



Pella Teen Challenge Women's Home Newsletter

September/October 2008

Fall has snuck up on me and it seemed to crawl right into my bedroom window the other night. I went to bed warm, and awoke frozen...I forget how quickly seasons can change. Maybe it is not that they change so quickly, as much as I fail to recognize some of the more subtle shifts. When I look at the women in this house I sometimes find myself being just as surprised by their change. I find myself thinking when did this happen, and hear God saying "It has been happening for a while, but now you recognize it." I realize that although I know he can do the change, I am still in awe of the reality of that change played out in front of me. I think that is a good thing...maintaining the awe and wonder of our God.

In this newsletter, one of the women shares her story of change and God's pursuit of her. She is one that has begun to experience God, not only as Father and Savior, but also as a Lover. He is always so much more than what our first glimpse shows us, and his depth and surprises never run out. I pray that you will be blessed and remember the God that we serve as you read.

FAITHFUL



My name is Tina and there are many things that I could share with you about the darkness of my life. The depression, food addiction, divorces, abusive

In This Newsletter

FAITHFUL
GARAGE SALE SUCCESS!
OCTOBER EVENTS

Prayer Requests

Pray for families of women, many have children and need prayer as they deal with being away from their mothers.

Pray that God will continue to work for restoration in both the women and their families.

Pray for continued financial support from individuals and community support financially.

Prayer for staff for wisdom, discernment and peace in the midst of some challenging situations.

**VOLUNTEER
OPPORUNTITIES**

relationships, and alcohol and drug abuse. But mainly I want to share with you what God has done and is doing in my life. I came to Teen Challenge a broken woman. I didn't believe that I could do anything as the last 6 months had brought me to my breaking point with my 3rd DWI, 4th treatment center, jail and eventually a psych ward visit after getting a hold of the only thing that at the time could try and numb the pain, Listerine. It seemed that everywhere I turned and ran was blocked, but little did I know God still had a plan for me.

One of the verses that he revealed to me when I came to Teen Challenge was in Hosea. It spoke to me because it wasn't just a passage of scripture, but it was my life. Hosea 2:5-7 & 14-16 "She said, 'I'll run after other lovers and sell myself to them for food and water, for clothing of wool and linen, and for olive oil and drinks. For this reason I will fence her in with thornbushes. I will block her path with a wall to make her lose her way. When she runs after her lovers, she won't be able to catch them. She will search for them, but not find them...but then I will win her back once again. I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her there. I will return her vineyards to her, transform the Valley of Trouble into a gateway of hope. She will give herself to me there, as she did long ago when she was young, when I freed her from her captivity in Egypt. When that day comes, says the LORD, "you will call me 'my husband' instead of 'my master.'"

I had literally ran through thornbushes in an attempt to escape, but God was faithful even when I was unfaithful. He was faithful to get me here and he still continues to prove more and more of his faithfulness. Everyday God shows me something new I can do through His son Jesus who gives me strength. He really does love me. He is showing me so much love. I always knew of Him, but I really never knew Him. He is not who I thought He was. He is the lover of my soul. He is everything I could

Drivers for student appointments (Iowa City/DM).

Mentors

NEEDS

Propane Tank (for gas grill)

Heavy Duty Shovel for upcoming winter season

Heavy Duty Vacuum Cleaner (used daily, sometimes more)

Paper Products (Toilet paper, Kleenex, Paper towels, etc)

Laundry Detergent / Dishwasher Detergent / Cleaning supplies

Fresh Fruit / Vegetables / Meat

DONATE!

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October Events:

October 19:
Montezuma
Assembly of God (am)

October 19:
Ottumwa First
Pentecostal (pm)

October 24 & 25:

have ever wanted, needed, dreamed of and hoped for. He is my knight in shining armor...my husband.

Alpha Weekend

Garage Sale Success !!

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped with our 1st Annual Garage Sale. We didn't know quite what to expect, but had a great response from the entire Pella community and hence it has become an annual event. We not only had a lot of people donate items, come to shop, but we also had many people ask "What is Teen Challenge?" Which opened up the door to share the heart and mission of our home. I even heard one of the women have the opportunity to share her testimony (very fun to see, as she normally would shy away from conversations with new people).

Much thanks to all who prayed and supported!

If you have questions on how you can help the women of Teen Challenge by volunteering or donating, please contact me at (641) 628-2808 or email me at c.wilson@tcmid.org

Blessings,

Candace Wilson

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