



The Beacon

Official Newsletter of The Lighthouse

April 2024 Issue #29

***As cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a far country.* - Prov. 25:25**

Life is full of struggle. I see it everyday. In difficult times I am always encouraged to hear, or better yet, witness God's hand working in the lives of those around me. As Proverbs says, good news is refreshing and life-giving. I hope to encourage you by sharing Frank's testimony and how God is always at work, radically changing lives for our good and His glory.

Frank's parents divorced when he was a child. Due to his mom's mental disability, the courts ordered that he and his brother live with his grandparents. Though Frank's grandparents were faithful in attending church every Sunday when he was a kid, he often felt left out and different. "I was one of the Christian kids, but I didn't really fit in," Frank stated. It was also hard for Frank and his brother growing up with the generational gap between their grandparents and themselves. "I wasn't allowed to do things the other kids my age were doing." In high school Frank sought to keep himself busy at school. He was involved in track, cross country, swimming, choir, drama club, and boy scouts—all to keep himself away from home. During the second semester of his senior year, Frank started drinking and smoking weed.

After High School, Frank was accepted to Bethel College, where he was going to major in youth ministry. However, the few people who partied found each other, and he dropped out. Frank then moved in with some buddies, and his drug use quickly escalated after he was introduced to cocaine and then quickly turned to crack. Soon, Frank was spending his entire paycheck on crack. In a desperate moment, he took his girlfriend's bank card. "I thought she wouldn't notice \$20 missing, but I ended up wiping her account clean." As you can imagine, his girlfriend didn't take the news well. Their relationship ended, and Frank moved back to his hometown. Frank started hanging out with a new crowd of people. In an attempt to make a good impression, he ended up robbing a gas station, which led to his doing three years in prison.

Upon his release from prison, Frank resumed his habit of drinking and met his first wife, who drank more than he did, creating a very toxic atmosphere. "Domestic batteries, regular batteries, and alcohol-related charges were the next several years of my life," Frank said. After a time, Frank decided to file for divorce. It was during this time that Frank met his second wife. This time Frank thought things were going to be different, that God would be at the center of his marriage. Sadly, he returned to drinking. "I forgot all about God, again." Frank knew something needed to change, but his drinking continued to get worse, and his wife was begging him to slow down. In his own effort, Frank tried to slow down, but it wasn't enough. Frank's wife packed his things and dropped him off in Indiana. A little over a month later, Frank traded alcohol for Meth. "My whole life quickly spiraled out of control," Frank said. He went from chasing women to chasing the next high; from being the best employee at his favorite job to the worst employee and ultimately being let go—causing him to lose his apartment and become homeless. To help cope with it all, Frank began using needles to boost his high. Once again, Frank found himself in jail.



After his jail sentence, Frank reached out to a local treatment center, where he received help. "I knew I needed more sobriety, and they referred me to The Lighthouse," Frank stated. He has been with The Lighthouse for 15 months, sober for 18 months. After graduating the six-month Anchored program, Frank has accepted an intern position where he can give back and help others who share in his struggles. This is good news! Praise God for the work He is doing in Frank's life. I pray you are encouraged.

"I am very thankful for The Lighthouse leading me back to Christ. It has been so amazing, the transformation that Christ will do in your life if you submit to Him." - Frank

BiblicalLifeRecoveryCenter.com

Phone 260-255-6413



upcoming events

save the date

Summits:

- June 13th
Biblical Fundraising Summit
- August 15th
Addiction Summit
- October 10th
Disability Summit
- November 14th
Ethics Summit



Date: Monday, May 27th

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: The Lighthouse Community Center

Date: Thursday, June 27th

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: The Lighthouse Community Center

Date & Time:

Auction opens @ 7am, Sunday, 7/14

Auction closes @ 7pm, Saturday, 7/20



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Why Quit?

"Among people aged 12 or older in the United States, about 23.6 million people report nicotine dependence" (NIH).

Tobacco is a gateway drug to more severe addictions. At The Lighthouse, we strive to equip individuals to find freedom from all addictions.

Individuals who quit using tobacco are 25% more likely to achieve long-term abstinence from alcohol and other drugs than those who continue using it.



The Lighthouse exists to serve individuals who struggle with life-altering issues by providing structure, education, support, and mentorship. We also strive to be a bridge in the healing process between these individuals and their families.



The Lighthouse Community Center

3000 E. State Blvd.

Fort Wayne, IN 46805

TOBACCO CESSATION

"Each year, nearly half a million Americans die prematurely of smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke. Another 16 million live with a serious illness caused by smoking" (CDC).

How does nicotine affect your life?

Have you been searching for freedom from tobacco?

Are you struggling to quit?

"If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

John 8:36

National QuitLine

1-800-QUIT-NOW



The Lighthouse has two trained Tobacco Treatment Specialists on staff to assist you in quitting!

Here's Where To Get Help!

260-255-6413

BiblicalLifeRecoveryCenter.com

BiblicalLifeRecoveryCenter@gmail.com