

George was transformed at PGM because of your support.

“I KNEW PGM WAS WHERE I NEEDED TO BE”

George Easton, a resident of Chicago, shares about his 16-month journey of transformation at Pacific Garden Mission. While his roots were firmly grounded in a Godly upbringing, he strayed into the darkness, enticed by the allure of material possessions and a misguided sense of belonging. This is the story of how he found his way back, guided by the unwavering grace of God and the support of the incredible individuals at Pacific Garden Mission.

GEORGE

“My name is George Easton, and I was born and raised in Chicago. I

was brought up in the Word but chose to go down the wrong path. As a kid, I would sit down with my mother and father and have Bible studies. I went astray with the wrong crowd, which took me through a dark phase of my life.

“I had uncles who were out there on the streets, hustling and living for Satan, doing ungodly things. They tended to get me out of all my brothers and sisters, and I liked being around them because of the things they had, like the cars, money, and nice jewelry. I had a lot of knowledge of both the Godly and wicked sides from a young age. I chose more of the wicked side and

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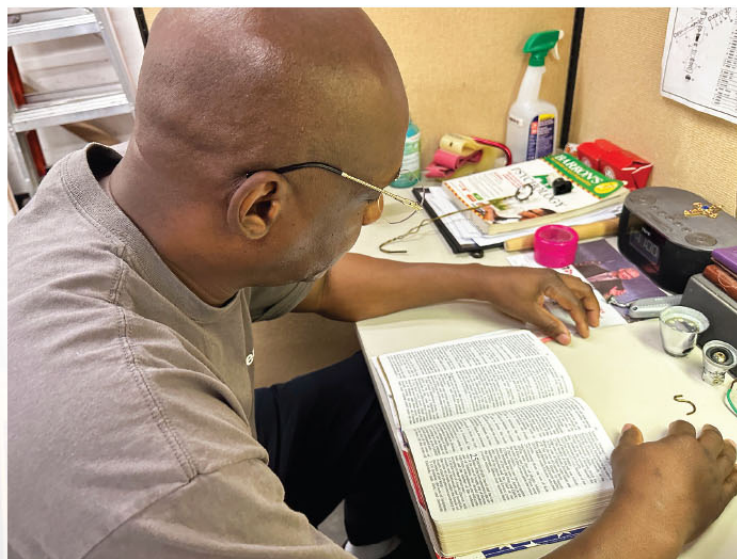
am just thankful God didn't give up on me.

“What brought me to PGM is my marriage fell apart. I knew about Pacific Garden Mission because I had been here before. It is an excellent place to be if you are serious about getting your life together. I didn't want to be around any of my family members and just wanted to start fresh and get lined back up with the Lord. I knew PGM was the place to come because of Pastor Phil, Pastor Green, and other employees I know.

“Pacific Garden Mission is genuinely Godsent. God is over PGM. I always had a problem with why God saved me because I was wicked. I was doing some things I am still dealing with now. I thank God for His mercy and grace because I could have died. I was always

puzzled by how Jesus, His Son, suffered and died for us. For Him to give His only begotten Son for sinners is just so powerful to me. I could never get that out of my mind or spirit.

“At Pacific Garden Mission they have the Bible program, and that is the program I chose. They have teachings about the Gospel and what the Gospel is. The teachers truly care, and that is the main thing. The Mission has rules and regulations to keep order. I had a problem with that, but



George reads his Bible in the maintenance office where he serves.

George serves in the PGM maintenance department as his workplace ministry.

once God started working on me and the people at the Mission started helping me look at myself, my life began to fall in order. I truly thank God for His grace and mercy because none of us would be here without it. I went through the Bible program and graduated in May of last year.

“Then, I went through orientation for the maintenance job, which I have been working for about nine months. Since I got lined up with the Lord, when I spend time with my family and grandkids, I try to instill the Word in them. A lot of times on Sunday, we all go to church.”

Through trials and tribulations, the Mission became a sanctuary where George discovered the teachings of the Bible, embraced the Gospel, and learned to appreciate the profound sacrifice of Jesus. The Mission’s rules, initially challenging, became a framework for order in his life, thanks to the transformative power of God’s grace.

George stands not only as a



testament to God’s mercy but as proof that Pacific Garden Mission is a haven for those seeking solace, redemption, and a genuine connection with God. It’s not merely a shelter; it’s a church-based program that addresses diverse struggles, providing love, guidance, and a supportive community. We extend our deepest gratitude to you for your unwavering support and commitment to helping individuals like George rediscover the path to a righteous and fulfilling life.

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” — James 5:19-20 KJV

Visit our website at pgm.org to learn more about PGM’s multiple ministries to the needy.

YOUR WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

We wanted to share just a few of the many letters we receive here at PGM from supporters like you. If PGM is ministering to you, we invite you to write us and let us know.

Pastor Phil and everyone at PGM,

I can't begin to tell you how much your program on Saturday evening refreshes my soul. I record the program so I can watch it a second time before next week. It is so wonderful how you bring the lost souls to the Lord. Please continue to serve. -Judy

Dear Pastor,

I want to say I really enjoy your program, The Pacific Garden Mission. It blesses my soul to hear good testimonies of those who have been delivered from sin. The good messages you preach are food to my soul. May God bless the work there until Jesus comes; it is very much needed. I feel led to support your missionary work there. It may not be much, but every bit helps. Thanks so much. I have heard "Unshackled!" many times now. Keep up the good work. I am a pastor myself, and we are in this together. Your pastor friend in Jesus, -James

I am writing this short letter to let you know how much I enjoy your broadcast. I look forward to it every Saturday night on

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Pastor Phil is filmed outside for his presentation of the Gospel for PGM TV.

TCT. The testimonies are incredible, and the Word from Pastor Phil is always uplifting. I love the ministry, especially how it ministers to the whole person.

About half my life was lived working in NJ. While working the second shift, I would stay awake to listen to a program called "Unshackled!" which I had accidentally stumbled upon. I loved it. That was in the seventies or eighties, a long time ago. That says much about your ministry and commitment to impact the kingdom of God. -Linda

This note is long overdue; however, it is a tangible means to express my deepest gratitude for the Pacific Garden Mission television program. I've watched for years, thanks to your commitment to God's Truth being proclaimed for all the world to hear and see. -Lois



A professional, live performance of "Unshackled!"



A Word from Philip Kwiatkowski
President, Pacific Garden Mission

TRUE DELIVERANCE FROM ADDICTIONS

“(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;”

—2 Corinthians 10:4-5 KJV

The scourge of drugs has been devastating to those who dabble in its superficial enticements. I spoke to a 27-year-old man yesterday who recently overdosed and came to find out he has had many overdoses. As he sat there, I thought, this is someone's son, and his life is already in jeopardy at his young age. This incident made me praise God for our New Day recovery program, where many are being set free from the clutches of addiction. This young man was offered the opportunity to join, and I hope he does and finds freedom from his addiction through faith in Christ.

I asked some of our clients in the program to share what life was like during their addiction and what life is like now. Here is a sample:

“My life was in a perpetual state of

hopelessness. Suicidal ideas ran rampant constantly in my mind. Addiction robbed me of my fervor for life and my ambition to pursue happiness. My mind is being renewed now that I am not poisoning it with toxins. I was reminded that I was designed for a specific purpose, which is to glorify God. I'm at peace with the fact that booze and drugs just don't work for me if I want to reach my full potential. The fog is clearing up.”

Another writes, “My life was a mess, my relationship with my family was failing, my health was poor, I was lost in my madness, I was tired of being sick and tired.” Now she says, “By the grace of God I am saved. I can see now that I needed help . . . I am in my right mind and can restore the relationship with my family . . . I am so grateful for the New Day women's treatment program.”

This is just a small sample of the number of lives being changed by Jesus through this amazing ministry.

Thank you for your love, prayer, and support for this crucial, life-changing ministry. Overdoses continue to happen, but we have an answer, and that answer is Jesus.

PGMNews FEBRUARY 2024 • Vol.89, No. 2
Published monthly by Pacific Garden Mission
Philip Kwiatkowski, President
Daniel Woolman, Editor
Paul Higdon, Design

1458 South Canal Street
Chicago, IL 60607-5201
P: 312.492.9410 F: 312.492.9414
Email: pgmnews@pgm.org
Websites: www.pgm.org www.unshackled.org

Learn more about our Mission, where lost souls find hope, compassion, and purpose.

GODLY STEWARDSHIP

Nourishing Hope: The Profound Benefits of Bulk Food Donations

Peter Leavitt,
Assistant Treasurer, PGM Board of Trustees

Do you ever wonder how your gift of a \$1.94 meal makes an impact? I can assure you, it does! God brings together so many pieces to make your gift go so far: bulk food donations to stretch the budget, talented and loving staff who help prepare the food and minister to guests, and volunteers who warmly serve every meal. The Mission is blessed to receive many monthly bulk food donations from sources such as the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Harvest Hunger Resource, HMSHost, Starbucks, and Wild Fork. This donated food is deliciously prepared by our exceptional food service team, overseen by Executive Chef Erika Webb.

Food donations profoundly benefit the Mission and our guests' lives.

Message of Care and Support

Food donations not only fill stomachs

but also warm hearts. They help the Mission provide a powerful example of the love and compassion of Jesus Christ to those experiencing homelessness, reminding them that they are not forgotten or alone.

Financial Benefit

The value of food donated to the Mission is estimated to be \$2 million annually. This enables us to allocate more resources to our transformative addiction recovery and spiritual growth programs.

Even though food donations from our gracious suppliers provide much of the food we need, there are times when PGM needs to purchase food items. And staffing our food service operations also goes into the cost of providing a healthy menu.

We extend our deepest gratitude to those organizations that provide bulk food donations and to those individuals who contribute monetarily to enable the Mission to purchase food. Your generosity helps us spread the life-changing Gospel message, one meal at a time.

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 December your support made a true difference:

On average, **557** homeless people received aid and Gospel services each day

About **31,683** plates of food were served

32,220 items of clothing were distributed

3,147 media outlets around the world broadcasted *Unshackled!*

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

9 mothers with their children who were sheltered at PGM

61 people professed saving faith in Christ and became new believers at PGM

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