



SCAN ME

ADDICTION: “A SAD REALITY IN AMERICA”

If you or a loved one are trapped, it's time to seek help.



46.8 million (16.7%) Americans (aged 12 and older) battled a substance use disorder in the past year.

(Source: <https://americanaddictioncenters.org/addiction-statistics>)



“My mother passed away shortly after I got into crystal meth.”

(Read Ashley's story on page 7)



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Bishop Edir Macedo

No problem is an orphan



The UBB shared hundreds of hygiene kits at Riverside Unit in Texas



Page 8

Watch our series at 9 PM ET on



KINGS

THE DECEPTION



SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

NOT TO BE SOLD

| IN THIS EDITION |

Addictions

A sad reality in America

Many people are in denial of being addicted. They tell themselves they can quit if they want to, choosing to see their addiction as something they enjoy doing or as something normal. They are convinced everything is under control, and so they never claim that they are addicted or even that they need help. But the reality is they are in denial.

According to the National Institution of Health, human beings have a defense mechanism that sometimes causes us to subconsciously reject aspects of reality that make us feel uncomfortable. But if one really wants to see the truth, this cannot stop them from seeing it! We have to look at our lives.

This rather 'enjoyable habit' controls their decision and destroys their lives and family. But as long as an individual is not willing to admit that they have an addiction and need help, they will never be able to break free from it. Maybe this individual has been you or maybe someone you know. Perhaps you do recognize that you need help. Still, despite everything you have tried, you can't seem to abandon it altogether. Do not give up! Why not give God a try? What do you have to lose? We are here to help.

| BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is a sadness felt in the deepest part of one's soul. It causes a great sense of hopelessness and exhaustion, such that a person loses the motivation to do anything, and some lose the desire to live. It is an illness of the soul. But who can heal the soul? No other than the Savior of Souls, the Lord Jesus, can heal a sick soul.

On Fridays, at every Universal Church, we have a service for Deliverance from Depression. Visit a branch near you today. Make a Chain of Prayer by attending a prayer meeting near you for seven consecutive weeks. You will receive practical steps, counseling, and spiritual help through prayers to beat depression once and for all.

There are thousands of testimonials worldwide that prove a Chain of Prayer works. You won't regret it. You, too, CAN defeat depression!



Call 1.888.332.4141
Text 1.888.312.4141
For more information
SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS



Bishop Edir Macedo



No problem is an Orphan

It wasn't by chance that the Lord Jesus said: "A tree is known by its fruit." (Matt. 12:33) He knew what he was talking about and where He was going.

For starters, we see that He used logic: If this, then that. In this case, if the fruit is good, then the tree is good, too. If the fruit is bad, then the tree is also bad. This is logical, intelligent, and undisputable. God calls us to such intelligence. He wants us to use logic to discover the root of our problems.

I have counseled people with various problems for twenty-plus years in my work. Rarely does anyone come to us knowing the root of their problem. Usually, people want to solve the visible problem that is causing them pain at that time. They do not realize that every problem has an origin, a root. They talk about wanting a job, improving communication in their relationship, breaking an addiction, and so on. These are all "leaves" and "branches" of trees with much deeper roots.

No problem is an orphan. That person is out of a job for one or more factors. Poor communication happens because of more significant reasons that affect the relationship. Addiction is



only a symptom, not the disease itself.

Just as no one is born without the action of a father and a mother, no problem arises from nothing.

Logic and intelligence. God wants us to fight against our problems using these weapons. Want to learn how to use them? Join us this Sunday in the UCKG closest to you.



"Controlled by addiction"

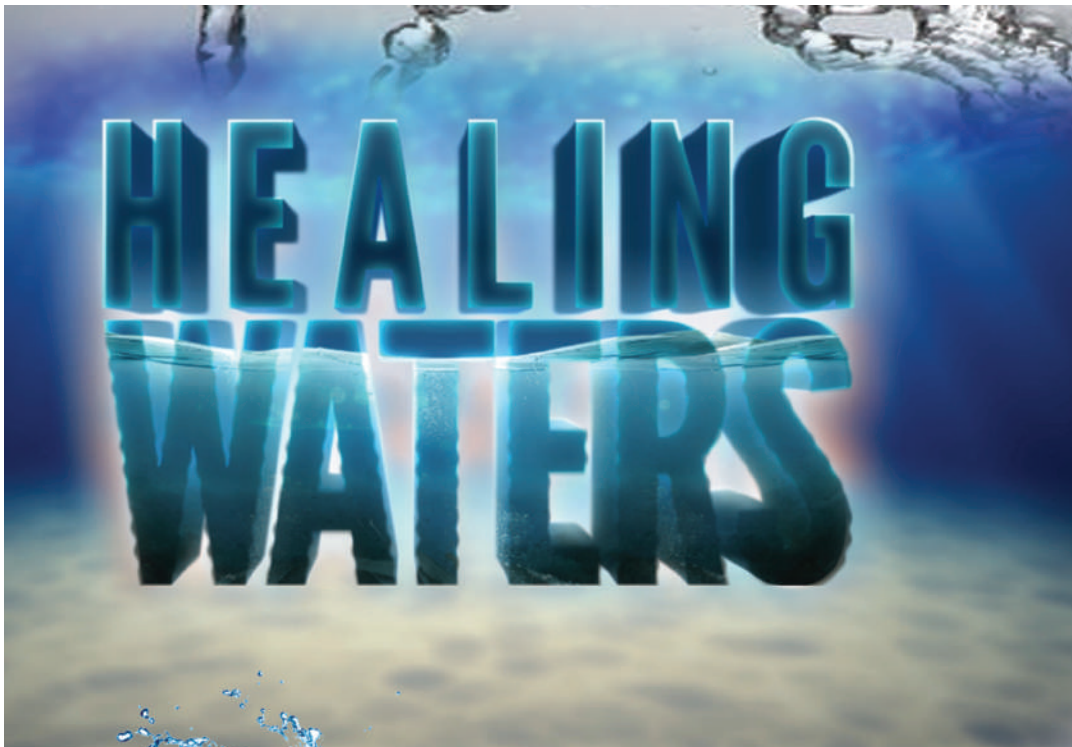
I also had many family problems. We constantly fought and hated each other. My brother and I did not get along with our father growing up, significantly affecting me. I became short-tempered. I once was imprisoned for fighting with a neighbor over a woman. I spent a month in jail and lost my job.

I participated in the chains of prayers for my deliverance from my addictions and for God to restore my family. I spoke to the Pastor and told him that I was struggling to quit my addiction. He prayed for me and advised me to persevere in the chains of prayers. As I persevered, I eventually stopped drinking alcohol altogether, and I committed my life to God.

"I was a womanizer and an alcoholic. I had a good job and salary, but I did not see where my money was going because I spent most of my salary on alcohol. I could not even sleep without drinking alcohol, and as a result, I drank excessively every day.

After being released, I went looking for another job, and it was during this time that I came across a newspaper from the Universal Church with the words Stop Suffering on the front cover. I picked it up, and when I arrived home, I read it. I decided to look for the church and started attending the services.

Presently, I am free from addiction and found a good job. Even when there are functions at work, I don't have the desire or need to drink alcohol. I am a very calm person, and I no longer fight with people. God restored the peace in my family, and we are more united than ever. I am enjoying my life in the presence of God," said Ronald.



“My medical test results were all negative.”

For over a year, I had been silently battling with depression because I spent six months taking different medical tests. I didn't even tell my children about my health battles, and I worried about the test results. I decided to use my faith in God with the Blessed Water; I declared my healing in Jesus' name. All my results came out negative and normal, and I am no longer depressed.



“I struggled with bleeding problems and had seven surgeries.”

I had a bleeding problem to the point where I had to wear diapers. I also had thyroid problems. By using the Blessed Water by faith and declaring my healing, I saw significant changes; even the doctor was surprised because my health miraculously improved. Today, I am healed completely. – Beverly



“Healed from Arthritis”

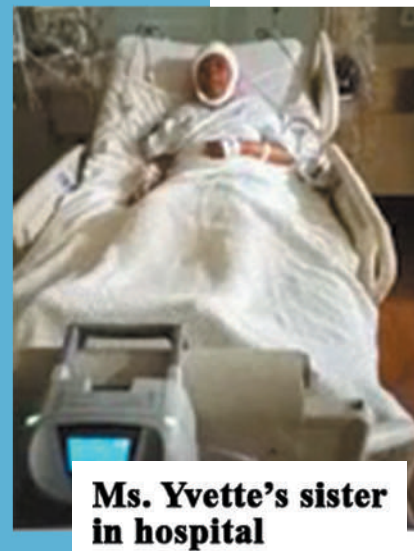
Six years ago, I was diagnosed with arthritis. The doctor had told me that I would be taking medications for the rest of my life.

When I came to this ministry, I started drinking the Blessed Water daily and using my faith. Now, I have no more pain or swelling in my body, and I no longer need to take medication for arthritis. - Henry



“My sister was diagnosed with a tumor in her head.”

My sister was very sick to the point of being hospitalized. She was diagnosed with a tumor in her head.



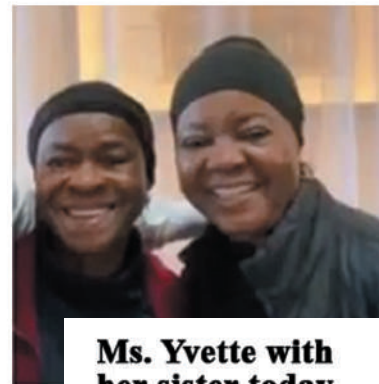
Ms. Yvette's sister in hospital

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I didn't accept my sister's situation. I exercised my faith on her behalf as I was already coming to this ministry.

My sister is now healed; she doesn't have the tumor anymore. She's very well today.

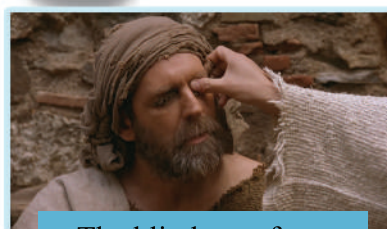
- Ms. Yvette



Ms. Yvette with her sister today, out of hospital and healed



RECEIVE THE HEALING WATERS THIS SUNDAY at your nearest Universal Church



The blind man from birth was healed when he washed with the waters by faith.
John 9



Naaman was healed from leprosy when he dipped in the waters by faith.
2 Kings 5

Faith by itself if it does not have works, is dead.
James 2:14



| MESSAGE |

Bishop Joshua

THE SATISFACTION OF YOUR SOUL



When you're hungry, you eat, and your physical needs are satisfied. Thirst sends you searching for water to quench it.

But what do you do when you feel empty inside, deep in your soul? How can you fill that emptiness?

Some dive into the whirlwind of parties or are trapped by addiction. Some think that having a lot of money will make them feel better. Could having a loving family and good friends satisfy our soul? And are things like being famous or doing well in school enough to make us truly happy? Maybe going on a fantastic trip is what we need to feel complete? The answer is No!

The truth is, only one can truly, deeply satisfy your soul—the Holy Spirit. Without it, we're left with a gaping void that leads to depression, sadness, and anxiety.

The Bible tells us, **“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”** (Romans 15:13)

Quenching physical thirst or satisfying earthly desires may fill a moment. Still, only the Holy Spirit can truly satisfy the soul's hunger. Seek the Holy Spirit, and let it fill you with peace and joy.

May the God of the Bible bless you!

May 2024 Bible Reading

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Matthew 1 ✓	2 Matthew 2 ✓	3 Matthew 3 ✓	4 Matthew 4 ✓
5 Matthew 5 ✓	6 Matthew 6 ✓	7 Matthew 7 ✓	8 Matthew 8 ✓	9 Matthew 9 ✓	10 Matthew 10 ✓	11 Matthew 11 ✓
12 Matthew 12 ✓	13 Matthew 13 ✓	14 Matthew 14 ✓	15 Matthew 15 ✓	16 Matthew 16 ✓	17 Matthew 17 ✓	18 Matthew 18 ✓
19 Matthew 19 ✓	20 Matthew 20 ✓	21 Matthew 21 ✓	22 Matthew 22 ✓	23 Matthew 23 ✓	24 Matthew 24 ✓	25 Matthew 25 ✓
26 Matthew 26 ✓	27 Matthew 27 ✓	28 Matthew 28 ✓	29 Titus 1 ✓	30 Titus 2 ✓	31 Titus 3 ✓	

♥

I LOST IT ALL BECAUSE OF ADDICTIONS

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), addiction is a chronic disease that affects a person's brain and changes their behavior so that they act in a way that harms them. Without a doubt, one of the first impacts is on health. However, there are other losses for those who give in to drug use, such as family, professional, and emotional problems. Addiction causes depression, loss of self-esteem, dignity, principles, material losses, and, often, even life.

Addiction is not only linked to a drug or an attitude that generates pleasure for the individual, but there is a greater force behind it, which is the 'spirit of addiction' that dominates the person. Therefore, there are many cases of those who even want to stop using drugs and try on their own but are unable to do so. Others resort to medications, treatments, and even hospitalizations but live with relapses. These treatments detoxify the body, but the spirit of addiction acts in the mind of the person with an addiction. Therefore, the solution is to extract this strength of addiction.

Healing from addiction happens through a decision to put an end to addiction and to obey what is taught in the Word of God, which means that for a person to be free from addiction, it is necessary to commit to the Almighty: the Lord Jesus. This is what Mr Kerry Wright decided to do: read his story.



My name is Kerry John Wright. I'm 53 years old. Growing up, I liked attending parties and clubs, drinking daily, and having fun. As time passed, I got married, and everything went well until my wife started to change. She started going out and getting involved with other guys. At this time, I got too much into drinking I would drink all day and all night. I was so addicted to the drinking that as I got up in the morning, the first thing I had to do was get a drink.

Apart from the drinking, I started to smoke. I would smoke three packs of cigarettes a day. I stopped taking care of myself, I wasn't eating right, I wasn't sleeping, and I started to lose a lot of weight. I had a lot of good things, like jewelry, but I lost it all. I even had gold teeth, and because of the problems that I was facing and the depression, I started pulling out my teeth until I pulled out all of them. It hurt so bad, but I still did it. I lost all my teeth; I pulled them from the roots and looked like an older man. That was how bad my situation was.

When I heard about the Universal Church, I decided to come because I needed my life to change. I could not take the pain of the depression anymore, and when I went to the church, no one judged me. Despite my appearance, I was treated like everyone else, and people were friendly.

I started making the chain of prayer as advised by the pastor every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday. Whatever I was learning, I started to put it into practice. Step by step, my life began to change. I lost the desire to drink and smoke; I didn't need them anymore. I was set free from the addictions and the depression, and today, my life is completely transformed. Some people who knew me before seeing the change in my life cannot believe that I am the same person, but it is; God gave me a new life by His grace, and it's lovely to be blessed like that. I am inviting all those suffering to come and start a chain of prayer for the transformation of your life and see how God will change your life.

What's happening at the Universal Church

"I wanted to quit, but I couldn't find the strength to."



Jonathan had an addiction to marijuana, cocaine, mushrooms, pills, and alcohol for over 17 years. Still, He was able to break free through faith and with the help of God.

"My life in addictions began at an early age. My mom worked all day, so I was left alone and would walk in the streets from a very young age. There, I found terrible friends, and they introduced me to drugs. Initially, I began using drugs just for fun. Over time, it became an addiction that lasted from the age of thirteen to thirty or so.

First, I tried smoking; then I started drinking alcohol and using marijuana, then cocaine, pills, and magic mushrooms. By the time I realized it, I was already deeply immersed in that world. I wanted to quit, but I couldn't find the strength to.

I never had enough money because I used the majority of the money I earned working on expensive drugs. While I was at work, all I was thinking about was what I was going to get high on at night. I tried to stop, but I couldn't. I'd stop for a day or two and fall right into it again. My partner and I were constantly fight-

ing because of my addictions. Most of the time, I was out of my mind because of the effects of the drugs.

But thanks to the invitation I received, I began to participate in the services at the Universal Church. It was there that I realized that my problem was spiritual. So, I started using my faith and persevering every week. I asked God to give me the willpower I was missing, and He helped me.

If it weren't for Him, I probably wouldn't be alive today because I had started selling drugs, and problems arose. The situation was getting more and more complicated. Sometimes, I had to hide for my safety because people were looking for me to harm me.

But today, I am a living testimony of what God can do. I am free from the addictions. Thanks to God, I have a restored and blessed family, a three-year-old daughter and a son on the way."

- Johnathan



Before

If you identify with these stories, God is speaking to you. It's time to start over. It doesn't matter what happened in the past, what you went through, what you did, or how long you were away from God. You can write a new story just like they have. Visit a Universal Church near you today.

"When I was twelve, I had my first binge drink."



"Before I got to know the Universal Church, I was addicted to marijuana, alcohol, and prostitution. It all started when I was twelve. At that age, I had my first binge drink. I rebelled and began fighting with my parents. I wanted to make my own life, and it got to the point that I decided to leave home when I was very young.

That's when I met my baby's father and 'fell in love.' He had an addiction to alcohol, cocaine, and marijuana. I felt like I had gotten into a cesspool that I couldn't get out of. It was a horrible period as he would abuse me verbally and physically.

I got pregnant and had my baby, and the abuse continued. When he left, I was left all alone. As my baby grew older, I got involved with the drugs once again. I would stay out late at night, hang out with guys, drink, smoke marijuana, and use cocaine.

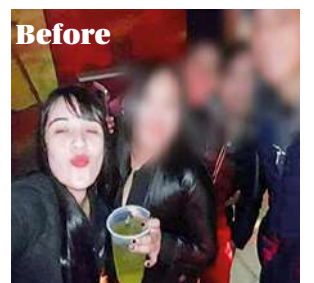
When I found out my new partner was cheating on me, I fell into a depressive pit. At that time, my son was already three years old, and we were fighting before him. I decided

to separate and go live on my own. I was looking for peace, but things only got worse because I started drinking, doing drugs, and prostituting myself more.

I lived like this until I met the father of my girls. Still, I didn't want to be in a relationship again because I had terrible experiences in my love life. When I got pregnant again, it curbed my consumption of drugs a bit. But I didn't want the pregnancy because my finances were in bad shape. I didn't have a roof over my head at the time, and I had lost everything because what I earned, I squandered on drugs and alcohol; I couldn't even pay the rent.

We decided to have an abortion three months later. I went in for an ultrasound, and the baby was already whole in my womb. So, we decided to start a relationship. However, there was jealousy and distrust in our relationship. Sometime later, he was invited to the Universal Church and began attending. I started going with him and experienced a significant change in my life. Thanks to God, today, we were both freed from addictions. We got married, our love life is blessed, our finances have improved, and we have our place to live and two daughters. We are also filled with the Holy Spirit. Without Him, we are nothing. Thanks to God, our life has been transformed."

- Marisol



A chance to start over



"I was raised in a family of six. My father passed, and my unemployed mother struggled to put food on the table. In an attempt to forget the problems at home, I started drinking alcohol with my friends. I drank every weekend and became addicted.

It negatively affected my relationship with my family. I fought a lot with my older siblings. I did not want to listen to anyone. I started performing poorly at school because I was not able to concentrate.

My mother started attending services in the Universal Church, and she used to invite me to come, but I would refuse. She came home one day with one of the church newspapers, and I decided to read it. I found a testimony of someone who overcame the same problem that I was going through, prompting me to attend church. I participated in the services every

day after school.

In a service one day, the Pastor spoke about abandoning our sins. He also told us that when people receive the Holy Spirit, they receive peace and happiness, which I yearned for. So, I decided to quit drinking and get baptized in water because I wanted to seal my decision to abandon my bad habits.

I attended a night vigil in the church, and during the prayer, I asked God to forgive me for everything I had done wrong. I sought His presence with all my strength

because I understood that I could no longer live without Him. From that day onwards, my mindset and attitude changed; I received the Holy Spirit.

Today, I am no longer addicted to alcohol, and I have a good relationship with my family. We are no longer struggling financially at home; I started my own business in the beauty industry. I also recently got married to a wonderful man. Prioritizing the Holy Spirit was the best decision I made," said Bulelwa.





“ADDICTION: A SAD REALITY IN AMERICA”

Addiction has a destructive power in a person's life. Regardless of the substance used, drugs cause severe consequences for both the user and those close to them. Many parents have already run after, day and night, even without financial or even health conditions, looking for their children or seeking treatment. And when they found it, they welcomed their addicted son back into the house after unsuccessful treatment.

When an individual uses a chemical substance, it harms his body. However, there is another issue behind addiction, which is the spiritual factor. Addiction leads a person to change their behavior, leaving their responsibilities aside, losing their sanity and, thus, their own identity. Therefore, mental and spiritual detoxification is more important than physical detoxification.

Family disruption, the influence of friendships, and personal conflicts are some of the various factors that can induce a person to consume drugs. The impacts generated by drug use affect not only the user but also their family.

I WAS ADDICTED FOR 20 YEARS

I used to be addicted to weed, cigarettes, and gambling. I also had eight strokes. I started smoking cigarettes when I was 17. I smoked them for over 20 years. I started smoking weed when I was 21. I tried it with vaping, too, because that ended up becoming an addiction and a hobby. I was making my own vape coils. I used to go gambling with my mom. We used to go multiple times a month. We really couldn't afford it, but we still did it anyway because we were addicted to it. And sometimes we would win, sometimes we didn't.

I had six strokes when I was younger, and I had no symptoms of the strokes. And I didn't know until I had the last two. The last two were pretty

I used a walker for about ten months. And my memory was messed up for more than a year. I would say about a year and a half.

significant. They weren't small strokes, but the previous two were back in my motor function area, in the back of my head. I woke up one morning, and I couldn't walk. I didn't know what was happening. So, I used a walker for about ten months. And my memory was messed up for more than a year. I would say about a year and a half. I had a photographic memory. I remember things that other people wouldn't remember. And then it got to the point when I had the strokes. I couldn't even remember my favorite



actors' names. And I had to remember a lot of recipes. I had to remember what to order. I forgot all that stuff. I couldn't work anymore at the time. I was still smoking weed and vaping. I had stopped the cigarettes when I was vaping.

My mother used to watch the Universal Church programs on TV. She started going to the church. And I started going with her. I went every Friday and every Sunday. I participated in the strong prayers and gained more understanding about everything. The one thing I think about the most is not getting caught in your drunkenness. I also thought about it: I wasn't born with weed or cigarettes, and I

didn't need it. It was taken away. It was a miracle. I received the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit fills the void. And I don't feel empty. I don't feel like I need to do any weed or cigarettes. It's gone. I don't get depressed anymore. I just think about, well, that won't last forever at all. That expires, and that goes away.

If you have something you can't handle, hand it over to God because he can help you. He can remove anything you don't want and replace it with the Holy Spirit. But you have to be willing to do what you need to do. - Raymond

I DIDN'T CARE ABOUT MY FAMILY AND THE PEOPLE AROUND ME

My best friend's older brother was in the gang. So, my friend got into it, and I started following in their footsteps. Because they showed me love, they took care of me. My friends took care of me when my parents didn't. When I got into crystal meth, that was when my mother passed away.

I remember going home, lying down, and crying on my pillow because I had so much hate and resentment, and I didn't get to tell her I was sorry. All I wanted to do was tell her that I loved her and just wanted to be there for her, even though she couldn't be there for me when I was little; however, I didn't get that chance.

So that tore me up inside. I remember leaving the house, and I started to sell drugs. It was just like nature. It was easy money. It was fast. It was fun. It was exciting. It was new.

I found a house and made arrangements with the dealer who owned it. I was repairing it, and then my cousin introduced me to Anthony. We were both broken. And I just started to develop feelings for him. They expected things to get better once they found each other. But in reality, nothing changed. They would do all of the things they used to do. The only difference was now they would do it together.

I didn't realize how the addiction was affecting my children. I didn't realize how it was affecting the people around me. I didn't care, honestly. If nobody could contribute to me getting high, they weren't worth my time. I was so full of myself. So



I shared with my aunt what was going on and the experiences that I was having, and she immediately told me, I know where you should go. You can get the help that you need.

And so when she mentioned the Universal Church and invited me to take me there, I went with her.



I remember pacing back and forth before I got the courage to enter the church. And when I did, I said, I won't do this. My body felt hot. I felt nauseous. I felt like I couldn't be there. When I turned to walk out, a pastor's wife saw me, and she stopped me and asked me if I needed prayer or anything. And she looked at me as a person. Nobody's looked at me like that in a very long time. When I explained, she offered to help. The pastor challenged me to go with all my strength. I was going to apply everything that I had learned in the church, and I was going to be there willing to receive it. I was going to apply it to my life.

I went with all my strength and did what I was told and instructed. I applied it. In about two weeks, God had delivered me from the addiction, and I had no withdrawal.

Ashley's life was slowly getting better. However, she did not want to leave Anthony behind. So she decided to take a chance and asked him to go with her to the Universal Church.

Using their faith, Anthony and Ashley turned their lives around. Today, they can give their testimony so that their words may reach someone in a similar situation.

Today, I'm blessed. My children are all with me. I have a good relationship with all of my family members. My husband has given his life to the Lord and is here to fight everything by my side. - Ashley

MAKE A CHAIN OF PRAYER IT WORKS!

A Chain of Prayer is when you attend a prayer meeting for a certain number of weeks without interruption in order to see a breakthrough in your life. Whether it is healing, a financial breakthrough or spiritual deliverance that you need, a Chain of Prayer helps you develop the faith and determination to overcome.

**Monday - Strong Nation
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**



Learn the secrets to overcome financially. Receive direction to grow and become a successful person.



**Tuesday - Prayer for healing
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**

Receive prayers for your physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

**Wednesday - Night of Salvation
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**



A meeting will be held for those who want to invest in a genuine relationship with God.



**Thursday - Family & Love Therapy
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**

The goal of the family meeting is to bring families together. No family is perfect, but they can be free from any hate, separation and other underlying issues.

**Friday - Deliverance
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm**



There is a root to every problem. No issue can be dealt with permanently without removing its root. Every Friday, strong prayers is provided for anyone who is facing a problem that is influenced by negativity.



**Saturday - Impossible Cases
8am & 12pm**

Have you ever looked at a problem or situation and thought, 'this is impossible, there is no solution to this?' If you want to see the 'impossible become possible', join us every Saturday.

**Sunday - Gathering of Faith & Miracles
7am, 10am, 3pm & 6pm**



These meetings aim to help people connect with God, to empower people and teach them how to use their faith to achieve what they want in their lives.



UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS

You are Not Alone!

Riverside's Hygiene Distribution

On Friday, May 17th, the UBB made a profound difference with its visit to the Riverside Unit, conducting a Hygiene Distribution.

The atmosphere was brimming with joy and anticipation as these women eagerly waited for the hygiene kits meticulously prepared by the UBB team. The Pastors and volunteers of the UBB were equally pleased to be able to distribute these kits, fostering a strong sense of community and support.



Each hygiene kit was carefully assembled, containing regular-sized shampoo/conditioner, two bars of soap, two toothpastes, and deodorants. These kits were not just a collection of items but a thoughtful response to the unique needs of marginalized individuals.



As Jesus said, 'whatsoever we do to the least of His people we do unto Him,' and it is these individuals, often despised by society, that the UBB is dedicated to serving.

The "least" are the despised, in whatever form. It is a priority for each one to know they are not alone; the inmates have not been forgotten.

The "least" are the despised, in whatever form. It is a priority for each one to know they are not alone; the inmates have not been forgotten. The UBB understands the daily difficulties they face through conversations we have with them. The least we can give occasionally are these donated hygiene kits. What is the greatest thing you can give to them?

It's the Word, the Word is God, and God leads to salvation. The main objective of the UBB is not to satisfy the physical necessities but to have each of them encounter God.



Why is that? Soon, these hygiene kits will be finished, and the products they receive will only last some time. Still, when a person has a relationship with God, this is for eternity, and no one can take that away from them.



The story in the Bible of the Rich Young Ruler proves that a person can have everything and still have nothing. The rich young ruler went before



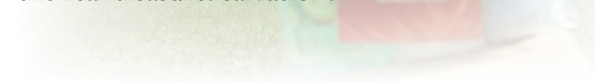
Jesus, asking, "What can I do to inherit the kingdom of Heaven?" Jesus told him the commandments to follow; he responded, "I have kept these things since my youth."

Then Jesus told him you lack one thing; sell all your possessions and follow me, and he left sad. What does this mean?



If a person does not know who Jesus is, they may live a "fulfilled" life because of their possession. Still, without the presence of the Holy Spirit, they will always be sorrowful like this young man in the Bible.

The Hygiene kit cannot be their treasure, but we want each of them, more than anything, to have the real treasure: salvation.



"I cry out to God; yes, I shout. Oh, that God would listen to me! When I was in deep trouble, I searched for the Lord." Psalms 77:1-2

Speak out, I am all ears! If you want to be added to my E-Message list, send me a letter with the correct info to: 7075 SW. Fwy. Houston, TX 77074.

Include: Name/ID #, Facility, Complete Address, City/State, and the Zip code.



What is the Root Cause behind Addiction?



NEW VIDEOS ON THE UBB EVERY SINGLE WEEK. STAY LOCKED IN TO THE UBB!



UBB
Universal Beyond Bars

What goes through the mind of a person with an addiction? What stimulates this destructive impulse to use drugs, even when it's against the person's will? Many are constantly taking medication to live with a suppressed addiction

For years, they've undergone treatments and walked in and out of rehab. But even with so much effort, to the dismay of those who love them, they end up relapsing sooner or later.

There comes a time when even their loved ones no longer believe in their recovery. Their families consider them liars, deceivers, schemers, etc.

The person with an addiction makes sincere promises. Still, they do not have the physical strength to overcome the urges, which is why medicine considers this an incurable, progressive, and fatal disease.

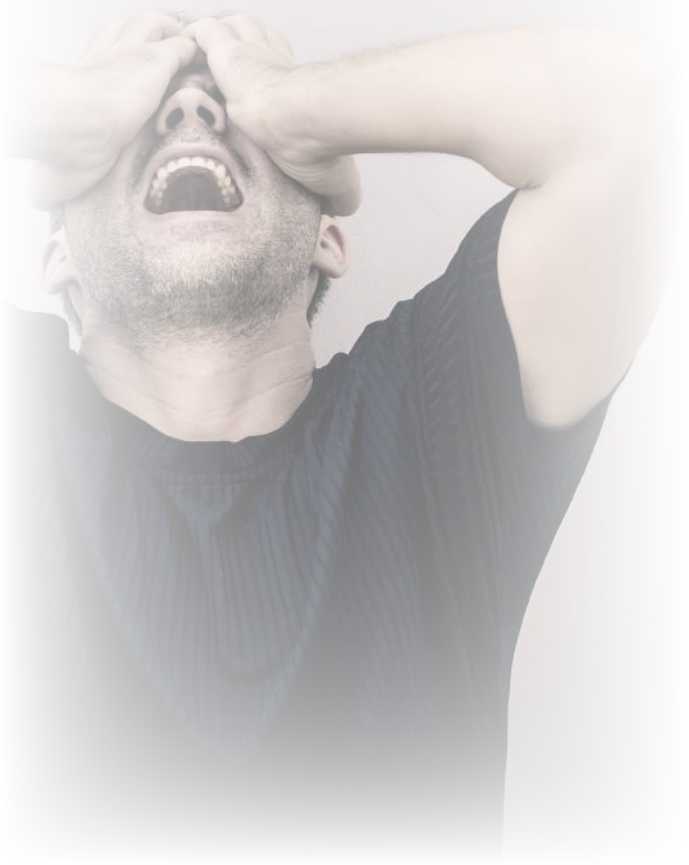


Studies have shown that some rehab programs in countries such as England give daily doses of heroin to people with an addiction who are terminally ill. This treatment keeps them off the streets but doesn't cure them. Therefore, they are just digging one hole to fill another, which worsens over time.

It is known that a constant thought controls the mind of a person with an addiction, "Just one more time, just a little more, then you'll stop." Many people judge people with an addiction because they promise to stop and that they'll strive to prevent it. Still, they end up worse than how they began.

What is the cure? How can a person be free from this evil cycle? How is it that although many are oppressed by addiction, many are free from it?

This healing takes place without medication, hospitalization, or relapse. This result occurs when one understands that the root of addiction is spiritual and affects a person's mind and life. Once the root is destroyed, the person finds the strength to overcome. For this reason, they've proven effective and helped millions of people.



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Do you know the key to achieving your dreams?

Felipe Kasabian tells how he fulfilled a dream he had when he was a child. Since he was little, Felipe, now 29 years old and a businessman, has had a big dream: to have his own business. Despite his young age, he already desired to be a great businessman.

“I had my first and only job at a bank when I was 16. In high school, I remember that while everyone was looking for the best placement in the entrance exam to get a good job, I researched what to do and invest in. I’ve always had this inside me, perhaps because I saw my parents struggle and wanted to ‘prove’ something to myself. I wanted to escape that situation and give my family and loved ones freedom,” says Felipe. At 17, he decided what he would do to start his company. “The idea came from wanting freedom. I never wanted to limit myself professionally and wanted to make it happen. Therefore, I chose the real estate sector due to its high profitability. I invested in civil construction because I am passionate about the area and want to make people’s dreams come true,” he says.

At the same time, Felipe saved all the money he had saved from the salary he received and decided to take a chance. “I had \$15,000 to start. I opened the company and started my search for investors,” he says. After two years of struggle and perseverance, he signed his first contract. “I received about \$500,000 in capital. It was a defining moment in my career. It was very new, and it was a big deal. At that moment, I knew I was on the right path, and I stepped on the accelerator.” he notes.

In these almost four years with the company, Felipe observes that he does not owe his success only to himself and his efforts. “My faith is the driving force behind all of this. I wouldn’t have gotten where I am without learning to use faith as I learned at “The Strong Nation.” An entrepreneur’s daily struggles and challenges require an aggressive and strong mentality. Without this faith, I would not have believed that I could achieve what I did. The Strong Nation has helped me with that. That’s where I receive direction, based on God’s Word, to achieve my goal,” he reveals.

This dose of motivation and direction that he receives through lectures, combined with dedication and professionalism, has made Felipe’s company recognized in the market, even with the country’s

current economic situation. “Thank God today we are in the real estate development and construction business with residential and commercial projects. When I opened the company, my office was in a room in the house. Today, we operate in multiple states. My goal is to consolidate it in the national market,” he concludes.

The Strong Nation brings together thousands of people like Felipe and you who will not give up on their dreams until they achieve them. During the lectures, participants learn how to build and achieve their professional ambitions and discover talents they never imagined they had. Do you want to learn how to face the difficulties of the job market and become a successful person? So, don’t miss The Strong Nation, which takes place on Mondays at The Universal Church.



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