

The Beacon

The official newsletter of
The Lighthouse: A Biblical
Life Recovery Center

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Issue #5

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Prayer Points:

- ◆ We need to raise \$500,000 during our capital campaign. This will allow us to get started right away.
- ◆ We need to locate a suitable building for our operations.
- ◆ Pray for wisdom for the Advisory Board members.
- ◆ Pray that God continues to direct our paths and that He continues to bring the right supporters to us.
- ◆ Pray for open doors and direction.
- ◆ Pray for volunteers to step forward to help.

Unwrapping the Best Gift Ever



Will you join me in unwrapping a special gift this Christmas season? It is a gift that rescues, sets free, and restores brokenness, sinfulness, and sadness. It is the greatest gift of all times and best yet... It's free! Who wouldn't say yes to that gift?

You may be surprised, but many walk away leaving this great gift unopened. It's sad really, because they are walking away from the freedom that can only be found wrapped in swaddling clothes, and God's greatest gift to mankind: a Savior to set men free from the bondage of a sinful life.

I am reminded of the old hymn which says, "Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born and God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born." Having unwrapped this gift and understanding the awesomeness of it, what should

we do? We should go and tell it! The Lighthouse isn't just a dream; it is our following His leading to share Christ with those who need Him.

This Christmas season, will you join us in sharing Christ with those who are suffering around us? Our mission is to share the gift of freedom to those struggling with life-altering addictions. This freedom can only be found in Christ.

Only Through Him,

Brandon Bower
Brandon Bower

Founder and Co-Laborer in Christ

Meet Our Board

Jane Holliday works for Parkview Behavioral Health as a psychiatric care navigator. Not only does she have a long history of working with the addiction population in our area, Jane

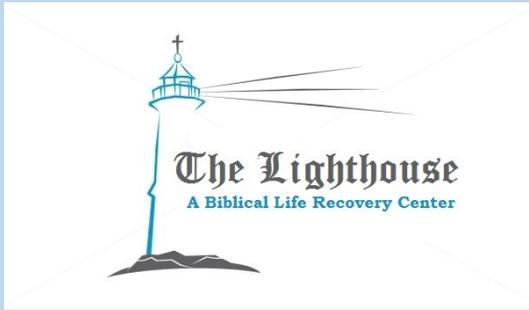


has personally experienced devastation from addiction in her own family. She is excited to participate in The Lighthouse ministry that will produce lasting eternal effects.

Giving Restored - A Lesson From Mitch Kruse

In his book, *Restoration Road*, Mitch Kruse shows us an illustration of a sales manager who gives his boss an extravagant gift in order to get a promotion. The boss immediately saw the motivation behind the gift and did not offer the promotion to the man. The sales manager was furious and questioned his boss about it. The boss replied, "You were not giving me a gift; you were trying to give yourself a gift."

Jesus' disciple, Peter, addressed this type of giving by offering us a picture of God's blueprint for giving. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms" 1 Peter 4:10. We were designed to be generous with our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. God desires that we use them to serve, -Continued on pg 2



SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH THOSE IN NEED

Volunteer Needs

The Lighthouse has some volunteer needs! Let us know if you can help with any of the following:

1. Planning a "roadside awareness" event.
2. Writing an article for an upcoming newsletter.
3. Planning a benefit concert event.
4. Reaching out to the community / fundraising.
5. Contacting churches in regards to our sharing our ministry.
6. Helping with online awareness - FundMe page.
7. Starting a prayer team.



Each day from December 1 through December 25 we are posting on our Facebook page an Advent verse along with a short reflection and how it impacts us at Christmas. Join us daily and invite your friends to check it out!

<https://www.facebook.com/LighthouseRecoveryCenter>

Tax Exempt Year End Giving

The Lighthouse work is non-existent without the generous giving of friends just like you. As 2015 is ending, would you consider giving your year end gift to The Lighthouse? A generous donor has agreed to match all gifts up to \$50,000. Will you help us reach this goal? The disciple Mark tells us in chapter 16 to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation." Please consider partnering with us today as we are reaching out to those lost in addiction who do not have Christ and His glorious gift of the Gospel!

Giving Restored - Part 2

...faithfully administering divine grace - His undeserved love - in its various forms. We were designed to use the gifts we receive vertically to serve horizontally so that they connect others with the grace of the Generous One. God's desire is to multiply His gifts through us to generate even more generosity in others. Yet many of us still believe that our own grasp at significance, contentment, control, and security apart from the Restorer will ultimately satisfy our desires. But attempting to satisfy our desires apart from God only creates the gap of pretense in each one of us. This pretense leaches the time, talent, and treasure that God intends as a blessing to others through us.

Surrendering some of our desires is surrendering none. Surrendering some of our time, talent, and treasure is, in effect, surrendering nothing. Partial surrender is non-surrender because it uses others to serve ourselves. Let's learn a lesson from the sales manager. God knows our motivations and sees what lies behind our actions. Do you respond to God's generosity and to the needs of others with generosity? What do you do with the resources of your life when no one is looking so that you can improve someone else's circumstances? When have you helped someone who could offer nothing in return?

Ephesians 5:16 tells us to "redeem the time" (or make the most of every opportunity). As we do this, we move from trusting in the gift to trusting the Giver. When we fully surrender our hearts and desires, we fully surrender our time, talent, and treasure to God, Who restores our paths with generosity, resulting in a total re-allocation of our resources toward the destination of a restored life.

This article was adapted from Mitch Kruse's book titled "Restoration Road." The Lighthouse is thankful for the support of Mitch and his guidance as we seek to reach the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Lighthouse exists to serve men who struggle with a life-altering addiction. By showing the love and compassion of Christ, we strive to minister to all within our reach with the transforming message of the Gospel.