



Theo Jones

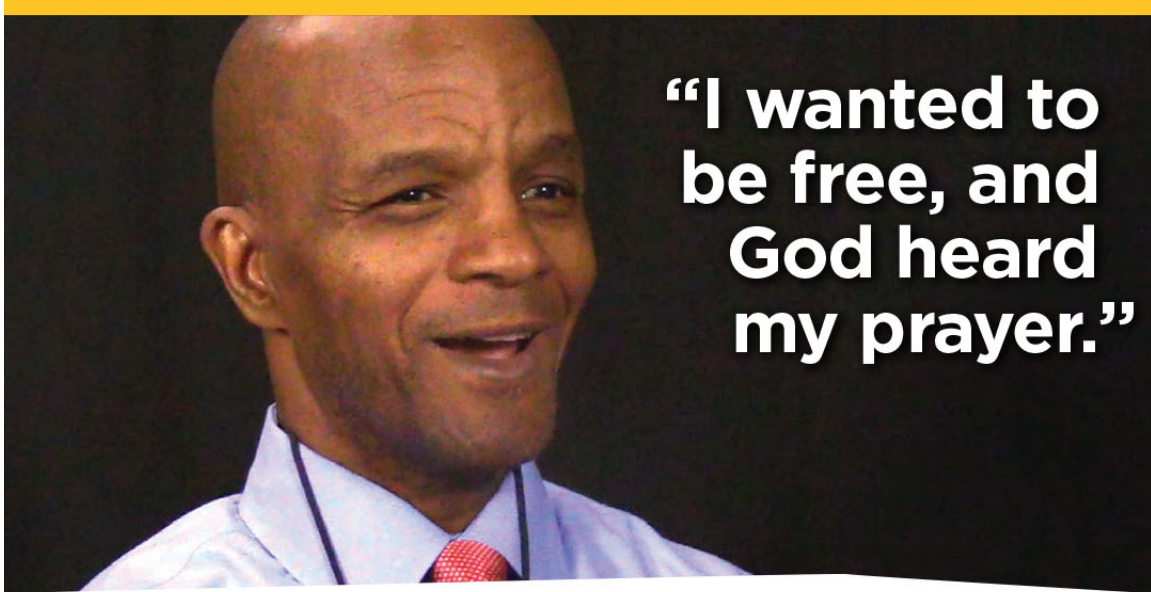
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

During Pacific Garden Mission's 143 years of frontline ministry, we have repeatedly witnessed transformations that help shed the myth that some people are beyond help and hope. Theodore Jones came to PGM homeless and drug-addicted seven years ago and is now our New Day Program addictions manager. His testimony displays the truth that **no person is beyond the reach of God's love and healing**. The New Day program you make possible at Pacific Garden Mission breaks strongholds and solves the problem of addictions biblically. *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is **the power of God** unto salvation to every one that believeth"* (Romans 1:16). We

know it is God doing these miracles, and He is working through His children. **With your faithful support, stories like Theo's are happening every day.**

THEO

"When I came to the Pacific Garden Mission in 2013, and I walked through those doors, I asked God, I begged Him; I prayed and said, 'Lord, if you deliver me from these drugs I will do whatever you ask of me.' I like to say that I was 'Broke, Busted, and Disgusted.' I didn't want to go back to the life of living in abandoned buildings, where all your resources and income go to the drug addiction. I had a drive and a determination this



time. I wanted to be free, and God heard my prayer. When I came here, that was the turning point, and when the transformation began, I knew my future was going to be much better than my past.

“Upon arriving at PGM, I enrolled in the New Life Bible program, and Jesus touched my heart, and He began to transform my life. I had nothing, absolutely nothing, except my relationship with Jesus Christ, and it gave me a joy that I could not explain. Words can’t express my gratitude and appreciation. Before I came to the mission, I was suicidal; I wanted to die. I was in a state of hopelessness due to my addiction. Today I have been sober almost seven years, and I can’t express how good it feels to be free from the bondage of addiction and to walk with Jesus Christ. In the classes, I learned the Word of God, and a lot of great things have transpired because I went

through the Bible program at Pacific Garden Mission.

“When I reached the end of my program, Pastor Phil approached me and said he was getting ready to start an addictions recovery program. I was so excited because my passion was addictions recovery. I was going back to school to get my master’s degree in addictions study, and so I returned to school and got my CADC (Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor) certification. The Mission started their New Day addictions recovery program about five years ago, and today I am the manager of the program which is a



Theo teaching and engaging with New Day class.

“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” —John 8:36

free residential 44-bed program, and we help every walk of life. From opioid addiction to alcoholism, the program has been tremendously successful, and I have realized my calling: letting the Word and power of God heal and transform.

“My past substance abuse addiction now plays a significant role in my counseling to people that come through our addictions program. I can empathize and show compassion because I understand how it feels to be an addict. I understand the pressure and the pain and the suffering that people go through with their addiction. When you are addicted, you have a sense of hopelessness, and today I can share my experiences to relate with my clients and let them know regardless of where they have been or what they have gone through,



Theo and Beth

there is still hope.

“God not only allowed me to become employed and become the manager of the program, but he also gave me a heart for the people that suffer from addiction. Working at Pacific Garden Mission is more than a job. It is a ministry of Jesus Christ where you get this privilege and opportunity to help people less fortunate than yourself. I met my wife here at the mission! She is the nurse here. We have been married about three years now, and it has been the best three years of my life. She is my best friend and my support. God has done some great and fabulous things

in my life. I am just so grateful for Pacific Garden Mission. I always say that Pacific Garden Mission saved my life and gave me a wife. Jesus Christ, the power of His Gospel, that is what is changing lives here at the Mission, and I am blessed to be able to be a part of it.”



Theo handing out diplomas during a recent New Day graduation

“The Bible says ‘Who the Son sets free is free indeed.’”

Stories like Theo’s remind and encourage us of the ever-present power of God, and as Jesus Christ continues to transform lives, we will share them with you. With your faithful and connected support, a safe, wholesome, and Christ-

centered place like PGM can exist.

Everything is here to enable a person to rebuild their life spiritually, physically, and emotionally. No one is alone here; no one is beyond hope and what man can’t do God can. Thank you for your help.

THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS AT PGM



Thousands of warm meals and messages of hope will be served during this time, and we thank you for helping to make this possible. A light shines the brightest where it is darkest, and here at Pacific Garden Mission you are helping to shine the light of the Gospel into the lives of those who come here.



GIVE NOW pgm.org/donate



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski
President, Pacific Garden Mission

A CHRISTMAS WELCOME

“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” —Luke 2:10

Christmas is a special season; we celebrate the coming of the one that died in our place as well as spending time with those we love the most.

For many, thoughts center on a meal in a warm house with a fireplace and presents scattered around a well-lit tree. Many of our most treasured childhood memories go back to this season, going to bed with great anticipation about the morning that would soon arrive. In the morning, running down the stairs, still in your pajamas with uncombed hair, pulling Mom and Dad along, excited about the prospect of what was neatly wrapped under the tree.

But for residents at Pacific Garden Mission, this season can be painful. For some, this season reminds them of broken relationships and

unfulfilled dreams. On Christmas morning they wake up in a shelter, facing another day in the struggle just to survive. Life on the streets can be cold, unfriendly, and even dangerous.

Last year one female resident would just be in tears during the holidays, and she mentioned to me that the seasons remind her about the mother she no longer had.

Then I think of the children that reside here. When they first arrive in an unfamiliar environment, they wrap their arms around the only security they have, their mother's leg and the few belongings they arrive with.

Your support of Pacific Garden Mission helps to provide a safe, warm, Christ-centered environment for all. You provide the food, shelter, and gifts to make their time here a season to be cherished and remembered.

During this season think of the less fortunate at Pacific Garden Mission, and thank you for the prayer, love, and support to make a difficult

season a little easier for those with nowhere to go. Proverbs 19:17 says, “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.”

This Christmas, let's remember the poor.



Pastor Phil and PGM team preparing to serve the homeless this Christmas



GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

Many of us who were hopeless walked through these doors of hope and experienced God's kind of love for the first time—an experience one never forgets.

When I see the crowds of men, women, and families sitting down to a hot dinner during this brutal winter season, I immediately think of you.

You have provided these meals, you have ensured there are cooks in the kitchen and counselors at the tables, ready to pray with guests and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. You have given sacrificially so these men and women might experience the gift of God's love.

Thank you for sharing God's gifts—especially at this time of year when we remember that God is the ultimate giver, for He gave His only Son!

And God is giving us tremendous opportunities for ministry as He sends more people here, looking for hope at Pacific Garden Mission. This is the busiest time of year—we normally see the numbers of people increase by 25% - 40%—and the time when the need for support is felt most deeply. This December, would you consider a special Christmas gift above and beyond your regular giving?

**May your heart be full of joy
this season as we celebrate the
inexpressible gift of Jesus Christ.**

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 October your support made a true difference:

On average, **609** homeless people received aid and Gospel services each day

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

About **52,634** plates of food were served

17 mothers with their children stayed at PGM

46,057 items of clothing were distributed

255 patients received free medical/dental treatment

389 people professed faith in Christ

3,116 media outlets around the world broadcasted *Unshackled!*

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