



May 10, 2003
Newsletter

“... near mint condition.”

by Seth Cox

I used to smoke pot, I used to drink, I used to swear, I used to steal, I used to lie, I used to hate, I used to not care, I used to not care what people thought of me, I used to not care what people advised me on because I did not respect any and all authority because that meant “I am not in control.”

I used to be the **laziest** person you could meet.

So lazy, in fact, that I grew to be 279 pounds! I did not do anything this last time around but smoke cigarettes and pot and drink beer and cause trouble. I did not go to school because I got expelled because I caused so much trouble.

I have never had a job and the money I did have I was not responsible with. I have never, ever had a driver's license and I have not been free of the court system's leash since I was twelve years old.

I have never had any respectable friends, not even a trustworthy associate. I alienated every family member except for my father who has gotten extremely frustrated but has never lost faith in me and never gave up on me.

Now God has totally restored my life to near mint condition. As I have furthered my walk with Him and learned to love Him, my values and morals, attitude, appearance, desires, relationships, outlook on life, health have all been changed from evil to good.

He has taken away my desire to smoke anything or to drink anything of an alcoholic nature. I do not desire to steal, or swear, or lie. He has shown me what true love is and has packed my heart full of it. He has blessed me with morals to do what is right, not what I think, but what he tells me is right.



He has shown me what is right and what is wrong so now authority is non-existent while I do what is righteous. He has instilled in me the energy I never had before and the will to work diligently. He has healed my body. I am no longer overweight and sick.

He has restored my relationships with my family and has blessed me with the fellowships of people I know I will be with for eternity.

My Lord has blessed me financially with just the exact amount of money only when I need it. He has also blessed me with the responsibility I never had to spend it wisely. My Lord has blessed me with the chance to get my GED in the program I am now in: Teen Challenge.

I have also been informed of my first job opportunity in Teen Challenge as well. What a blessing to work in such a wonderful place. I have also been blessed with a second chance at life most people I think do not get and the blessings keep on coming. Amen.

Seth entered the second phase of the program this week. He, along with eight other residents, completed phase one last month.

Noteworthy:

- ***Golf Outing:*** *It's not too late to register for the Golf Outing. Tom Pipines, Fox 6 Sports Director will be our host again this year at our 8th Annual Charity Scramble Golf Outing.*

The outing will be held on May 22, 2003 at the Silver Spring Golf Course located in Menomonee Falls. Tee time is 8:00 a.m. sharp. For more information or to register contact Judy at 414/466-4415 x103. This year we hope to have approximately 175 attend this charity event.

- ***2003 Banquet/Auction Kickoff:*** *On Thursday July 17, 2003 at 6:30 pm we will be holding our kickoff dinner. Everyone who would like to be involved in this year's banquet and auction, please plan on attending this time of food, fun and fellowship at the "Robby Dawson" Home for Women located at 727 North 31st Street.*

If you need directions, please call the women's center at 414/342-0909.