graduation podium.

prayer was evident. I had Erving’s brother give him his certificate, and on stage, they embraced—now not only as biological brothers, *but also as spiritual brothers.*

Some of our clients have been prayed for by family members for years, and when they walk through our doors, they remember, “Mothers’ prayers follow you.”

Be encouraged as you pray, both for those close to you who need to know God’s deliverance and for guests of Pacific Garden Mission. We see God answer these prayers every day here—so as Jesus told us, keep praying and don’t give up!

GIVE NOW pgm.org/donate



GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

It is a joy to report what God is doing here at Pacific Garden Mission. Each month, we select and highlight one life transformed by the Gospel of Christ. There are many such stories. We see the fruit of your thoughts, prayers, and faithful support every day. Hundreds of people are touched by the Gospel of Christ, the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:29).

Since 1877, God has kept PGM open continuously—through wars, pandemics, riots, and the Great Depression—because we are faithful in proclaiming the Gospel and discipling men and women with His Word. God uses your support to make this ministry possible and viable through even the darkest days.

In June, we learned that the city and the state health departments lifted the restrictions imposed on us through the COVID-19 pandemic. The virus crippled us for a season—but now, we are safe and well. We stand encouraged and in complete gratitude for your prayers as we move forward, with excitement, into re-opening to full capacity once again.

Never has the world been so in need of the only message that can bring

lasting change. Your support provides the Gospel proclamation locally, here at the Mission, and globally through *Unshackled!* radio and the Pacific Garden Mission television programs. And thankfully, these ministries of Pacific Garden Mission continued through 2020 and 2021.

We hope you will come to visit us and experience firsthand what God is doing here at PGM. Every Saturday, we have tours, the live radio drama of *Unshackled!*, dinner in the cafeteria, and the praise and testimony service, preached by our president, Pastor Phil Kwiatkowski.

You can sign up on our website (go to “Get Involved” and then “Tours and Events”) or call us.

Saturday Destination Experience at PGM

2:00 pm: Tour the Mission

3:00 pm: *Unshackled!* live recording

4:15 pm: Dinner in the café

5:00 – 6:00 pm: Saturday night praise and testimony service

Last month, we mailed a survey to Pacific Garden Mission supporters to learn more about how we can best minister to you. If you have not yet returned your survey, please fill it out and return it today! Thank you.

Spiritual counseling and Bible study are key activities at PGM for helping the needy grow in Christ.

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