

this issue

**“If for only one”  
Luke 5:4-7**

**How You Can Help:**

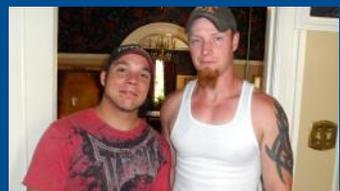
- Pray for us
- Donate supplies
- Volunteer at the Gifts of Grace Resale Store
- Become a Mentor
- Become a Grace Partner

**Grace Partners:**

Wiseman Ministries, Inc. is a non-profit, 501c(3) organization. Our ministry operates solely on donations from individuals, churches, businesses and organizations. Please prayerfully consider becoming a Grace Partner. As a Grace Partner, you join with us to fulfill Matthew 25 & Isaiah 58 by providing food to the hungry, clothing to the needy, shelter to the homeless, to minister to those in prison and to help liberate those controlled by addictions.

**Mission Statement:**

To make disciples who know Christ, share Christ, and multiply Christ in the lives of others.



Congratulations to Aaron R. and Michael F. for receiving certificates for being Servant Leaders during the month of May.



**“My Story” by Eric Endsley, Program Graduate**

My name is Eric Endsley, and I was adopted at 10 days old. I was born deaf and with asthma and was not expected to live very long. The doctor told my adoptive parents to just make me comfortable, because I would die soon. My parents prayed and didn't give up on me, they had faith and knew that God had a plan for my life. Today I am alive, healthy and 20 years old. Some might say I'm a miracle child, but growing up I didn't feel like one. I felt out of place, lost, didn't know who I was and felt like I didn't belong. Everyone my age growing up around me had a certain look I didn't have. I was growing up short and awkward, and my legs were turned inward. That is when the insecurities started at about 11 years old. My parents divorced, and it had a huge impact on my life. About a month after the divorce, my mother asked if I would move with her to Tatum, TX. When I arrived there, I found the best friends I could ask for. After all the junk and drama, I started acting out and looking for ways to get into trouble. When my mom got married again, I became angry. This man was trying to be my father and was ruining my life. I hated him and I hated my mom for marrying him. I began to steal money from him and my family and living it up with my friends. When my parents found out, they were livid. I was put behind bars to teach me a lesson, but it only boosted my ego. I began to do some stupid things to impress a girl. She did drugs and drank. When a

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classmate died, I started smoking weed for the first time and soon after came hydrocodone, muscle relaxers and anything else I could get my hands on. My Senior year of high school was going well, but I was still angry. That's where Ecstasy came in. It made me happy and confident. Over the three years of using Ecstasy, I found myself not caring about the future. I rolled my way through college, then dropped out because I spent all my money on drugs. Eventually, my parents caught on to me using drugs and kicked me out. They gave me a choice to go to House of Disciples or pay my first month's rent at an apartment and keep my job at Longview Regional Hospital. But for some reason, with tears in my eyes and huge smile on my face, I came to H.O.D. and I am more real and more myself than I have ever been. I will be graduating this month, and I have learned a lot about myself. I have gained confidence and a peace that I have never had before. I have learned that I am not a follower, I am a leader. In having this year off from the world, I discovered my true passion: writing. I love it, it's an escape, and it's good for me. I'm writing a book titled "Life Happens Fast" right now. While at H.O.D. I got baptized. H.O.D. helped me realize I'm not a quitter. You don't give up, you pull through. I recommend H.O.D. to everyone. I'm becoming closer to God every day and finding something new in myself to work on. After H.O.D. will be the real test, and I'm ready. I plan on going to Kilgore College.

**“From The Heart” by Tim Wiseman, Executive Director (Part A)**



You know why we started the House of Disciples, Life Recovery Centers? Well, Betty Ford said it best when asked that question about starting the Betty Ford Clinic, "Because our streets are littered with geniuses." How true is that statement!!! Some of the finest and most talented people I personally know are the ones that have come into our program, and

I have had the honor of meeting. When these geniuses come to us and desire to enter our Life Recovery program, normally it is due to an addiction in their life that has become unmanageable. Another saying we use is that the individual is powerless over their addiction and need outside help. I have always been intrigued to know how they first entered the lifestyle. A question I ask each individual in our program is "Where did it begin with you?" The answer to that question reveals so much about

the person. They will say that it was a family member, friend, girl or neighbor who introduced them to alcohol and/or drugs early on in their life. Out of that conversation I learn that he or she will associate a large portion of the blame for the addiction on the person who introduced them to the substance. The problem with their rationalization is that addiction does not begin at the first moment he or she partakes of the drug. Addiction begins way before that moment.

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## “From the Heart” Part B

(Continued...) The door to that addiction was opened due to a faulty belief system which began much earlier in life. It is in our belief system that addiction is formed. People begin with core beliefs about themselves that affect how they perceive reality. Most everyone who struggles with addiction has read the book, “Out of the Shadows” by Patrick Came. In Came’s book he writes, “Each person has a belief system that is the sum of the assumptions, judgments and myths that he or she holds to be true. It contains potent family messages about a person’s value or worth, relationships and needs.” For each one of us, our belief system is the filter through which we conduct the main task of our lives: making choices. In short, I have come to the conclusion that if one desires to change their behavior, they must first change their belief system about themselves.

## HOD Graduation

The Spring 2014 Graduation of the House of Disciples Life Recovery Center was truly inspiring. We had our largest class to date with 17 graduates. Trey Patterson, with Patterson Nissan, was our commencement speaker. The House of Disciples Band ministered and Matt Stelter shared remarks in memory of the late, Nate Hemmes. We are thankful to all the teachers, mentors and volunteers who have given of their time and talents to help make all this possible. We are also thankful to everyone who came out to the graduation to show their support. Please continue to keep our graduates in your prayers as their journeys have just begun.



## Volunteer Highlight



Our Volunteer Highlight for this month is Dan Doktor. Dan is actively involved in the House of Disciples as a teacher, a mentor and is faithful every Saturday to pick up a load of HOD guys to go to the Shade Tree Ministry on Highway 80. The residents and staff are deeply grateful to Dan for his ministry at HOD and are pleased to be able to donate a bus to help with his ministry efforts. For more information about volunteering at HOD, call the office at 903-553-0952.



## May Birthday:

May’s Birthday Boy is Caleb H. Carol Meyer hosted the celebration with her usual delicious treats, but this month was even more special. Caleb and the guys also showed their appreciation for her and sang “Happy Birthday” for Mrs. Meyer, whose birthday is May 18. Mrs. Meyer has blessed the ministry’s guys each Christmas and every month for over two years acknowledging the men with special gifts and treats.

## HOD Band Update

In May, the House of Disciples Band ministered at the Crab Fest in Crystal Beach near our program facility in High Island. There were several hundred people at the festival on Sunday morning, including celebrity, Anthony Anderson. Several of the ministry team were able to take a photo with him. The band also ministered at the Spring 2014 HOD Graduation. The House of Disciples ministry team is currently working on their June prison tour production.



## Steering Committee



The House of Disciples Resident Steering Committee is a three-person committee with a resident that represents each phase. They must be voted in by the residents and serve a 3-month term. The committee is a solution driven committee serving as a voice for the residents to the program leaders; to assist in helping the program realize its vision and the residents reach their personal goals in recovery; to develop and train residents to seek solutions to problems in life and as leaders.

## HOD HI at Crab Fest

On Mother’s Day weekend, House of Disciples - High Island had the pleasure of working at the Crab Festival in Crystal Beach. They were assigned the clean-up detail and spent the days riding around on go-carts emptying trash cans and bringing ice to the vendors. The highlight of the event was getting to meet Anthony Anderson. He was very nice and made it a priority to visit the HOD guys at their booth to shake their hands and take a group photo.



## HOD Softball:



The HOD Softball team had a fun-packed spring season. It is great to see the men’s team spirit. They ended with a 4-4 record and the summer season starts in a few weeks. Come out and show your support.

## HOD Denison Update

House of Disciples in Denison, Texas is one step closer to becoming a reality. Renovations have begun on the new Gifts of Grace Resale Store that will help to bring in funds to support the Life Recovery Center. Program graduate, Nate Miller, will oversee the store operations, and graduate, Matt Stelter will function as the Program Director. The store will be located at 2300 W. Morton in Denison across from the Refuge Church, which has been a great partner with our ministry. We are excited to see what God has planned.



## Upcoming Events

**Friday, June 6 / 7:00 PM - Friday Night Live**

HOD Band / HOD Chapel, Longview, TX

**Sunday, June 8 / 7:00 PM**

HOD Band / Johnston Prison, Winnsboro, TX

**Tuesday, June 10 / 7:00 PM**

HOD Band / Diboll Prison, Diboll, TX

**Wednesday, June 11 (Men) / 6:00 PM**

HOD Band / E.T.T.F. Prison, Henderson, TX

**Thursday, June 12 (Women) / 6:00 PM**

HOD Band / E.T.T.F. Prison, Henderson, TX

**Friday, June 13 / 7:00 PM**

HOD Band / Billy Moore Prison, Overton, TX

**Sunday, June 29 / 9:00 AM**

HOD Band / Church at Red River, Shreveport, LA

## Contact us:

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Longview, TX 75601

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House of Disciples

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High Island, TX 77623

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Bookings: 903-851-9249

**Gifts of Grace Resale Store:**

[Facebook.com/giftsofgraceresale](https://www.facebook.com/giftsofgraceresale)

Store: 903-234-2341