

# Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0142 - Phone 801-355-6310 December 2011

## Faith In Action



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right things for my family and me but I was still messed up. I didn't realize the need for transforming my life through God's word.

It wasn't until I was 37 years old that I got serious about truly seeking God, getting discipled and living for Jesus. I was reading the bible one day and came across the passage where Jesus said, "You will know the truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:32. I gave it all to God right there and started seeking God through the bible. I was in jail at the time but was soon to be released.

I left the jail with nothing but the clothes on my back and one shoe. I ended up getting rid of the one shoe and started walking. Someone gave me a ride down town and I ended up getting some new clothes at an outreach. Soon after that a nice lady walked by me and asked if I would like a Coca Cola to drink? She then asked me what I was looking for? I told her my story and she brought me down to the Salt Lake City Mission. I was embraced by the people at the Mission and felt welcomed.

Since being here I've not only been able to take care of many of my personal matters and issues but I can also help many other's. Individuals and families come to us for food, clothing, personal items and encouragement everyday. I feel like I've finally found something I'm good at. Now I'm not serving myself but serving God by serving others. I like to help people and do God's will.

Now my family is encouraged by what I'm doing and come to church with me every Sunday. We are all growing together because God is awesome in our lives. My mom's prayers, for years, have been answered.

I grew up in a good family and loved them very much but by the time I was 14 years old I was living the fast life. Although I read the New Testament at 20 years old and came to faith in Christ my mind was not made right at that time. I

wanted to do the

I'm finding that what the Lord helps me do is say yes to His will and no to my old ways. Selfishness is very destructive. If I could give advice to anyone I would tell them whatever is hurting you, give it to God, it is toxic waste and causes addictions, disease and sickness. Since I've come to the Mission I feel like I am faith in action.

## What Is Christmas?

For many people, Christmas is a time of sorrow. They don't have the extra money to buy presents for their children, family, and friends. Many are saddened at Christmastime when they think of their loved ones who will not be able to come home for various reasons. Turkey dinners may be only a wish and not a reality for some.

Yet, Christmas can be a season of great joy. It is a time of God showing His great love for us. It can be a time of healing and renewed strength. You see, Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child. God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to be born. His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men, and angels all shared in the excitement of knowing about this great event. They knew this was no ordinary baby. The prophets had told of His coming hundreds of years before. The star stopped over Bethlehem just to mark the way for those who were looking for this special child.



Luke 2: 4-19 says

from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.