



"The abuse was constant. I was broken, mentally and emotionally exhausted, with depression closing in fast."

(Read Marcela's story on page 9)

UBB



"The results came back showing no cancer."

Page 3



MIRACLES

UNIVERSAL NEWS



SCAN ME

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Past Traumas

Signs of past trauma can manifest in various ways, including emotional, psychological, and even physical symptoms. These can range from intrusive thoughts and flashbacks to difficulty regulating emotions, social withdrawal, and physical ailments.

You can get over them!



Alicia was in an abusive relationship, marked by three years of betrayal.
(Read how she overcame her traumas on page 6)



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Bishop Edir Macedo
The glory of His children

What's happening at

Monique had a tough childhood, and growing up without a stable family made her suffer deeply.

Page 5



UNIVERSAL



"I fell into deep depression. I didn't want to do anything."

(Read his story on page 11)

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| IN THIS EDITION |

Overcoming Past Traumas

We've all heard stories of people going through traumatic experiences—but not everyone fully understands the deep impact trauma can have on someone's life. Trauma can take many forms. It often occurs during highly stressful, frightening, or overwhelming events that are hard to cope with or completely out of our control. It can be the result of a one-time incident or a repeated, ongoing experience over a long period of time.

Trauma can stem from accidents, abuse, neglect, abandonment, or even from witnessing distressing events. Its long-term effects can include anxiety, fear, sadness, paranoia, nightmares, and many other emotional and mental struggles. Often, trauma holds people captive, keeping them stuck in their past pain and memories, making it feel nearly impossible to move forward.

But I have good news for you, dear reader. If you or someone you love has gone through trauma, healing and transformation are possible—through the help of the Lord Jesus. While we can't go back in time and change what happened, your life can start to change from today forward.

Think of your life as a building. Before a building can be built—or rebuilt—the foundation must be carefully prepared. That means removing all rubble and stones to create solid ground. The same goes for rebuilding yourself. First, you must clear away the debris within: sorrow, resentment, trauma, insecurities, and emotional scars. In other words, inner cleansing must take place for healing and restoration to begin. And that cleansing starts at the Altar of God, where you surrender everything into His hands.

Going to the Altar means placing your anguish, pain, and inner battles into God's hands. This is essential, especially when you're facing situations that no human effort or knowledge alone can fix. Without surrender, you end up reliving the trauma again and again. Real transformation begins on the inside—and the Altar is where that process begins.

True, divine transformation doesn't depend on what we can do. It depends on what God can do when we fully surrender to Him. If there's something in your life that feels impossible to overcome, take it to the Altar. Write down the things you want to be free from and bring that paper with you to a Universal Church this Sunday. Lay it all on the Altar and let God begin His work in you. He has the power to restore and transform any situation. Do you believe?

| BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is more than just feeling sad—it's a deep, overwhelming sorrow that weighs down the soul. It brings feelings of hopelessness, drains motivation, and makes even the simplest tasks feel impossible. In severe cases, it can even rob people of their will to live. Depression isn't just a state of mind—it's a sickness of the soul. But who can heal the soul? Only the Savior, the Lord Jesus, has the power to restore a troubled heart.

Every Sunday, The Universal Church opens its doors to those who are battling depression. If you need support, we invite you to visit a nearby branch. Join a Chain of Prayer—a seven-week commitment where you'll receive spiritual strength through powerful prayers, practical guidance, and one-on-one counseling.

You are not alone in this battle. Thousands around the world have found hope and transformation through faith, proving that a Chain of Prayer can truly make a difference. You can be the next success story. [You can overcome depression!](#)

BEAT DEPRESSION
BEATING DEPRESSION THROUGH THE POWER OF FAITH!

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



Bishop Edir Macedo



The glory of His children

Children are born from their parents' marital relationship—they are natural, following the law of nature. But the children of God are not born through natural means. They are born through faith in the Lord Jesus, in partnership with the Holy Spirit.

It's not enough to simply believe in Jesus without having a personal experience with His Spirit. For example, some may read this message and still not understand it. That's because spiritual things can only be understood through spirituality—and true spirituality only comes through the direct involvement of the Holy Spirit. Without Him, there's no real understanding.

The same is true when it comes to accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior. Without the touch of the Holy Spirit, it's impossible to be born of God. This spiritual rebirth happens through a divine connection between a person, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

When someone acknowledges Jesus as the Lord of their life and turns away from their sins, they are washed clean by the blood He shed on the cross. Once they're purified, the Holy



Spirit makes His home within them—their body becomes His temple. From that moment on, they are a new creation.

Their thoughts, understanding, heart, vision—everything begins to change. The way they think, act, and live is no longer the same. Feelings of inferiority, past traumas, pain, and resentment vanish like smoke, leaving no trace behind.

That person begins to reflect the character of God—they are transformed into His image. They become a new man or a new woman.



Sandra Gondim's journey from heartbreak to healing

Unhappiness in love is often rooted in past traumas and emotional scars. For 41-year-old teacher Sandra Gondim, years of disappointment and abuse left deep wounds. She suffered sexual abuse for seven years during her adolescence, which made her feel insecure and withdrawn. Those inner conflicts made it difficult for her to open up and build meaningful relationships, and the idea of being happy in love seemed impossible.

"I couldn't get close to people, and that led me into depression," she recalls. "I stayed home all the time, feeling very sad and constantly thinking about death." At 22, Sandra got married, hoping she had finally found happiness. But new frustrations soon followed. "The relationship lasted over ten years, but during that

How I overcame my love life trauma

time, I was betrayed twice. I forgave him the first time because I didn't want to lose my marriage—but I never trusted him again. The second time hurt even more because he cheated on me with a friend of mine."

Soon after, Sandra discovered that her husband had also gotten involved with bad influences and drugs. That was the final straw—she filed for divorce. Alone once again, she began to believe she would never be happy. "Everything I had suffered in the past came flooding back, even stronger. I felt like no one could ever love me. I didn't feel attractive or believe I'd ever meet someone truly compatible."

Finding inner healing
Sandra first heard about the Love Therapy meetings at the Universal Church through TV and social media. In 2014, after years of emotional pain, she decided to seek help—primarily to heal from the inside out.

"From that point on, my focus shifted. Instead of searching for someone to love me, I began working on my inner healing. I started practicing everything I learned in the therapy sessions, and little by little, I was healed from the traumas and emotional wounds of my past."

After four years of attending Love Therapy, Sandra met Nilson Gondim da Silva, now 46. He too had been through painful relationships. "My past relationships were full of arguments, mostly because of distrust, betrayal, and my addiction to alcohol," Nilson shares. "I thought I could fix a broken heart by jumping into another relationship."

He didn't believe in love anymore—until he attended a Love Therapy lecture. "Those teachings made me believe it was possible to build a happy and lasting relationship."

Sandra and Nilson started dating, got engaged, and in April of this year, they were married at the Universal Church. "It was always my dream to get married and receive the blessing of the Altar," Sandra says. "From the beginning, that was our priority. We also wanted to show our friends and family what God had done in our lives."

Nilson adds, "I had never been married at the Altar before, so this fulfilled two dreams for me—getting married in the presence of God, and finally finding happiness in love. Today, I'm emotionally fulfilled. We live in harmony, and we're growing together, because now we are one."

See what's happening on Sundays



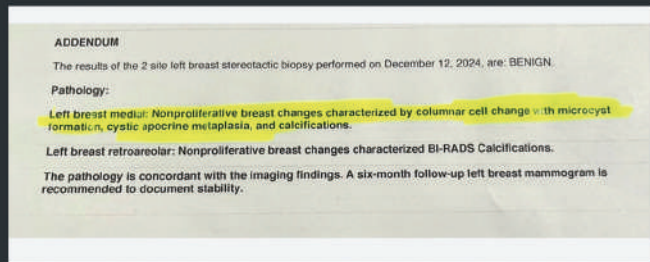
"The results came back showing no cancer."

I was struggling with depression. My days felt unproductive—I just wanted to stay in my room and isolate myself. After dealing with breast issues for four years, I finally had to get a biopsy. My grandmother had colon cancer, and my dad had both prostate cancer and colon cancer. Neither of them survived.

I thought I would be the first in my family to battle breast cancer. But I went to the altar at church and prayed. I also drank the blessed water twice a day.



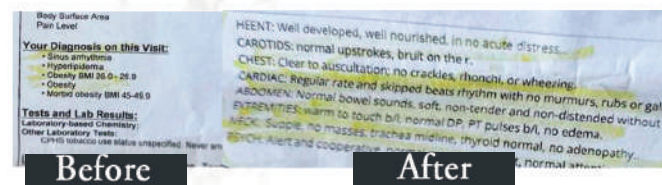
When I got my results back, God had answered my prayers. The results came back negative.
— Lisa



"I had panic attacks for ten years."

The doctors diagnosed me with high cholesterol, cardiac arrhythmia, high blood pressure, and panic attacks. I struggled with panic attacks for ten years.

The worst attacks would leave me frozen in fear, unable to do anything. It's hard to explain, but it's an overwhelming, terrifying feeling. You're afraid for no reason, and you can't even explain why it's happening. I went to the doctor, but they couldn't figure out what was causing it either.



One day, I decided to use my faith. I started drinking the blessed water from the well every morning and night. I also sprayed it on my body, in places I couldn't reach, and bathed with it. Before using my faith, my diagnosis included sinus arrhythmia, hyperlipidemia, obesity, and other health issues. But after using my faith, everything changed. In my second test, the results were normal. My abdomen was clear, my extremities were normal to touch, and everything was fine.

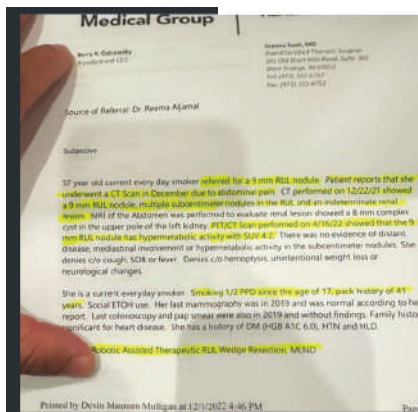
Today, I am healed. I am at peace, and I am free. I want to tell you to believe and receive the same healing. -Ms. Anderson



"Cancer-Free"

In December 2021, I went to the doctor because I was having stomach pains. The doctor ordered a CT scan, and when the results came back, they found a 9-millimeter mass on my right lung.

As soon as I heard that, I rebuked it immediately. I prayed about it and didn't tell anyone except my children. I used the blessed water—I drank it and rubbed it on my side. Later, I went in for surgery, and the doctor told me the mass had shrunk to 3 millimeters. I truly believe that if I had waited just a little longer, it would've been completely gone. It was stage I cancer, but they were able to remove everything. I feel great!
— Zelma



Receive the healing waters this Sunday at your nearest Universal Church



| MESSAGE |

Bishop Joshua

He sees you there



You might be in a place right now where everything feels heavy. Maybe you're locked in a cell, lying in a hospital bed, trapped in addiction, or surrounded by problems no one else sees. Maybe people have given up on you. Maybe you've even given up on yourself.

But there's one thing you need to know:

God hasn't given up on you.

You may feel far from Him—but He's not far from you.

"For thus says the High and Lofty One, Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.'" —Isaiah 57:15

God is the Highest of all. He doesn't fail. He's holy, perfect, and pure. And yet, that same great and glorious God—the One no one can

touch—chooses to live with the humble. He draws near to the brokenhearted, to the ones crushed and hurting inside.

Right now, He sees you. God knows the pain you don't tell anyone about. He knows the thoughts that keep you up at night. He knows the weight you're carrying—and He's not ignoring you. He's with you—to revive you.

God isn't asking you to be perfect. He's asking you to be real. Be honest with Him. Come as you are—with a sincere, humble heart. Let go of the pride, the guilt, the fear.

Give your heart to Him. Because even if no one else is around—He is. And if you let Him, He will raise you up.

You're not forgotten. You're not beyond help. You're not too far gone.

The High and Holy One is near—and He came to revive you.

May the God of the Bible bless you.

APRIL 2025 BIBLE READING						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 MARK 1 ✓	2 MARK 2 ✓	3 MARK 3 ✓	4 MARK 4 ✓	5 MARK 5 ✓
6 MARK 6 ✓	7 MARK 7 ✓	8 MARK 8 ✓	9 MARK 9 ✓	10 MARK 10 ✓	11 MARK 12 ✓	12 MARK 13 ✓
13 MARK 14 ✓	14 MARK 15 ✓	15 MARK 16 ✓	16 MARK 17 ✓	17 HOSEA 1 ✓	18 HOSEA 2 ✓	19 HOSEA 3 ✓
20 HOSEA 4 ✓	21 HOSEA 5 ✓	22 HOSEA 6 ✓	23 HOSEA 7 ✓	24 HOSEA 8 ✓	25 HOSEA 9 ✓	26 HOSEA 10 ✓
27 HOSEA 11 ✓	28 HOSEA 12 ✓	29 HOSEA 13 ✓	30 HOSEA 14 ✓			

HE LIVED AMIDST TRAUMA AND FEAR



I grew up in a violent community where people were killed over anything. Fear and anguish were a part of daily life. Some mornings, I'd wake up to find dead bodies on the street and wonder, what's going to happen next?

Things at home weren't any better. Fights and arguments were constant. My father would beat my mother and cheat on her repeatedly. I had no peace—not at home, not outside. The more I searched for it, the more unreachable it seemed. Life kept getting harder. I couldn't sleep at night. I was haunted by everything I had seen, deeply traumatized, and didn't know how to escape the nightmare I was living.

Eventually, I got a job at a pizza place. While working there, several people invited me to church, but I always ignored them. I didn't think church was for someone like me.

One day, I went out on a delivery when two men on motorcycles blocked my path. I tried to avoid them, but I couldn't. They beat me up and threatened to kill me. That moment took the fear I already lived with and made it even worse. When I got back to work, I told my boss I wanted to quit because of the death threats. He sat down with me, calmed me down, and prayed for me. Then, once again, he invited me to the Universal Church—and this time, I said yes.

From the moment I walked into the church, I felt something different. I showed up in shorts, not dressed in any

special way, but to my surprise, no one judged me. After the first prayer, I realized something incredible—the fear I carried was gone.

I kept coming back. When I learned about surrendering my life to Jesus, I made the decision to give Him everything—my past, my pain, my fears, and my future. I also began seeking the Holy Spirit with all my heart, because I understood one thing clearly: without Him, I am nothing.

When I received the Holy Spirit, my life changed completely. I became a new man. Peace filled my heart, and the fear of death disappeared. And God didn't stop there—He continued working in my life. He blessed me with a woman of



God from another city, and today, we are happily married. We serve God together and have a beautiful daughter.

Now, my home is full of peace and harmony—something I never experienced growing up. And above every blessing I've received, the greatest of all is having the Spirit of God living inside of me.

Robert Calegari



What's happening at the Universal Church

Trauma from Past Relationships



How Daiane found healing and learned to love again

Negative experiences in relationships can leave deep emotional scars that, if left unhealed, may cause serious issues in future relationships. Disappointment from a partner not meeting expectations often leads people to develop harmful patterns in how they relate to others.

Daiane Pereira experienced many of these challenges in a previous relationship. "I met him in 2014. After we dated for a while, we moved in together. At first, he treated me really well, but it didn't take long for his possessiveness to show," she says. "He forbade me from studying, from having friends, and eventually wouldn't even let me leave the house."

Trapped in this obsessive and toxic relationship, Daiane fell into depression and began having suicidal thoughts. "If I looked out the window, he would accuse me of looking at another man. He constantly threatened to kill me, and I was terrified to end the relationship. But in 2016, I finally found the courage to walk away."

Even after the breakup, Daiane carried emotional scars. "I closed myself off to love completely. I didn't believe it was possible to be happy in that area of life anymore. I avoided men and assumed they were all the same. I also became extremely fearful," she recalls.

Getting over the traumas

A friend, concerned for Daiane, encouraged her to seek help and not give up on the possibility of love. That friend invited her to the meetings at the Universal Church. "I agreed to go because something about it gave me hope. When I got there, I really liked what I saw and heard. Little by little, I started to understand how important it was to heal from my past before I could feel good about myself—and truly move forward."

Later on, Daiane met Mauricio, who was also attending the church. "We started talking and getting to know each other," Mauricio says. "I had been coming to the lectures for a while and saw Daiane as a serious, God-fearing woman. In 2017, I asked her to be my girlfriend. A few months later, we got engaged."

On October 12, 2017, Daiane and Mauricio were married during the Universal Wedding Celebration. "It was such a special moment to receive God's blessing and realize I had been healed from the traumas of my past," Daiane shares. "I was finally ready to live a true marriage—and that's exactly what we've been doing. We're still active in the chains of prayers and we're very happy."

"My past left deep wounds"



Monique's painful childhood led her down a dark path, but faith brought her freedom.

Monique dos Santos, a 21-year-old secretary, says her pain began at a very young age—just 3 years old—when her parents separated. Shortly after, her mother entered a new relationship, but Monique's stepfather didn't accept her or her sisters. As a result, the home was filled with constant conflict.

Those early struggles caused a deep anger to grow in Monique. She became rebellious and refused to respect anyone in her household. "I started hanging out with other young people in my neighborhood who were a bad influence. I looked up to them and wanted everything they had. I thought they were happy, so I chased after the same things," she recalls. "That's also when I started having spiritual problems—seeing shadows and hearing voices at home."

By the age of 11, Monique began dating multiple boys. She eventually entered a serious three-year relationship that was filled with betrayal. "He cheated on me several times, and that left me with all kinds of insecurities. I started believing I was ugly and worthless," she says. "So I tried to be someone else. I got involved with lots of people, including women,

just to get attention. I didn't know my value."

Monique's life took a darker turn when she discovered drugs. Caught up in illusion, she began chasing the dream of becoming a funk dancer. She became obsessed with changing her appearance, doing anything to achieve the "perfect" body. "My life became all about partying. I was constantly blacking out from alcohol. I felt completely empty and ashamed of myself. I became selfish and only got involved with people who had money. I even started selling my body—but in the end, I always felt like trash."

A new opportunity

Everything began to change when a friend invited Monique to a meeting at the Universal Church. "There, I found a completely different world than the one I was used to," she says. Tired of the pain, trauma, insecurity, and constant disappointment, she made a decision to turn her life around. She began putting into practice the teachings she received at the church.

She participated in the prayers and learned how to use her faith to fight for her inner healing and deliverance. Slowly, her thoughts and behaviors began to change. God gave her strength day by day. "It wasn't easy to give up smoking or let go of the feelings I still had for my boyfriend," she shares. "But my desire to be free was stronger—and I made it."

A new life

"Today, I know what it really means to be happy and to be valued. I have peace, and my family has been restored. I used to believe I could never trust men again, but God brought someone into my life who's faithful and has good character. Today, we're happily married."



YPG brings joy to local nursing home with "Day of Beauty"



The YPG group from the Universal Church in Maryland recently visited a local nursing home for a heartfelt event called the **Day of Beauty**.

It was a special time dedicated to showing love and care to the elderly residents. Volunteers offered hand massages, painted nails, and most importantly, spent quality time talking with each person. We shared words of encouragement, reminding them how valued, loved, and special they truly are.

The day was filled with smiles, warmth, and the presence of God's love. As we gave, we were also blessed in return—leaving more uplifted and inspired than when we arrived.



 **YPG.USA**

 **YPG USA**

**BE A PART OF SOMETHING GREAT!
JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 1PM**

POSITIVE CHANGES

MORGANE'S TESTIMONY

Growing up in a broken home, I experienced the pain of my parents' separation and the conflicts that followed. While living with my father, I suffered emotional and physical abuse from his wife, which crushed my self-esteem. By the time I was 10, I had already attempted suicide three times. Later, I moved back in with my mother, hoping for comfort, but instead I faced more emotional pain. She often spoke harshly to me—even saying she wished she had never had me. Despite all the hurt, my father remained a steady presence in my life. He taught me about God and how to lean on Him through the darkest moments.

Eventually, I moved to the U.S. to live with my father, and that's when I found the YPG. It was through this group that I truly encountered God. I began to pray, to use my faith, and little by little, I let go of all the pain, trauma, and depression I had carried for so long. God healed me from the inside out. Today, I am no longer a victim of my past. I am stronger, more confident, and full of joy—because my strength comes from the Lord.



REACH OUT TO US: 1 888 332 4141

“OVERCOMING PAST TRAUMAS”

IS IT POSSIBLE TO MOVE ON FROM THE PAST?



Healing the soul: The only way to fill the void. Some experiences in life leave deep marks—traumas, wounds, and emotions that linger. Many people, unsure of how to heal their inner pain, end up trying to fill the emptiness they feel with relationships, achievements, or material success. But none of that truly satisfies.

Because when the emptiness is in your soul, only a real, personal relationship with God can fill it.

When people go through trauma, they often develop an inner void. They begin to imagine an ideal life, believing that once they reach certain milestones, everything will be okay.

For example, some people come from broken or painful family environments. In an attempt to escape that, they believe starting a new family will fix everything. They think, “If I just meet the right person, get married, have kids, buy a house—then I’ll finally be happy.”

But even after they get everything they thought would bring fulfillment, they still feel empty. Some even reach the top of their careers, achieve fame, or amass great wealth—and yet the void inside feels deeper than ever.

That’s when people begin to say things like, “I don’t know what’s wrong with me.” They switch relationships, change jobs, move cities—trying everything. But the frustration only grows. Time keeps moving, and the hole in their chest keeps widening.

Eventually, they feel lost. And when they can’t find a way out, the pain becomes unbearable.

The truth is: the problem was never on the outside—it was always on the inside. Holding on to the past is like being chained to it. No matter how much a person wants to move forward, that invisible chain pulls them back. The future is compromised by unresolved pain.

Many people struggle because they’re still carrying emotional baggage from past hurts—lack of love, disrespect, abuse, jealousy, betrayal, neglect. Unless these wounds are faced and healed, freedom remains out of reach.

Letting go doesn’t mean pretending the past never happened. It means learning how to deal with what happened, so it no longer controls you. That’s when true healing begins. So, if you’ve ever felt like nothing you do is enough—if the emptiness inside keeps growing no matter how much you achieve—know this: there is hope. Read on to discover how these individuals overcame trauma, found healing, and rebuilt their lives—not through worldly success, but through the peace and presence of God.

Alicia grew up in a family rooted in faith. But as she entered her teenage years, she found herself drifting from God’s path, lured by the temporary sparkle of the world.

That detour led her into a toxic relationship—three painful years marked by betrayal and control.

“I was in an abusive relationship where I was constantly cheated on,” Alicia shares. “He controlled who I could spend time with and cut me off from friends, even though he maintained several female friendships himself. I was treated like a last resort, and we constantly fought.”

Though Alicia occasionally drank at social events, her boyfriend struggled with alcohol and tobacco, which only worsened the situation. The relationship finally ended when she discovered a photo of him with another woman. That moment, though painful, became a turning point.

Around that time, Carlos—a former classmate and now her husband—reentered her life. He was already a volunteer at the Universal Church and offered Alicia the spiritual support she desperately needed.

“I started to reconnect with God and opened my heart for the Lord Jesus to come in,” she says. “He healed my pain, and I became a new woman, inside and out.”

Alicia credits her healing to the teachings and support she received during church meetings.

“I learned to love myself again. I was able to heal from the trauma and realize that we’re not meant to go through life alone,” she says.

Carlos had also been on his own journey of transformation. He had once battled addiction to drugs and alcohol.



“I was in an abusive relationship, marked by three years of betrayal.”

“Before I started attending the church meetings, I was moody and didn’t trust anyone,” he says. “Even though I hadn’t struggled in relationships, I had to learn how to truly love and take care of my wife. Those services and teachings were like a GPS for my life.”

Once Alicia was whole and free from the pain of her past, she and Carlos began dating. Eventually, they were married in the Universal Church and started a new chapter together in a different city.

Relocating brought new challenges, but Carlos’s support made the transition smoother. Together, they faced a huge financial setback after losing their savings to bad investments—but their faith helped them stay strong.

Today, Alicia works as a supervisor and says her perspective on life has been transformed by faith and love. Carlos, now an account manager, emphasizes that trust is the foundation of their marriage.

“We have a blessed family. We’re happy, and we’ve recovered everything we once lost,” he concludes.

Edjania Barros da Silva tried to find relief through medication—but it was faith that healed the emptiness in her soul.

Like many people, she experienced things in her early life that left deep emotional wounds. These unresolved feelings—anger, resentment, sadness—often get buried but continue growing silently. That was exactly her reality.

Raised away from her parents, Edjania often felt helpless and exposed to the wrong kind of people. “I struggled with feelings of abandonment and rejection, and I had a lot of bitterness in my heart toward my



“I felt the pain of abandonment, and rejection and had many bad feelings, mainly directed towards my parents.”

parents.” she recalls. Those inner conflicts only intensified after a traumatic experience of abuse. “I blamed my parents. I believed that if they had been with me, none of it would’ve happened. That thought fueled a quiet resentment I tried to ignore for years,” she shares.

Although she reunited with her parents later in life, the pain from her childhood never fully healed. Then, a triggering event brought it all back. “As an adult, I started living with my mother, and out of nowhere, she decided to move out. We hadn’t argued, nothing had happened—it was unexpected. It made me feel abandoned all over again, like I was reliving my childhood. That reopened an old wound,” she says.

What followed were two incredibly dark years. “I lost my job, my relationship fell apart, and I had an accident that left me with a broken foot. I was completely alone. Even when I needed my mom, she didn’t come. I used that lack of support as fuel to feed the void inside me,” she explains.

Edjania tried to keep herself busy—through work, through studies—but nothing filled the emptiness. “My body started to hurt all the time. I ended up in the hospital, but the doctors couldn’t find anything wrong. They just kept prescribing anxiety meds and tranquilizers,” she says.

Her turning point came when she walked into a service at the Universal Church. “That’s when I realized my problem wasn’t physical—it was spiritual. That changed everything for me,” she says. By regularly attending the meetings, Edjania began

reflecting deeply on her heart.

“One of the hardest moments was admitting to myself that I held resentment toward my parents. I had to let go of my pride in order to forgive them,” she says. “I knew I had to make things right with God first—only then could I heal.”

That journey of forgiveness brought her to powerful steps of faith: she was baptized in water and later received the Holy Spirit.

“Once I dealt with what was inside, everything outside started to change. I no longer struggle with physical pain or emotional emptiness. I’ve restored my relationship with my parents, my career is taking off, and my life is full of peace,” she shares.

Edjania says the key wasn’t just reconnecting with her family—but reconnecting with God.

“I thought my sadness came from what my parents didn’t give me—but now I know it was because I was missing God. Today, I am complete,” she concludes.

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.



Rebuked, never abandoned

You're sitting in your dorm or cell, thinking, "Man, I really messed up. God doesn't hear my prayers. I bet He doesn't even look my way."

But what if I told you that's not true?

Let's rewind a few thousand years. Remember the group known as the Children of Israel? They were probably one of the most stubborn groups to ever walk the earth. They kept getting themselves into trouble because they refused to listen to God.

For example, God said, "Go north." They went south. "Go east." They went west. Whatever God told them to do, they did the opposite. And when they did obey, it didn't last long—they'd get tired of doing the right thing and go right back to their old ways.

You know what's crazy? Every time they found themselves in a mess, guess who they ran to? Yep—God.

And there He was again—our loving Father—stepping in to deal with the constant messes His kids made. Sure, He got angry. He told them over and over, "Because you disobeyed, you're going to suffer the consequences." Then they'd humble themselves—for a little while. But as soon as things got better? Boom. Back to disobedience.

"Don't mix with those other tribes," God said. And what did they do? They mingled anyway, thinking, "It's not a big deal." Then the consequences hit. You get the picture.

But here's what's so powerful: even though they were punished, even though they suffered, they were never abandoned. God walked with them for

40 years in the desert. He didn't leave them—He stayed. Like any loving parent, He had to correct them. He let them feel the weight of their choices, because how else would they learn?

It's no different with you.

Yeah, I'm talking to you—Y-O-U. God hasn't abandoned you. In fact, sometimes you're the one who's pulled away from Him, letting guilt convince you that He doesn't care. But that's a lie—straight from the enemy.

So, instead of drawing closer to God, guilt drives you further away. Deep down, you want to make things right. But then the thoughts creep in: "He wouldn't forgive me. Look at the mess I've made." Now look at this:

"For the Lord your God has blessed you in all that you have done; He has known about your wanderings through this great wilderness. These forty years the Lord your God has been with you; you have lacked nothing." — Deuteronomy 2:7
What does that have to do with you?

Everything.

God has blessed you—even now. The fact that you're still breathing is proof of it.

"But," you might say, "I'm in a wheelchair. I use a walker. I lost a leg, an arm, an eye. I'm stuck in bed."

Okay, but... are you dead?

I don't mean to be blunt, but if you're still here, it means God hasn't left you. It means there's still a chance to get things right.

Your "wilderness" might be the time you're spending behind bars—whether it's been 50 years or 5 hours. But here's the promise: God said He has been with you.

You might not feel God's presence—and that's okay. God isn't a feeling. But have you paused to really think about how far you've come?

What you've survived? The obstacles you've overcome?

Don't overthink it. Yes, there are consequences for your choices. But know this: when you call on the name of Jesus, He is with you.



I'm going to the TOP, down with the UBB! Stay locked in for DAILY videos from the UBB.

UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS

You are NOT alone!



“My dad was a military police officer, and my brother got into trouble with the law. He ended up in prison. As a young kid, I thought I’d follow in his footsteps instead of doing the right thing.”

– Marcela

Growing up in a family rooted in discipline and order, I learned structure early on. My father served as a military police officer, and my mother dedicated herself to creating a stable home. But beneath that stability, I was battling my own inner chaos.

By the age of 12, I had started smoking, struggling with spiritual confusion and the terrifying grip of sleep paralysis.

Everything changed when my older brother went to prison. His absence ripped through our family like a storm. My father couldn’t visit him because of his position in the military police, and that left me with a deep sense of helplessness—and a heavy burden. In a desperate attempt to fill the void, I made a life-altering decision. I turned to crime, building connections behind prison walls, hoping



Marcela Before

it would somehow bring me closer to my brother. In time, I fell in love with another inmate and married him, going against my parents’ wishes.

They found out through a newspaper article, and the heartbreak in their silence was deafening. My father’s disappointment built a wall between us, casting a shadow over the bond we once shared.

As I got deeper into drug trafficking and violence, fear and despair consumed me. Each day was a fight for survival. The enemies of the man I married became my enemies too. I lived in constant panic, watching people close to me fall one by one. I felt like I was next.

When I finally left my husband, the fear didn’t go away. I stayed locked inside my own home, terrified his gang would come after me. I got involved in another relationship, hoping for protection—but it only brought more pain.

The abuse was constant. I was broken, mentally and



The abuse was relentless, driving me to the brink of desperation, as my mental health deteriorated under the weight of panic and depression.

emotionally exhausted, with depression closing in fast. In the middle of that darkness, my mother’s faith stood strong. She never stopped inviting me to the Universal Church. At first, I resisted. But eventually, in a moment of total despair, I said yes. I didn’t go to the hospital—I went to church.

I arrived there paralyzed on one side of my body, desperate for something to change. As the pastor spoke about the Holy Spirit, something stirred in me—curiosity, a spark of hope. I went home and started searching on-line, diving deep into the teachings. That curiosity grew into a hunger, and I began learning what it meant to truly live by faith. Even when the pandemic hit and churches shut

their doors, I stayed connected. I woke up early to join the on-line services. One Sunday, the bishop asked us to kneel and pray, asking God for guidance. I poured out my heart, thanking Him for what I had, but begging for something more—something deeper.

When churches reopened, I returned. Standing at the altar, I felt peace like never before. That moment changed everything. I knew the Holy Spirit was with me. I wasn’t just surviving anymore—I was living, healed from the inside out.

Today, I’m a new woman. I’ve rebuilt my life. I’m the wife, the mother, and the daughter I was always meant to be. The same father who once looked at me with disappointment now says with pride, “That’s my daughter.”

The Holy Spirit has filled my life with peace, health, and purpose. What once were scars are now reminders of God’s grace and healing.

If you’re searching for peace, healing, or a second chance, I invite you to visit the Universal Church. Like me, you can discover the God of the Bible—and a life transformed by His love.



Marcela and her husband.



Marcela & her dad.

“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.

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**FIGHTING THE UNSEEN ENEMY
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WHY ARE THE RESULTS OF YOUR HARD WORK NOT WHAT YOU EXPECTED?

If you haven't seen the results you have been expecting from your hard work and dedication to your financial life this article is for you. Understand what you need to do to actually see your life move forward.



Fabiano Forte says he did everything he could to find happiness. His search began in his teenage years, but his life remained stuck.

"I worked with my father in the family business and played sports, but I never followed through. I played soccer for a well-known club and practiced jiu-jitsu, but I always quit halfway. I even enrolled in a Physical Education program in college but dropped out after six months. Nothing seemed to work," he shared.

Fabiano's love life was just as unstable. "From age 17 to 21, I was in a relationship filled with lies. I partied, cheated on my girlfriend, and used just about every kind of drug and alcohol. In the end, the relationship fell apart." With no sense of direction, he turned to selling steroids—but that led to trouble. He was arrested and spent five days in jail. Once released, he tried changing his path.

"I was invited into the real estate business and quickly moved up the ladder. I started as a broker, then became a coordinator, a sales manager, and eventually the director of the biggest real estate company in Latin America," he said. "That's when I got involved in the glamorous lifestyle—and my addictions grew worse. I also became addicted to prostitution and pornography."

On the outside, Fabiano's career looked like it had taken off. But just as fast as he gained things, he lost them. He partnered with others to start a large real estate company, but things took a turn. "There was a huge embezzlement scandal involving some partners, and the partnership fell apart. I tried to save the business with all my strength, but it crashed. It went bankrupt, and I lost assets, racked up bank debt, and couldn't pay my employees. Many people were affected," he said.

The downfall hit him hard. "I fell into deep depression. I didn't want to do anything. I went up to 15 days without showering, locked in a dark room. I stayed like that for nearly a year and a half." During that time, he saw both a psychologist and a psychiatrist. Eventually, he returned to the real estate field, but again, things didn't work out.

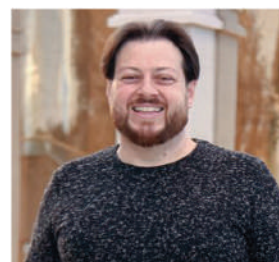
"I was trying so hard, but nothing clicked. I couldn't understand why," he said. After about a year of trying to close a deal over the phone to sell land to someone he'd never met, Fabiano insisted on meeting the buyer in person. "I was investing all my energy into this one deal—it could've changed my life. So I told him I'd only continue if we met face-to-face. He agreed and asked me to meet him at The Universal Church. I went to a service specifically for businesspeople," Fabiano said.

That day changed everything. "I felt peace the moment I walked in—and a desire to return. I started obeying God's Word, which opened my eyes to the reality of my life. I began walking away from

everything that pulled me into sin. I let go of drugs, alcohol, gambling, prostitution—anything that could pull me off the path of Jesus. I got baptized in water, declaring my commitment to a new life."

Fabiano learned the meaning of a true, intelligent revolt. "God spoke to me clearly: He wanted all of me. I didn't have much, but I gave Him everything. I surrendered my life on the Altar and walked away from it with the strength and confidence that everything would finally work out."

Soon after, he received the Holy Spirit. "The Holy Spirit filled the emptiness inside me with peace, joy, and love. I felt a deep confirmation that He was with me. I had finally found the joy I had been chasing for 42 years. God said, 'Go forward, My son,' and those words gave me a strength I can't even explain."



Today, Fabiano says his life is completely transformed. He met businesswoman Andrea Forte while attending The Universal Church. They eventually got engaged and married. "Now, I'm faithful to my wife, and we live a happy life together. Our finances are blessed, and every day, God gives us

the best. I depend only on faith and the Altar," he concludes.

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