

A STORY OF RECONCILIATION



Zachary's addiction started at the age of 13. He tried drugs and alcohol and enjoyed using them, so he continued. As he got older, he was determined to be a functioning addict. Zachary had many "wake up calls" that he did not pay attention to along the way. One of these being a really bad car accident that caused him to be in a coma for 3 days. Instead of turning for help, he turned to another drug and started using methamphetamine.

Zachary's final wake-up call came when he found himself in jail for the seventh time. He reached out to his Mother who said she would bail him out of jail only if he went to this 9-15 month "Bible Boot Camp" known as Reconciliation Ministries. Zachary wanted to get out of jail, so he obliged.

Although he was not looking forward to going into a structured environment, he decided to enter with an open heart. Early on Zachary remembers, "something strange happened, and Jesus showed up in the pages of the Bible." Every night he does 30 minutes of devotional time before bed. Zachary says this is his favorite part of the day. It is a time for God to speak to him and reveal scriptures to him. Throughout the program, Zachary has learned how to trust in the Lord no matter the situation he may be faced with. He is excited about now having tools, resources, and a support system to aid in his recovery.

Zachary is extremely grateful to the countless people that make Reconciliation Ministries happen. He says, "God has worked through the staff of RM, a local church who has supported and prayed for me, and the people who support the program financially. It has been a blessing to be in a place where I don't have to worry about paying bills or finding a way to work because I have been able to truly seek the Lord and build a solid foundation for the rest of my life."

On March 25th Zachary officially completed all the necessary requirements of the men's residential program. Zachary says, "This program is designed to help people build a new foundation and new life, not just changing a couple of behaviors and I am excited to walk out that new life."

Zachary believes God is calling him to be a pastor and help others who have been in the same position. His life has been radically transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and he has been freed from the chains of addiction. Zachary plans to continue serving at Reconciliation Ministries. He loves to give back and help new students understand truths about the Bible and God. However, he is most excited about being a part of his four kids' lives now. He said they are asking him questions about God and even doing devotions. He can't wait to see what God has in store for their futures.



Ministry partners,

Spring is my favorite time of the year. Looking out of my window today I can see signs of renewal everywhere. Our Tulips and Daffodils are smiling, welcoming another beautiful Spring. The trees and grass are slowly turning green as if awakening from a long Winter's nap. You can almost smell the anticipation and hope in the air.

I'm reminded of God's unending Grace and how it brings His children back from seeming death to new life in Him. Everyday God is performing this miracle at Reconciliation Ministries. The lives of men and women wracked by failure, sin and suffering are being transformed into beautiful witnesses to His unfailing Grace and Love. Freedom, joy and fulfillment spring up in new lives in Christ. WOW! What a privilege to share in this journey of reconciling lives to their God who loves them unconditionally.

Tulips are beautiful and nice but experiencing lives transformed is an infinitely more precious gift. May God continue to guide and bless the work of Reconciliation Ministries.

Dr. Wendel Nixon
RM Board Chair

WOMEN'S HOME UPDATE

In April of 2018, a tree fell through what would soon be our women's residential home. God was in control as He used this discouraging event as an opportunity to expand and update the home. Through a partnership with a local contracting company, Celtic Works, this home is being renovated and expanded to meet Group Home Certifications. This means RM's women's program will be able to house 9 women. The project is expected to be completed in June.

We would like to thank Celtic Works for the countless hours they have donated to lead the renovation efforts.



Enjoy the Journey



WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED:

BUY A BRICK

Bricks can be purchased as an honorarium, to show support for a loved one and in a variety of other ways. These bricks will be laid to create a walkway and outdoor patio area for the Women's Program. You can purchase a brick online at www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/reconciliation.

BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP

Help your business meet its marketing goals while also supporting a great cause.

FINANCIAL DONATION

Make a financial donation to support this cause.

Visit www.reconciliation-min.org or email info@reconciliation-min.org if you would like more information regarding these opportunities. Thank you in advance for your support and commitment to help women experience reconciliation to God, themselves, and others.

EVENTS

AWARENESS EVENT

Come out and tour Reconciliation Ministries' facilities, learn more about the programs, and hear stories of transformation from the residents.

April 25, 12:00-1:00p, lunch provided, 46 Highwood Court, RSVP to info@reconciliation-min.org or online at www.reconciliation-min.org.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Join us June 15 at the Irmo Community Park Outdoor Amphitheater for a Night of Worship in support of Reconciliation Ministries. RM's Choir and other local artists will be leading worship.

Cost: Free

(suggested donation of \$10)

Concert is at 7:30 p.m.

Concession stands and RM t-shirts will be available to purchase.

3RD ANNUAL (RE)NEW HOPE BANQUET

On September 26, 2019, RM will celebrate the newest graduates of our Men's and Women's Programs. We hope you will join us for a night of inspiration as we share program updates and rejoice in the work the Lord has done.

SPRING RETREAT

Our men and women recently enjoyed a 3-day retreat in the mountains, thanks to a generous donor who let RM use their mountain house. The women focused on how to apply various spiritual disciplines and applying them to their life, while spending ample time in personal prayer, reflection, and corporate worship. The men focused on finding their identity in Christ and learning how to listen carefully to the Holy Spirit. One morning, John H. woke up early to write this prayer:



"This morning with the sun coming up over the mountains and how beautiful it was, all of a sudden I felt small in your presence. The rolling mountains one right after another, the clouds below their peaks made me realize just how great You are. I am just a small speck of sand in Your hand, but You love and care for me. You give me these moments to let me feel Your presence within me and what You have created. I pray to You to let me enjoy this day with You and my friends, that we might be able to see how great You are and to understand our identity within you Lord."

109 BEATTY DOWNS

God has opened the door for RM to purchase a quadruplex in Beatty Downs. We are grateful for the many ministry opportunities this building will allow us to have.

CELEBRATING PHASE COMPLETIONS

Within RM's Reconciliation Track, the men and women have 5 phases of Biblical curriculum to complete before graduating. These phases include Biblical teaching, application of character qualities, and completing the 12-steps of Celebrate Recovery. They focus on transformation of old mindsets through character development.

On March 17, we celebrated with six people who completed various phases of the program. Each student received a "Completion Certificate" signifying the important work they have completed thus far.



Pictured right to left: Zachary (phase 4), Robert (phase 3), John (phase 1), Kerry (staff), Lucky (staff), Leslie (staff), Trish (phase 1), Lakin (phase 2), Cyndi (phase 2).

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GENTLE DENTISTRY OF LEXINGTON

Gentle Dentistry of Lexington is a very valuable partner of Reconciliation Ministries. Dr. Jackson and his team have donated their time to provide RM's men and women with dental services. Zachary and Cyndi, residents in RM's program, have been recipients of Dr. Jackson's generosity.

Due to their addictions, both residents had severe dental damage and were in need of new teeth. Dr. Jackson treated Zachary and Cyndi with the utmost respect as he provided new dentures for the pair. Dr. Jackson states, "It is a great for my staff and I to give back with the only thing that we know how to do, dental work." He goes on to say how serving clients within RM, and the countless other ministries he has partnered with, has changed his outlook on life and has helped him learn "to not blame people, but give them opportunities to change and become a contributing member of society." Gentle Dentistry of Lexington has served many students in RM's programs. RM is very grateful for their partnership, continued generosity, and most of all their care and compassion for the residents that come through RM's programs.

