

# Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission

October 12, 2006

## Free at Last

### *From “Dead Head” to “Alive to Thrive”*

**D**o you know this person?

His name is John and he has a new outlook on life. A few years ago, John was frustrated



with the way his life was going. Since he was sixteen years old, John had little purpose or direction in his life. John was once known as a “Dead Head.” In other words, John followed the rock and roll group, the “Grateful Dead” all over the country, smoking dope and partying with the other groupies who followed along. John says, “I got drunk every night, following the band around and then, one day, Jerry Garcia (The founder of the Grateful Dead), died. I didn’t know what to do anymore. I felt like I had no direction and no one to lead me.”

John says he wandered around aimlessly for a time until he decided to ask God for help. “Next thing I knew, I was in Montana,” says John. “I was

sitting outside a smoke shop and a lady came up to me and told me Jesus loved me. I couldn’t see her face because the sun was behind her head. Then, a few months later, I was working at an Arby’s and a woman came in and asked for me by name. She left a message with someone at Arby’s saying, ‘He is waiting for you!’”

Once again, John ended up living with the wrong crowd and found himself in some difficult situations. He says he was staying with a married couple and the woman asked him to sleep with her. He told her no, so they kicked him out of the house.

After that, John got on a bus with no idea of where to go. As the bus pulled into Salt Lake, John asked the bus driver if he knew of any place he could go to get help. The bus driver dropped him off right in front of the Salt Lake City Mission, on 200 South in 1997.

John says, “I hesitantly went into the building and met Pastor Wilson. He asked me what I believed in but all I knew was Jerry Garcia and nothing else. Wayne gave me a bible and I started to read it.

“At first, I stayed at the Overflow shelter, but I always came to Bible Studies. There was a lady there named Sister Thomas who was teaching about Heaven and Hell. She told me the only way to get to heaven is through faith in

Jesus Christ. She asked if anyone wanted to receive Jesus as their personal Savior so I went up quickly and was born again. I felt, for the first time in my life, that I had changed. I ran into the bathroom and I even looked different.”

After receiving Jesus, John said he went back out and started using drugs and alcohol again until one night. “I was laying down,” John says,” and I heard someone call my name. I thought it was my friends with some beer, so I went to see who it was. There was no one there. I heard the voice again,” John says, “so this time I said, ‘Lord, what is it? I’ll do whatever you tell me to do.’ The Lord told me to go to the Mission and serve there.”

Since that time, God has used John to bring many to the Lord to find rest for their soul’s. One such person is Bill Collins, who is now a full time pastor at the Salt Lake City Mission.

John is now excited about his life and is having a great time serving God and others. John says he could tell us of many more blessing God has given him but he said it would take a lifetime.

### Guarantee

Jesus promised to never leave us, nor forsake us. In fact He promises us security, provision and help in all that we do with Him. Not only that, but we are also promised that He will soon return to receive us and we will spend eternity with Him. This is the hope of every believer.

These promises are not only for John, but all who take God at His word, and receive Him as their personal Savior.

## BIBLICAL MONEY MANAGEMENT

Proverbs 21:20 Prepare for tomorrow (don’t spend all you have today).

Proverbs 22:7 Buying on credit can be a snare (impulsive spending).

Proverbs 22:26-27 17:18. Be very careful in treating others (no more buying drinks for the boys).

Proverbs 18:11 Money does not bring absolute security by itself (only God keeps us).

Proverbs 19:1 Integrity is more important than riches. It is all God’s in the first place. (don’t sell out).

Proverbs 11:24-25 Give generously (being free in the Spirit to obey).

Ecclesiastes 10:19 Money isn’t the answer to everything (no amount of money cures the human condition).

JESUS said about money:



Matthew 6:24 It can master us if we let it.

Matthew 18: 29-35 It can cause unforgiveness, greed, and destruction.

Matthew 19:16-24 It can keep us from walking closely with God.

Matthew 26:14-15 It can motivate us to sell out the Son of God.

Mark 12:41- 44 Tithe out of a giving heart, not according to your abundance.

Luke 12:16-21 Be rich toward God, not the world.

Luke 16:10-13 We are stewards of God’s stuff, not owners of our own.

**SEVEN REASONS NOT TO WORRY**

(1) 6:25 The same God who created life can be trusted with the details of your life.



(2) 6:26 Worrying about the future hampers your efforts today.

(3) 6:27 Worrying is more harmful than helpful.

(4) 6:28-30 God does not ignore those who depend on Him.

(5) 6:31-32 Worry shows a lack of faith and understanding of God.

(6) 6:33 There are real challenges God wants us to pursue, and worrying keeps us from them.

(7) 6:34 Living one day at a time keeps us from being consumed with worry.

**Matt 6:25**

"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 Which of you by worrying

can add one cubit to his stature? 28 "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; 29 and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

**THREE LITTLE MONKEYS**

Three little monkeys, sat on a coconut tree  
 Discussing things that are said to be  
 Said one to the other," Now listen, you  
 two,  
 There's a terrible rumor that can't be true  
 That man descended from our great  
 race,...  
 Why, brother, the idea's an awful  
 disgrace.  
 A monkey never beat his wife,  
 Harmed her children and ruined her life.  
 And other things, you'll never see  
 Is an ape who's drunk, and on a spree  
 Welding a gun or club or knife  
 To take some other monkey's life...  
 Yes, man descended,...The ornery cuss...  
 But brother, he never descended from us.

**UP COMING EVENTS AND  
OUTREACHES**

**Outreach: Coffee and  
food in the Pioneer Park  
everyday at 8:00am (except  
Sundays)**

**Turkey and Fixin's Give  
Away Monday, Nov. 20 from  
11:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Location: Feed the Poor  
1899 South Redwood Road**

**Thanksgiving Dinner at  
the Delta Center. Thurs  
November 22 11:00am to  
3:00pm**

**Thanksgiving  
Celebration and Dinner at the  
Christian Life Center**

**November 23 at 1041 No.  
Redwood Road SLC, Ut**

**Christmas Celebration and  
Dinner at the Christian Life Center  
November 23 at 1041 No. Redwood  
Road SLC, Ut**

**New Years Celebration and  
Dinner at the Christian Life Center  
November 23 at 1041 No. Redwood  
Road SLC, Ut**

***Volunteer Opportunities  
and Service Projects***

**Food drives**

The Mission feeds over 40,000 meals through out the year. In Pioneer Park, our year round programs and holiday dinners. It take hundreds of people to make this happen. Your help, no matter how big or small, may just be what helps someone get back on their feet.

**Angel Tree**

The Salt Lake City Mission and Worldwide Gospel Church spouncer at least fifty children



**Please Help Us This Thanksgiving!**

**You can give a delicious Thanksgiving dinner to a hungry and homeless person for \$1.83.**

Salt Lake City Mission will serve turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, corn, a roll and a big piece of pumpkin pie. Your help will also provide clean clothes, spiritual encouragement and so much more to each person. We expect to serve 8,000 meals this Thanksgiving season.

\$18.30 for 10 hungry and homeless people  
 \$36.60 for 20 hungry and homeless people  
 \$54.90 for 30 hungry and homeless people  
 \$73.20 for 40 hungry and homeless people  
 \$183.00 for 100 hungry and homeless people  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Costs are approximate, include operation expenses and may be used for programs to help the homeless throughout the year. Not affiliated with the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

A good meal is often the first step to a new life!  
 You will receive a tax-deductible receipt.  
 Please mail your gift today!



**Salt Lake City Mission**  
 P.O. Box 142  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0142

for more info visit our web site at [www.saltlakecitymission.org](http://www.saltlakecitymission.org).

and their families each year. We need new clothes, shoes, coats, toys and other Christmas gifts. These children are unable to be with one, sometimes, two of their parents who are incarcerated. These children need and deserve to have love and hope demonstrated to them. God wants to stop the cycle of violence, neglect and abuse that many of these dear ones suffer

**Fund raisers**

We can always us monitary donations. Get creative and raise some funds for those who need help getting back up.

**Other Needs**

**Clothing drives**

**Hygiene kits**

**Christmas presents (for dinners)**

**Hats, coats, gloves, van and  
trucks, Hay (for the ranch animals)**

**And much more. Just get  
creative and have fun.**