



## THANK YOU FOR A NEW DAY!

Many of the men and women who have come to Pacific Garden Mission for support, oftentimes with a crippling addiction in tow, have shared how despite their successful completion of other treatment programs in the past, they were still left with a spiritual void in their hearts. Sadly, this eventually led them back into the grips of their addiction. Their minds may have been filled with useful knowledge, but their hearts were left unbearably empty.

**Our New Day Addictions Recovery Program is deliberately and prayerfully designed to interweave both Biblical teachings and practical addictions recovery education. The**

**balance between the two makes our New Day Addictions Program unique, and it's with YOUR help that men and women are finding both sobriety and spiritual freedom in Jesus Christ here at PGM.**

### ERVING

"I struggled with crack cocaine and alcohol for about 15 years. I was the type of addict that would get paid on Fridays, then go home and give my wife the money we needed to take care of the bills, plus a little money for her pocket. But the rest . . . I would take that and get high. Then, I worked odds and ends jobs to make more money so I could keep getting high during the week. My wife saw my life going down

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the drain. She saw how my body and my health were declining. And things I needed, or our future plans I wanted for us . . . she saw those could never happen with my addiction. My wife and I finally decided to separate until God changed some things in my life.

“My brother told me about the program here. He was in the Bible program at PGM years ago. When I was struggling in my addiction, he would encourage me and say if I wanted God to change my life, if I wanted a great life . . . a spiritual life, then I should get into the Bible program at PGM. My brother would say ‘I promise you, I promise your life will change.’ But I didn’t listen to him.

“What really led me here to Pacific Garden Mission is one night, I was asleep, and the Lord showed me a vision. He came to me in my sleep. I believe that was the Holy Spirit, and He said to just leave everything. I was going through my addiction, and I still had that hurt from leaving my wife and grandbabies. That was ok though

because I believe God had another plan for me, and I truly believe PGM was part of the plan.

“I can remember, on December the

***“Therefore if any man  
be in Christ, he is a new  
creature: old things are  
passed away; behold, all  
things are become new.”  
—2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)***

18th of 2020, when I first came here to Pacific Garden Mission and rang the front doorbell. A lady came to the door. I didn’t know who she was, and I was asking how I could get in. The woman on security said I had to go around to the men’s entrance, and if no one was at the gate, to wait until they got back from lunch. My plan then was to get back on the subway and go back to the neighborhood, but I don’t think I would have made it back here alive. As I started walking away, she said,

'No, don't leave!' in a concerned and authoritative way that showed she cared. As I left, I heard her voice in my head asking me to stay over and over. So, I turned around and went into Pacific Garden Mission. I truly believe God spoke through her that day.

"I just thank God for what He is doing right now because if it had not been for this New Day program and the teachers and preachers here, I probably wouldn't be alive. There have been times in a New Day class when my mind starts to drift away, and the teacher will say 'Erving! We are still in the classroom, and whatever you are thinking, you talk about *that*. And before we leave this class, we are going to make sure that God fixes it.'

"The support you get out of the program and the classes here . . . it's amazing. They are not just working for a check; they are working for the Spirit of God. They want to see you clean and successful in life. I am so glad those worldly things are out of my life, and I want to be totally honest—not just with myself now, but also with the Lord. I am looking forward to finishing the New Day program and going into the New Life Program. My whole attitude has changed . . . I thank God He has given me the desire to just stay put.

"I'm excited about the new me. I think differently—I know I talk differently—and I feel like I can be successful in this. This program here is what I actually needed. I have the opportunity to escape the worldly things and get into the Word of God. I used to say that I knew Jesus was



Erving studies with his friend and mentor, Austin, who graduated in May from the New Life Bible Program.

going to fix it for me, but now I *believe* He fixed it.

"I talked to my brother and told him where I was. He said, 'That's a good thing. If I can do it, you can do it!' He is a pastor of a church now. He said not to worry about anything I left behind . . . just focus on Jesus. He said everything I need—and even everything I want—is in Jesus . . . right here at Pacific Garden Mission. Everything he told me, in those exact words, was right."

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**During his testimony, Erving mentioned going through several outside treatment regimens. None were able to keep him sober, and it wasn't until he opened his heart to God that he was able to truly surrender. What a hundred self-help books and treatment programs can teach does not take root and grow into steadfast life-changing knowledge until the emptiness is filled. It is only the love of Jesus Christ that can fill broken and empty hearts, and that's exactly what your help is leading these hurting hearts to. You are helping to fulfill the Great Commission every day. Thank you!**

# CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE

As we celebrate America's independence this July 4th, it offers both a symbolic and welcome respite for the New Day Addictions Recovery and New Life Bible Program students. While partaking in lighthearted fellowship, these men and women are able to reflect and look forward to their new independence in Jesus Christ. We thank everyone who has donated to this specific event, as well as those who donate to the Mission as a whole. Your resources are being used to make the broken whole again and to teach them how to build new, fulfilling experiences where they walk with, and reflect the light of, Jesus Christ. For many, starting a new life from scratch can be an intimidating and daunting task, but with the resources you help provide, it is possible.



**GIVE NOW at [pgm.org](http://pgm.org)**



## A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

### STANDING ON THE WORD

**Since 1877, Pacific Garden Mission has been on the front lines, battling the forces of darkness with the one weapon at the disposal of all believers: “the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Ephesians 6:17).**

I believe God’s Word contains the answers to life, and it’s His Word that we continue to stand upon every day. The words at the beginning of the Gideon’s Bible could not be stated any better:

*The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.*

*Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.*

*It is the traveler’s map, the pilgrim’s staff, the pilot’s compass, the soldier’s sword and the Christian’s charter. Here too, Heaven is opened and the gates of Hell disclosed.*

*Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is*

*a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure.*

*It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.*

We started the New Day drug program a number of years ago, and I can tell you that the results have been staggering. Drugs continue to poison our country, destroy our cities, break up our families, and lead people into a dark abyss from which many think there is no hope for a way out. Many have tried medical treatment, therapy, counseling, and the like to get off drugs, but when they encounter Jesus Christ through His Word . . . I have seen countless lives completely set free. I have witnessed families reunited, employees return to work, sons and daughters brought back to parents. I have seen miracles.

**Continue to pray for our New Day Manager, Theo, as he leads this amazing program, and on behalf of so many who have found deliverance, thank you for your prayers and support. The battle still rages, the stakes are high, but the Old Lighthouse still stands as a beacon of hope to the multitudes who seek refuge inside our doors.**



## GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,  
Director of Development

**The answer to homelessness is more than shelter, meals, or a job. However, each of those needs lead people to the solution—a transformed heart in the right environment. Since 1877, we have found only one solution to the seemingly infinite reasons for homelessness—Jesus Christ and the Gospel.**

Unfortunately, without proper discipleship, the seeds of new life often struggle and sometimes can't take root to bear good fruit. It takes years to disciple men and women with the Word of God. We can see this in the Gospels, where Jesus spent three years with His disciples, which then gave birth to the Church and even more disciples.

When people come here, most are in a world of pain. They have

nothing and no one, and they often have minimal means for survival. The day they arrive here at the Mission, they desperately need to eat and sleep in a safe place.

**But, because of your faithful support, they get so much more!**

Here, many find a Savior. They find a Christian family. They discover, for the first time, the life-changing truth of the Gospel. They learn of their heavenly Father who values them deeply. They begin to see a whole different future as they observe other mature Christians walk by faith. They enter into a new life through faith in Christ!

Yes, YOU support all of this and more through our free residential discipleship programs. Each program can last 2-3 years, culminating in a man or woman making a tremendous difference in God's kingdom. Thank you for your eternal investment and Godly stewardship.



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

**PGMNews** JULY 2021 • Vol.86, No.7  
Published monthly by Pacific Garden Mission  
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