

“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
- Teach classes
- 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 Earl D., John V., Kyle C., and Mike A. for receiving certificates for being Servant Leaders for the month of September.



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“My Story” by Cody Hutchinson, HOD Resident at High Island



My name is Cody and I just completed 12-months at the House of Disciples. When I first came to HOD, it was not what I wanted to do. I had been an addict for 16 years. My Mom was a user and I got my drugs from her (without permission). It started when I was 12 years old.

My sisters were very concerned for me and pleaded for me to find some help after my fourth intentional overdose. After contacting Brad Brock at House of Hope in Madisonville, he referred me to the House of Disciples in Longview, where I was checked into. I didn't want to be there, but my sisters had said that I wasn't the brother that they knew. I wanted to make them happy, so I stayed.

It wasn't until later that I realized I needed to be there. After completing phases 1 & 2 at HOD - Longview, I was transferred to HOD - High Island. It has been an eventful year, and my faith in God has grown. I had searched for my estranged dad for 12 years, and I found him after he had been diagnosed with cancer. Seven months later he died. Weeks

later, my sister who had been so supportive of me died in a car accident. I was devastated. But my faith grew. James 1:2-4 (NLT): *“When troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”* The devil wanted to destroy me, but I have made the choice to put my faith in God. I pray this testimony will lead others to Christ. Genesis 5:20 (NLT): *“You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.”*

These events changed my life. Now, I want to stay on the path that God has for me. I want to tell other men that if they want to change their lives, HOD is the right choice. Hang in there and stay the course. If you're not ready to change, it won't work. God had to do some drastic things to get my attention and to put me on the right path. But I found that He was there for me. I also want to thank Mike and Wanda Smith, at HOD - High Island, for being there for me.

“From The Heart” by Tim Wiseman, Executive Director



A little boy is among many other spectators at a sporting event. He is fooling around with his ball cap, then his glove. He

is bored and not interested. There is just not enough excitement to keep his attention. To no avail, he tries to disfigure his adorable face to put on full display his disapproval with his current situation. He pushes his bottom lip out, he drops his head down low. With his soft cheeks puffed up he mumbles to his dad, “I'm ready to go home.” At that moment, everyone around him stands to their feet quickly. He can hear the crowd's anticipation for a big play. With a sense of

urgency he jumps as high as he can, but it's not high enough. He then attempts to maneuver for a more visible position, but it is too crowded. Frustrated and in desperate need of getting his perspective changed, he pulls on the bottom of daddy's sports jersey, lifts his arms and says, “Pick me up!” In your journey of life, have you ever been casually walking along when suddenly an event happens and you find yourself frustrated and in desperate need of a perspective change? I have many times. And in those moments or seasons, I find myself time and time again, lifting my hands to God and asking Him to give me His perspective on what is happening. David finds himself

needing a perspective change when he writes, “...lead me to the Rock that is higher than I”, Psalms 61:2. From the valley where David is standing, he can't see anything but the war that is raging around him. He cannot see anything in front of him but the storm itself. He cries out to God asking Him to take his hand and lead him to a higher place; a place above the storm; a place of peace; a place that reminds David that God holds the world in His hands and that He is in control. Always keep in mind that as a believer in Christ, you have the awesome privilege of asking your faithful God to take you higher; for a better view of how He is working your situation out for your good! What an amazing God we serve!

HOD Band Update

This past month, the band ministered at six venues. On the 8th, they ministered at the Gathering at FBC-Longview with 29 in attendance. That same night, they ministered at the Johnston Prison with 143 in attendance and 66 responded to the altar call. On the 14th, they were in downtown Denison (pictured) with 350 in attendance and 11 responded to the altar call. On the 20th, they were at our HOD branch in High Island for our Producing Pearls Benefit with 51 in attendance. On the 21st, they ministered at the Recovery in the Park event at McWhorter Park with 150 in attendance. And finally, on the 22nd, they ministered at Lanes Chapel United Methodist Church in Tyler with 286 in attendance.



HOD Graduation Planned

We have had quite a few residents complete our Life Recovery Program over the last couple months. We will be holding a graduation ceremony in their honor on Friday, November 8th at 7 PM. The ceremony will be held in the Theater Room at the First Baptist Church in Longview, Texas. The FBC is located across the street from the House of Disciples. A reception with refreshments will follow in our new dining room at HOD. Please make plans to attend this inspirational event and show your support for our graduates.



Summer Softball Champs

The old saying "You win as a team, and you lose as a team" even applies to House of Disciples softball team. Since its first team formed in the fall of 2008, it has struggled to win a single game in each of its three seasons per year. Due to guys entering and exiting the program, it has been a challenge to put together a good team. In summer of 2012, the team pulled off its first winning season with a 6-2 record, earning 2nd Place, only to become a distant memory in the fall and again this past spring. Going into this summer, we saw a group of men who were committed to complete the 12-month recovery program and through much dedication and discipline, we put together a season of victories. By the end of the season, we ended with a 7-1 record and for the first time we earned a 1st Place victory in our division. We



followed this by winning the summer season tournament and achieved the 1st Place championship. You may ask, what makes this team the best team ever? It is their commitment to each other and to completing their life recovery program. The team that plays together, stays together. This fall we have 9 of the 11 members still together and that is a testimony of God's blessing on commitment. Philippians 1:6 (NLT): "And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns."

Kids Baseball Team



The Rage Baseball players helped with the monthly food giveaway at the Harvest Center on Tuesday, September 10th. Rage is a team of 10-year-old boys who volunteered assistance in the food distribution to needy families. The boys' coach, Tracey Fears, said when the team was formed, "We were going to impress helping in the community and not just baseball. Jesus came as a servant." The team has a strong focus on developing character and baseball skills. RAGE stands for Reaching A Generation Eternally.

New Shoes

The recent Ice Cream Eating Contest at First Baptist Church of Longview couldn't have been more fun for our guys. Four of our residents, Corey H., Keith B., Shawn M., and Robert M., (pictured) each won a new pair of athletic shoes from Academy Sports & Outdoors. Each ice cream contestant was declared a winner when none was able to finish a half-gallon in less than five minutes. The hot weather did nothing to soften the brain freeze the men had when it was over.



HWY 80 Band:

Our residents were blessed to be led in worship by the HWY 80 Rescue Mission Band during our Friday Night Live. Band members included: Rick Watson, Stanley Livingston, Gary York, and "C.C." Gower.

VIP Program at GOG:

We are very excited to announce a new program for our Gifts of Grace volunteers. It is called the Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP). For every four hours that an individual volunteers at Gifts of Grace, they will receive a \$5 VIP Grace Bucks certificate. Grace Bucks expire after 90 days.

Michael A. Baptized:

Recently, Michael A. was baptized by Pastor Cary Hilliard of First Baptist Church in Longview. We are so honored to have Michael as a friend and be a part of his life journey. He does not say much, but when he does, it is usually something heart felt.



HOD Softball Schedule:

The Fall Season of softball is here! Games are held every Tuesday night at Hinsley Park on Field 1. Come out and show your support.

Game times are:

10-01	7:45 PM
&	8:45 PM
10-08	8:45 PM
10-15	8:45 PM
10-22	8:45 PM
10-29	6:45 PM



Upcoming Events

Saturday, Oct 5 / 7 PM

The Rookie - Second Chances Benefit, Longview, TX

Sunday, Oct 13 / 10 AM

HOD Band - Lanes Chapel UMC, Tyler, TX

Wednesday, Oct 16 - Thursday, Oct 17 / 6 PM

HOD Band - ETX Treatment Facility, Henderson, TX

Saturday, Nov 2 - Saturday, Nov 9 / 9 AM - 6 PM

Gifts of Grace Resale Store / \$1 MEGA SALE

Friday, Nov 8 / 7 PM

HOD GRADUATION, Longview, TX

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