

Trusting & Believing

This is a bit of my story. It seems like I have lived lots of different places for lots of different reasons. I've been moving around quite a bit because of some relationships that had started and ended badly. One was my marriage. I've lived in California, Colorado, here in Utah and other places. Some of these relationships have taken me to places where I didn't want to



Lou Ann

go, but I wanted so badly to have them work out. The most recent one was one of the hardest on me emotionally and spiritually. But, now I know what kind of a man I truly desire for my life and live out the rest of my days.

Most recently, I ended up coming here to Salt Lake City to finally get things in motion to reunite with my kids. Unfortunately, the last time I was able to see them was in August of 2007 and every day that goes by creates more of an ache in my heart. I've been trying to comply with all the requests that are being required of me to finally be able to see them face to face. I just can't believe how many dead ends I keep encountering at every turn. I still don't even know where my kids are staying, if they are safe, or if they have been told that I am fighting to be able to see them again. My little boy is now 17 years old and growing into a man. That itself is so hard to believe because the last I saw him; he was a boy in middle school. Now, he is looking to the future and making plans for himself after high school. My little girl is now 14 years old and becoming a young lady. Last I saw her she was in Elementary school. I have missed so much of their growing years because of some bad decisions I had made and a lot of circumstances out of my control. Because of all that, they are being kept from me.

Again, my heart just aches for my babies. I just want to be part of their life and them to know my undying love for them. I can't describe in words how very focused and driven I am to get them back. There is absolutely nothing that can get in my way. My hope is that they will come to know how much I have been fighting for them and just to be a part of their lives once more. Sometimes, it's just so hard to keep going because of all the problems I've been having. All I know is that I have to keep hoping that one day I will see them again. Help me, Lord. Help me, Lord. It seems like I've been talking to Him a lot more lately, especially about this matter with my kids.

I've always been drawn to churches and certain preaching styles. The charismatic preachers seem to still draw me in more than others. But, I don't know if I ever really trusted the Lord with my problems, worries, doubts, or even any of my hopes. It wasn't until just recently going through all of this mess that I am really starting to consider that I can rely on God to help me with the mess with my kids and all the other concerns with my life. It might just be a faith that is as small as a mustard seed right now, but I hear that faith even that small can move mountains. So, I have to believe He has my back. I even had a dream one time about coming to the church here at the Salt Lake City Mission. It seems so weird and crazy, but I think that God was trying to tell me that He knew I would end up here in Salt Lake City and giving me the confirmation that I was doing the right thing, even though this would be one of the most difficult things I would have to face in my life. I think He was also trying to tell me that He would be right by my side as I went through it. He even gave me a vision of the patterns on the tables in the Mission church. Like I said, it seems weird and crazy. I've been reading the book of Jeremiah learning so much about myself, about God, and about cool things that God will do when we just trust and believe.

So, for now, I trust and believe, as much as I can that the mess with my kids will turn out someday and I'll be able to live out some of my dreams like starting a fresh life in my own place so I can get out of the shelter and be able to have my kids over any time. I have a hope someday to get married, even though my first marriage was so horrible. I just want to find the man God has for me- someone who will love and respect me like I would for him, someone grounded and going somewhere in life, and date for a while so I know absolutely sure that he is an upstanding man. My number one priority is that he has got to know and love the Jesus I am coming to know more closely. Someday my dreams will come true. I guess it's just my job to try to be as patient as I can. Until then, I will trust the Lord and believe. ----- Lou Ann

Amen.

Happy Thanksgiving



Why Ours \$1.98?

Salt Lake City Mission Special Events

✓ Serves Thousands ☺

- ✓ Event held on the Actual Holiday Communicates HOPE and that PEOPLE REALLY CARE - Double Time Pay Required by Law. 18 Paid Staff at 3 Locations ☺ ?
- ✓ Large Facility Rented to Seat the Thousands that come for food, help and hope. So They can relax and enjoy ☺ ?
- ✓ Rents 2 Buses running continually to Transport to and from the Special Dinners. Families, Vets and Needy. ☺ ?
- ✓ Dinner Sit-Down All You Can Eat Family Style - Served by Volunteers with Love, Hope, Dignity and Prayer. ☺ ?
- ✓ Clothing, Blankets, Hygiene Kits, Etc., Available. ☺ ?
- ✓ Lively Christian Salvation & Entertainment. ☺ ?
- ✓ On Staff Professional Licenced & Pastoral Counseling, Assistance & Help Available at all Events and Daily. ☺ ?
- ✓ Over the Counter Cold and Flu Medicine Available to care for the hundreds that are sick and afflicted. ☺ ?
- ✓ Encourage to Get Help Now! Detox & Other Programs.☺ ?
- ✓ Veteran Liaison Provided to Assist the 33% of Homeless that are Vets receive the much needed help available. ☺ ?
- ✓ Established as a Church By God! Empowered By God! & Approved by God! For The Glory Of God! ☺ ?
- ✓ Incorporated Christian Non-Denominational Church. ☺ ?
- ✓ PRO-JESUS. All are Welcome! We offer our services to all with out regard to their race, creed, religion, sex, etc. ?
- ✓ We Teach the truth JESUS with one mind, one doctrine, one hope, one faith, one baptism, one God & Father of all ?
- ✓ Faith, Love, Hope Acceptance & Compassion Offered ☺ ?
- ✓ Long-Term Recovery Program Offered - Professional Licenced & Pastoral Counseling Staff and Assistance ☺ ?
- ✓ Educational Help GED, Associates and Bachelors Degree Programs Offered to Clients in Recovery Programs. ☺ ?
- ✓ On Approved List for Parolees and Probationers and Court Order Community Service work. ☺ ?

Why Their's \$0.97cents???

The Their Events

? Serves Hundreds ☹

- Usually held a day or two before the Actual Holiday Communicates to the people that they are Not Special and No One Really Cares and no extra pay required very little staff. ☹
- Seating for Only about 100 people at a time in the Dining Room the rest have to Stand in line outside for hours. ☹
- No Transportation for events. Families/Women must walk thru the worst part of town and wait for hours in line outside . ☹
- Dinner usually served in Chow Line Style. Rushed in and out! Cannot Enjoy the Meal. Herded like cattle through a feed lot.☹
- Offer Clothing in a Over Crowed Small Chow Hall. ☹
- Very little as most people are force to stand in line outside. ☹
- Very Little or No Professionally Licensed & Pastoral Counseling Staff & Assistance available at events! ☹
- None offered to all the hundreds that are sick and afflicted. ☹
- Very Little due to very limited and small paid staff. ☹
- No Veteran Liaison Provided to help the 33% of vets in need. ☹
- Established by Man - as a Social Welfare Organization ☹
- Incorporated and listed as a Social Welfare Organization ☹
- Anti-Mormon - Anti-Gay - Anti-Muslim..Very Discriminatory ☹
- Conflicting Evangelization Every Night Different Churches Teaching Differing, Doctrines & Varying Beliefs. Confusing ☹
- Little Love, Hope Acceptance & Compassion Offered ☹
- Short term program offered ☹
- Enabling methodology - Little or no education assistance. ☹
- Most Judges tell us that they will not send anyone there. ☹

For Years They Have Publically and Vehemently Condemned Us for Everything We Do and Now They Are Superficially Copying (Counterfeiting) Everything They Publically and Vehemently Condemned Us for Only to Get Donations! ☹

“Ye shall know them by their fruits...” Matthew 7:16-17

† Your Gifts TO US Provide Good Food and A WAY OUT!

† Your Gifts TO US Provide Real Change Not Just Spare Change!

† Your Gifts TO US Give Hope To the Hopeless!