



Sabrina with her children
Gina and Olivia

SAVING A FAMILY

There would be no stories of transformation without you and Jesus.

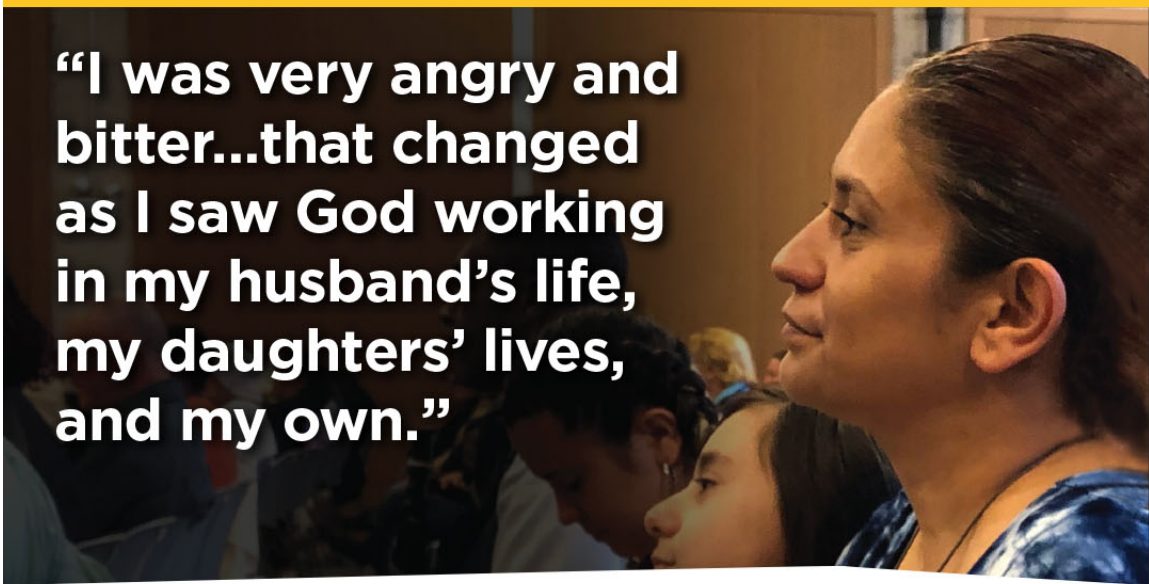
SABRINA

“I thought I had failed as a mom. For two years, my daughters and I were homeless, and while my husband, Tony, was in jail, we were bouncing around staying with different family and friends. Some of the people we stayed with were drinking, using drugs, and involved with gangs. I hadn’t realized how toxic and unhealthy some people were until I lived with them. I truly felt as if our lives were over and that my kids would think that I’m the worse mom. I came to realize that to keep my kids

safe from the influence of these people, I needed to bring my daughters to the safety of Pacific Garden Mission.

“My husband, Tony, had come to PGM after getting out of jail and had joined the Bible Program to get his life together. After he had been in the program for nine months, I decided to come with the girls—Gina, who was fourteen, and Olivia, who was seven. Our stay at PGM, a little under three months, was a positive experience. But when my daughters and I first arrived at PGM, they were very scared and didn’t know what to

“I was very angry and bitter...that changed as I saw God working in my husband’s life, my daughters’ lives, and my own.”



expect. When they saw the homeless men and women, they got even more scared. When I was younger, my sister had stayed at shelters when her kids were little. I never judged her, but I always said to myself that earth will freeze over before I ever found myself living in a shelter with my children. Deep down, that memory is what caused me to resist coming to PGM. My kids asked if we could go somewhere else, but I had to tell them I had no other choice. They asked me how long we

would have to stay at the Mission. Not knowing an exact time, I answered, ‘As long as it takes to get back on my feet.’ It helped them to know that this wasn’t going to last forever.

“When we stayed at Pacific Garden Mission, I went to Bible studies in the morning with the other mothers while the kids were at school. It is that class that initially got me interested in the Bible and made me want to learn about it. Before this, I had thought that prayer was a waste of time, and I was very angry and bitter. But that

changed as I saw God working in my husband’s life, my daughters’ lives and my own. The girls started to make friends, and they enjoyed doing their homework with the other kids after school. Olivia would play in the playroom with kids, and Gina had another teenage friend



Sabrina and Tony share their story of struggle and transformation, sharing hope with the homeless.

**“And thou shalt rejoice
in every good thing
which the Lord thy God
hath given unto thee . . .”
—Deuteronomy 26:11a**

that she would hang out with. We learned to pray and about the power of prayer firsthand in our lives. We loved going to church and had never been so excited to attend a service until we started going to a Baptist church. I’ve seen a difference in the girls, and they just loved to pray before bedtime and mealtime. What the Mission is doing for families there is beyond admirable and wonderful.

“My children are very dedicated to going to church and want to learn more about the Word of God now. Their relationship with God is amazing

today. They turn to God for pretty much everything. My oldest wants to work with children when she grows up, and that’s from her experience at PGM. I waited a couple of years before I accepted Christ into my heart. When we got our apartment after leaving PGM, we started to go to a church that was only a block away from our new place. Westlawn Baptist Church became our second home. In October 2018 I got saved, and a month later my oldest, who is 17, got saved. Then my youngest got saved in June of this year.

“It’s never too late to turn your life around. You have to put your faith in God’s hands. He put us here for a reason and now my kids and I are closer to God than we ever were. God never left our side; we just had to open our hearts to Him. I will be forever grateful for Pacific Garden Mission, and I am grateful God put us here.”

Sabrina and her family frequent PGM’s Saturday night service for fellowship and to be fed by the Word of God.



Sabrina, Tony, and their daughters, Gina and Olivia, now visit PGM often to attend our Saturday night praise and testimony service. They are part of the Mission family and are thankful for what God has done in their lives. God has saved their whole family. With Jesus Christ the healing and forgiveness can continue, and little by little their lives are made whole again. Nothing

is impossible with God, and because of your help, families like Sabrina's are made whole. Through your support of PGM, once a person is saved, they not only have the spiritual resources but also all the physical resources to begin life anew. We thank you for your faithful support and helping to spread, person to person and family to family, the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

THIS THANKSGIVING SEASON, we expect to serve as many as 145,600 meals. Each and every one of those meals is an opportunity to reach someone who is in urgent need of life-changing help and lifesaving hope!

GIVE NOW pgm.org/donate



Guests young and old are thankful for warm shelter and a wholesome Thanksgiving meal.



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski

President, Pacific Garden Mission

THE ANSWER TO ADDICTION

I am so thankful for your support of the New Day addiction recovery program at Pacific Garden Mission. To see men and women whose lives were destroyed by addiction, now having hope as they recover from the ravages of sin—you are partnering with God in this transforming work.

I believe that the root of addiction is spiritual. Revelation 9:21 reads, “Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.” The Greek word for sorcery is pharmakeia, which in English is pharmacy or medication. So drugs are sorcery. Since addiction has its roots in the spiritual world, the only way to change is by a spiritual power greater, and that is Jesus Christ.

This past Saturday we had a graduation from the New Day program. What struck me was the number of spouses and family members in attendance—many of whom had been hurt deeply.

No one sins in a vacuum. We may think we are only hurting

ourselves, but this is not true. Our decisions affect others. Look at Adam—as Romans 5:12 says, “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.”

After the ceremony to see wives embrace husbands, children their parents, realizing all the pain that led to that embrace is truly heartwarming. One graduate told me it would take time because there are many scars, but the process has begun.

Pray for the counselors and workers in the New Day program because this is true spiritual warfare.

I want to thank you as donors for your support. Because of you, this program is offered free of charge. Many programs are quite expensive, but because of your faithful support people can find the help they need without the extra burden of debt. As the plague of drugs continues to wreak havoc across our country, praise God that at PGM the cure is offered free of charge.

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



GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Stephen Welch,
Director of Development

We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love . . .

—1 Thessalonians 1:2-3a KJV

This Thanksgiving, we are so thankful for YOU, who faithfully support and pray for this ministry. God has richly blessed Pacific Garden Mission with a family of generous supporters.

With your support,

During the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays your generous support will provide many the chance to receive heartwarming meals along with the Gospel message and words of encouragement.

we've accomplished so much this year. We were able to open our boy's dorm, we've closed a budget shortfall, and we were able to make desperately needed updates to our facility to serve more hurting men, women, and families with meals, safe shelter, and discipleship.

But as we're approaching our busiest time of the year, heading up to Thanksgiving and colder weather, the need is still so great. **Your support will be crucial to welcome everyone who comes to the Mission this fall.**



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 September your support made a true difference:

On average, **577** homeless people received aid and Gospel services each day

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

About **41,203** plates of food were served

14 mothers with their children stayed at PGM

38,881 items of clothing were distributed

246 patients received free medical/dental treatment

315 people professed faith in Christ

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