



RESCUE CHATTANOOGA

News from Chattanooga Rescue Mission

 **EASTER ISSUE 2016**

www.chattanoogarescuemission.org

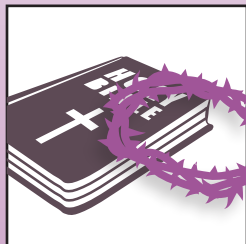
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In many ways my life is a lot like the Mississippi River



Dale Grisso, Director
of Men's Discipleship
Ministries

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His Hand Is Stretched
Out Still

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The Easter season holds
great promise for those
in need . . .

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My name is Chris. I hated how I was living, but I couldn't even make myself die . . . even though one night I swallowed 100 extra-strength Tylenol tablets to try to end it all. I can't begin to explain the depth of my depression and my inability to make my life work. Every time I'd take one step forward, I would take two steps back. I was drinking. I was a pothead. Unless I got high, I didn't feel good about myself. For a while, I had a job as a river guide on the Mississippi, but I ended up sleeping in a tent when I later got stranded in Chattanooga. Still, I kept saying to myself, *I don't have a problem . . . I can handle this . . . I don't need help.* All typical lies that come out of the mouth of an addict.

God is now at the helm of my life

I thank God He directed my steps to Chattanooga Rescue Mission, because this is where I have come to learn about God's love and His compassion for me. In many ways the Mississippi River is a metaphor for my life. At times the river would be calm and peaceful.

"I couldn't even make myself die . . . even though one night I swallowed 100 extra-strength Tylenol tablets . . ."

At other times it would be treacherous. And you never knew when a storm was coming. Sometimes it would just hit you out of the blue. The good news for me today is that God is now navigating my life. I no longer choose to be at the helm. The waters are not always smooth, but with God in charge I know I'll make it safely to shore. Thank you for all you do to make Chattanooga Rescue Mission available to me at this time of my life. God bless you at this Easter season.

Chris



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*Thank you for being there
for me when I needed
help the most*

Dale Grisso, Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

Dear Friend of Chattanooga Rescue Mission,

A gentleman who came to the Mission said, "My first 50 years of life were lost. I want to make the next 25 a life that honors Christ." A woman resident told us, "I never thought anyone felt I was still beautiful." Another man said, "For most of my life I've lived without hope. Today, I know God gives me the strength to renew my career and even my health."

We hear these comments day after day for one simple reason: your generosity in money, time and influence gives us the opportunity to introduce hundreds of men and women to the risen Lord, who takes their shattered lives and makes all things new.

Thank you for your part in seeing lives transformed through the power of Jesus

Folks are living lives of sobriety once again. Marriages are being saved. Bridges long burned are being reconstructed as trust is once more established with their families. I continually remind each resident not simply to talk about what they're going to do to change. They must demonstrate *day after day* that they are giving God control — just as Christ is allowing God to take over the reins of his life. I also want to give you a word of encouragement at this Easter season: Continue to stay faithful in the Lord. When times are rough, remember God will never leave you nor forsake you. And as you bless others, you are sure to know the unspeakable joy and satisfaction of seeing lives changed for eternity.

Your servant to the needy,

Dale Grisso
Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries



"... as you bless others, you are sure to know the unspeakable joy and satisfaction of seeing lives changed for eternity."

His Hand Is Stretched Out Still

Imagine the scene as conveyed by the prophet Isaiah. Judgment was falling on God's wayward people; devastation abounded. In the midst of it stands the Lord with His hands stretched out. It is easy to picture the Lord saying, "There's more where that came from!" That is, until we look at the New Testament, and see our Lord's hands stretched out in a different manner. He pleads with all men to come unto Him so that He can give them rest. It's almost as if the Savior says, "I know there is judgment all around, but through each wave I've been saying and still say, 'Come, let Me pass over judgment in My great mercy.'"

CRM sees a host of people in the midst of suffering. Some are reaping the fruits of their own waywardness and rebellion. In others it is due to conditions in a sin-cursed world. No matter what the cause, our hands are continually stretched out saying, "If any man thirst, come to the Savior and be satisfied." Just as surely as there will be no end of sorrow and woe in this present age, the Chattanooga Rescue Mission will proclaim that there is help and hope — because the Savior's hands are stretched out still.



"Thank you for being a part of this ongoing ministry of rescue ..."



The Easter season holds great promise for those in need ... thanks to your generous support

The entire staff at Chattanooga Rescue Mission thanks you for your overwhelming support of this ministry of rescue during the past several months. As challenging as life may be for many of us, it's even more difficult for the men and women who come to the Mission during the Easter season. They are the homeless people, the ex-offenders, the addicted and the lost. The good news is this: those who choose to make positive changes in their lives are finding new hope, new opportunities and new life as they decide to walk with their Savior and Lord.

God bless you for giving from a loving heart

Thank you for continuing to reach out to the men and women who come through our doors. We cannot thank you enough for your ongoing generosity. To send yet another donation to help those in need, please use the remit slip enclosed. You may also give your gift on our secure website www.chattanoogarescuemission.org. Thank you for being a part of this ongoing ministry of rescue as together we reach out to the homeless people in our community during the Easter season and throughout the year.