

# Love and Compassion Ministries

*In the Name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit*

March 1, 2013 In The Year of Our Lord

NEWSLETTER

## *Mental and Physical Rollercoaster Ride*

### **The ups and downs of growing up with parents on drugs or alcohol**

We all know the mind boggling, negative effects of drug abuse. The news is full of the killings, accidents caused by drinking and / or doing drugs, prison, jails and hospitals overcrowding and of course the drug war.

But we also need to look at the affects that drugs have on the children of drug addicts. Many children are born with drugs in their system. Drugs cause developmental disorders, infant death, miscarriages, premature birth, learning disabilities and a variety of mental and psychological problems in the child. Children who have drug-dependent parents may have mental and physical health-related problems that may not ever be corrected such as:

#### **Loss of Guidance**

When a parent is on drugs or alcohol they tend to be distant. Therefore, the child is also distant, not only from the parent but also from their peers at school and their friends they live with in their neighborhoods. The child will then become independent too soon and will do as they please because they no longer have that guidance they need.

#### **Loss of Love**

After the loss of guidance comes the loss of love toward the child being affected by the drugs or the alcohol. The parent does not seem to care about the child. The more distant the parent gets the less they feel any love for the child.

#### **Loss of Ability to Receive Needed Items**

The parent is essential for the child to get what he / she needs. If the parents have separated themselves from the child due to drugs or alcohol then there is nobody to supply what the child needs the most. If the child does not get what he / she needs (the necessities of life) then the child will by instinct, know that there is something wrong.

#### **Depression**

Children will go into a depression when they see and understand what their parents are doing. The child regardless of age, will do what the parent does, drugs and alcohol, because it is the kind of leadership they have received even though the parent may have separated themselves from the child.

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Thank You For Your Support And Prayers!

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### **Mental Instability**

Mental health is affected by alcohol and drugs. It can also affect both the mother or father (or both) and the child. Example, Mom smokes or drinks while pregnant which affects the fetus, equals mental health issues. Father is high or drunk while fertilizing the mother, equals mental issues. When one or both parents are doing drugs it can have a terrible effect on generations times seven. The drugs and alcohol also may lead to learning disorders such as not being able to read or write all their lives.

### **Child Abuse**

Many children are abused by their parents. The cause, many times, is due to alcohol or drugs. The parent may or may not know what they are doing when they abuse their child. Sometimes they don't even know why the child is being taken from the home, because of them being high when it all transpired.

### **Long-Term Outcomes**

Many children that are affected by alcohol and drugs through their parents, have eating disorders, anger, self pity emotions, rejection, rebellion and self-destructive behaviors. The negative effects of parental drug abuse continues until the child reaches adulthood and sometimes even through out their lives. Many have difficulty with coping and with establishing healthy relationships. Many times children imitate the behaviors they see in their family. Children are twice as likely to become depressed adults if they have one or more parents on drugs. Adults who were abused when they were young are very likely to abuse their own children. Physically abused children may show symptoms of post-traumatic disorder and disassociation. Many of these children may also become drug users and suffer from depression as adults. All Children should feel love from a father and mother as they grow up to be parents themselves.

### **Academic Performance**

Children whose parents take illegal drugs often lose interest in school. They are very likely to receive failing grades, drop out or get expelled from educational institutions. Lack of parental guidance and exposure to violence may create psychological disorders that affect school performance. Children may also feel confused and insecure because of their drug-addicted parents. Many feel frightened and threatened as they frequently witness domestic violence. As a result, they may work below their potential because of fear, confusion and tensions at home.

### **The number of children of parents with substance abuse is growing daily.**

Many a child is being handed over to the grandparents or to the Department of Children and Families. So what are we to do? #1 Pray for your children and grandchildren daily. #2 Talk to your family members and friends that you may suspect are into drugs and / or alcohol. Tell them how much you love them and how dangerous these substances can be and that the cost can run very high if caught by law enforcement. If these actions do nothing to help, go to #3. Stop all money flow to the person, their use of vehicles, trips to the movies and over night stays, then call us.

We will set up a time to have an interview with the person and help them make the right decision on getting help verses becoming a victim, prisoner, killer or even a parent of a child on drugs and or alcohol.

God Help Us All.

**WON'T YOU GIVE  
LOVE AND COMPASSION MINISTRIES  
Needs Your Support**

You Can Use PayPal at [www.LoveCompassion.com](http://www.LoveCompassion.com)

You Can Use Your Bank's Bill Pay, or You Can

Mail Your Donations to:

Love And Compassion Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 152636

Cape Coral, Florida 33915

Thank You!

Mark Decker has been serving the Lord through Love And Compassion Ministries for some time now, through our Jail Ministry, teaching the Word of God. He has started a very unique Bible study on “end times” for adults.

Come and enjoy this teaching with many others Monday nights starting at 7:00 PM at our Love And Compassion Ministries offices at:

1401 Viscaya Parkway Suite 3  
Cape Coral, Florida 33990

For more information call - 239-574-5683.  
If you wish to contact Mark call - 239-872-8349



### HOMELESS MINISTRY



Jim and Joann Cossairt  
AKA ... Mr. and Mrs. Pepsi  
with Ron Willis, President Love And Compassion Ministries. For many years Jim and Joann have worked with LCM securing the Pepsi Wagon, getting it cleaned up and helping serve hundreds of cups of Pepsi products. This picture is of them serving at the Homeless Stand Down Event held on January 26, 2013 at the City of Palms Stadium in Fort Myers. A big thanks goes out to the both of them for all the hard work and desire to serve with Love And Compassion Ministries on the front lines.



(TL) picture Leslie Belcher and Nick Trosterud (BL) William Stewart and Michael Smith did a great job handing out Bibles, PT, clothing, hygiene items, food and served Pepsi products out at the Homeless Stand Down Event January 26, 2013 at the City of Palms Stadium in Fort Myers, for Love And Compassion Ministries.

We wish to thank Robert Sager for the wonderful pictures taken during the event and all the other organization that participated in helping the homeless that day.

## **STREET OUT REACH MINISTRY**

Street Watch Ministries and Love And Compassion Ministries joined together in 2012 to reach the lost of this area through our Street Out Reach Ministry. In February we made the decision to take this wonderful ministry to the next level. In order to reach out to more than men on the streets, we have decided to change our location, day and time so that we can reach the families in the area of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Ford Street. We now will be serving a wonderful meal, giving out clothing, hygiene items, and will be giving the community the ability to hear a inspirational sermon and teaching for children and adults.

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS**  
**FREE DINNER and Give-A-Ways**  
 Saturday March 2, 2013 - 2:00 PM  
 Clemente Park  
 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd / Henderson Avenue  
 Brought To You By:  
 Love And Compassion Ministries, Inc.  
 Street Watch Ministries, Inc.

**FREE DINNER**  
 March 2, 2013  
 2:00 PM  
 Clemente Park  
 By:  
 Love And Compassion  
 Ministries, Inc.

If you would like to participate or donate to this cause, please contact  
 Miss Fox at 239-574-5683

Thanks!

## **BELIEVE IN GOD**

An atheist was walking through the woods. “What majestic trees!” “What powerful rivers!” “What beautiful animals!”, he said to himself. As he was walking alongside the river, he heard a rustling in the bushes behind him. He turned to look. He saw a 7-foot grizzly bear charging towards him. He ran as fast as he could up the path. He looked over his shoulder and saw that the bear was closing in on him. He looked over his shoulder again and the bear was even closer.

He tripped and fell on the ground. He rolled over to pick himself up but saw that the bear was right on top of him, reaching for him with his left paw and raising his right paw to strike him.

Instantly, the Atheist cried out: “Oh my God!”

Time stopped. The bear froze. The forest was silent as a bright light shone upon the man; a voice came out of the sky. “You deny my existence for all these years, taught others that I don't exist and even credited creation to a cosmic accident.” “Do you expect me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?”

The atheist looked directly into the light, and said: “It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask you to treat me as a Christian now, but perhaps you could make the BEAR a Christian?” “Very well”, said the voice.

The light went out. The sounds of the forest resumed. And the bear dropped his right paw, brought both paws together, bowed his head and spoke: “Lord bless this food, which I am about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord, Amen.”

## *My Story*

I, Tiffany Fox, was born September 21, 1992. I was brought to my Grandma 3 days after birth when my mom and I left the hospital, with off and on visits after the first week. At 3 months of age, due to drug and alcohol abuse by my parents, the Department of Family and Children removed me from my mother's home. My grandma was asked to take custody of me or I would be turned over to foster care immediately. She agreed to take custody. I was suffering with drug and alcohol withdrawal, as well as my brothers and sisters after me. I have three brothers and two sisters. I am the oldest of the six children. My other brothers and sisters had a history with the Department of Family and Children. Our mother had my other brothers and sisters from different men.

I exhibited behavioral and learning problems, which doctors and psychiatrists believe stem from alcohol and drug abuse by my mother during pregnancy, not to mention physical abuse and neglect after birth. My grandma took my younger brother and me and headed to Florida. We were here in 2 ½ days. Once we got here and got into the house, Grandma had to purchase appliances for the home. Grandma, my brother and I came to live in Cape Coral in July 2000. It was pouring rain that day and several days after that. While we did not have furniture in the house we slept on the floor towards the back of our house.

I was saved when I was 7 years old, at First Baptist Church in Cape Coral. My grandma and mom were there. I remember my mom crying and saying what a good child I was. Getting baptized and lead to the Lord was the best choice I have ever made. I have had so much support from the church members at McGregor Baptist Church and they have helped me learn so much more about Jesus. I do have to say though, that my Grandma was and still is, the biggest help.

Sure! I made plenty of mistakes and yes, I am human. I have had my share of issues and hardships due to people picking on me about my family life. I have managed to ignore it. My grandma is the Godliest woman I have ever met. Even after all of the ungodliness I have encountered in my life, I still managed to bounce back. No matter how bad my actions got or how easily I was able to get myself into trouble, I always asked for forgiveness and I have been forgiven. I don't know how much better it can get than that.

I am now 20 years old and am working for Love and Compassion Ministries. I am still living with my grandma and I am helping her with whatever I can. I love the Lord and will do nothing to harm our bond. The reason I am who I am today is because my Grandma has taught me so many things about walking, talking, acting, and thinking like a Christian. I have always been in church. My family was in church every time the doors were open. I am glad I am able to work for the Lord. My grandma has given me life's lessons, "right and wrong" sermons, "God will forgive you" lessons, and every bit of that has helped me cope with everyday life. Now, since I am working at Love and Compassion Ministries, I have even more support from new people!

Jesus has done a lot....I think that is all that needs to be said about that. He has helped my grandma teach me, which has made me wiser (well, smarter in the Lord, anyways). I just want to thank the Lord for all He has done in my life. He has given me a home, someone to take care of me, someone who will clothe me, feed me and just generally give me someone to spend time with. I am so glad I bounced back from the withdrawal of drugs and alcohol. I also want to thank Him for putting such supportive people in my life so I can stay on track each and every day. I pray each and every day that it stays like this and that nothing happens that will hurt somebody. I need all the support I can get.

**Thank you, Lord**

~ **Tiffany Fox**



## Drug Program Ministry

In the last two months we have worked with more ladies than ever before, trying to get them into drug programs. Why? Well, I know three reasons. #1 God is working on them. Most of them have children and they need help getting off the drugs in order to be able to keep the children. #2 Some are looking at long jail and or prison sentences if they don't get help staying off the drugs.

#3 reason is that God is working on me. The last lady that we helped get into a drug program took about sixteen hours. We started that morning at 8:00 AM with a Godly lady riding with me, as shotgun, talking to her probation officer, then dealing with her registering with the sheriff and her probation at the program location. Including lunch, dinner and driving time we spent sixteen hours getting her in an in-house drug program where she could walk away tomorrow. The sixteen hours did not include the time I had already spent working out a deal with the State Attorney and her Public Defender or going to court for two day for her.

Don't you hate it when God finds a way to work on you as you try to reason why you should not do what our Lord has put your hands to doing. I had been thinking of how we could stop working with ladies when it came to getting them into a drug program, because of all the problems that go along with dealing with females. God has brought it to my mind that even though I have never committed a crime or tried drugs, I have been a problem myself.

I know that this is a much needed program, but it is also very expensive and time consuming to run, especially when the clients are ladies. Please help us keep this part of Love And Compassion Ministries going for these ladies need a chance to see God's love and grace through a Christian drug program... or we can stand by and allow satan to win this war using drugs to destroy these ladies, children and families.

I praise the Lord for the many that have receiving Christ as their Savior through this ministry. Please pray for the ones we work with and for us. Thanks!

### The Holy Alphabet

A-lthough things are not perfect  
B-ecause of trial or pain  
C-ontinue in thanksgiving  
D-o not begin to blame

E-ven when the times are hard  
F-ierce winds are bound to blow  
G-od is forever able  
H-old on to what you know

I-magine life without His love  
J-oy would cease to be  
K-eeep thanking Him for all the things  
L-ove imparts to thee

M-ove out of "Camp Complaining"  
N-o weapon that is known  
O-n earth can yield the power  
P-raise can do alone

Q-uit looking at the future  
R-edeem the time at hand  
S-tart every day with worship  
T-o "thank" is a command

U-ntil we see Him coming  
V-ictorious in the sky  
W-e'll run the race with gratitude  
X-alting God most high  
Y-es, there'll be good times and yes some will be bad, but...  
Z-ion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!

Always remember, the shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor.  
For the one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything! Amen.



Friends and Partners,

For fifteen years now, we have served our Lord as a non-denominational, nonprofit organization. We are made up of Christian people who do not believe that you have to be a Baptist, a Church of God, Catholic or any other faith to know God. We recognize the need of others and help them get back on their feet. We produce this newsletter so that it can be distributed to you, prisons, jails, and homeless shelters throughout the state of Florida.

We lead prisoners and their family members to the Lord. We counsel ex-prisoners and their wives. We also send and give out Bibles, tapes, sermons, and pamphlets. Furthermore we send cards and letters to prisoners all over the state of Florida and we provide good wholesome books to read.

We do not accept any government money. We are working to help turn the prison system around. We are here to do everything we can to help stop the same person from reentering the prison system again and again. We are teaching Bible studies to prisoners, drug and alcohol addicted people, and to the homeless. We are teaching the ex-prisoner the basics of life, not to just give them a fish but to teach them how to fish. We are helping the ex-prisoner find a job, housing, and transportation. At Christmas, we give children gifts from their fathers and mothers that are in prisons and jails. We stand ready to be God's hands, mouth, and feet, to spread His Word and to Glorify Him through our works.

I am proud of what God has done through us in these fifteen years. We are winning people to the Lord as we serve Him on the front lines of this great battle between good and evil. We go to ex-prisoners homes and visit with them and their loved ones. We take people to drug programs all over the state of Florida (usually a one day trip). We take people home or to the bus depot, purchase them a ticket, and get them home when they are homeless or just out of jail. We also take the homeless, ex-prisoners, and the elderly to the eye doctor, hospitals, and doctor's appointments. We also make hospital visits. We collect prayer request sheets and email them to our prayer partners so that they can pray for the prisoners, people in drug programs, the homeless, etc. Prayers are being answered!

As you can see we are very busy. I could use a team of twenty people right now to help with all the things that Love And Compassion Ministries is doing now, plus all the things that needs to be doing.

I hope this has enlightened you to what is going on within the walls of Love And Compassion Ministries. I pray that God's will be done, in my life, our volunteers and all that serve through this ministry.

It is time to put away our childish ways and start working together as followers of Christ. We need your support, your prayers and your willingness to serve with the greatest team on earth. God Bless!

In the Presence of our Lord,

*Ron Willis*

Ron Willis, President  
Love and Compassion Ministries, Inc.

**Love And Compassion  
Ministries**

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**Email your comments to:  
newsletter@LoveCompassion.com**

**We're on the Web!  
www.LoveCompassion.com**

Stamp



Prayer requests are very important to us!  
We always need people who are caring and willing  
to personally pray for others' needs.

SEND YOUR PRAYER REQUEST TO ...  
PrayerRequest@LoveCompassion.com

**Behind every  
thoughtful deed  
is a  
*generous  
spirit*  
inspired by the  
*heart of*  
*God.***