

A Personal Testimony

December 2017

There are seasons in life that are so tumultuous that you must press into your faith just to survive them!

When I first heard of The Wilmington Healing Center (WHC) I was desperate to get help for my 23-year-old son who was addicted to drugs.

The first time I spoke on the phone to the Director, Sandy Bell, I was on the way to see my son who had been incarcerated because of Heroin possession. I was lost and out of ideas to help him. It felt like an anchor for my soul just to talk with someone that understood what I was going thru. I also spoke to other staff members on several occasions.

It was at the WHC that I first heard about Mothers Praying for Adult Children (MPAC) led by Carmen Poindexter www.mothersprayingforadultchildren.org, I began attending the group and found it to be my life line of sorts as us Mom's gathered 2-3 times per month to lift up our prodigals in prayer and talk about what was going on with them in a safe atmosphere.

Instead of enabling, Carmen taught us the 10 Commandments for Moms; to say, "God, go get them, they are yours, you know them and love them better than I. I knew instinctively, perhaps a mother's intuition, that things were not going well with my beloved son Steven. He was in full blown addiction and would not let me even mention the word "Rehab" to him. I felt completely helpless at times, I

wanted so badly for him to be well, whole and delivered from his addiction.

On February 10, 2016 the unthinkable happened, my son gave up all hope in this ole world and took his own life. Life as I knew it ended that day! All hopes and dreams I had for my precious son came crashing down with that one single phone call. I was shattered and plunged to a depth of sorrow, grief and despair that I never knew existed. I cried every single day for a year or more and at times still do.

We buried him on Valentine's Day and I read at his funeral from 1 Corinthians 13, known as the "Love" chapter. I was inspired by what a friend wrote to me and, so I shared this by faith on that fateful day....

People think of this as the Love chapter and that is true. But Paul says faith and hope will also survive and we often forget and overlook that hope is one of the great biblical truths that will also survive all things.

Because of my faith and because of His unmerited love, I cling to hope, a very real and present hope that we will surely see Steven again. We are all indeed to cling onto that blessed hope."

As the reality of this truth sank in I was so numb with pain that I could barely lift my head. After about four months I reached out to the WHC and found there loving, caring, kindness and compassion for my soul. I just needed answers and was on the precipice of losing my faith altogether as everything I ever held dear had been shaken to its core! I came with raw emotions and always found a

box of Kleenex and warm, loving reception just waiting for me to pour out my broken heart.

When most people had resumed their daily lives, I still sat much like Job in the ash heap that was now my life. The WHC offered me their services at no cost to me, free and confidential services with donations accepted. In my desperation, they were there! I will forever be grateful.

Now I volunteer here offering others the same hope that was given to me. 1 Corinthians 1:3-4 says.....

God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others when they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort that God has given us.

As we are about to see another year end and a New Year fresh with hope, I pray that you will come alongside this powerful ministry. The Hebrew year has already begun, 5778, a year to go thru the gateway to our future; a year for God to grace us, his people, for completion of the old and to enter the new.

If you have been personally comforted by this ministry, may I ask you to complete the year by giving a monetary gift of any amount to show your gratitude? We have found that 75-80% of the people that come to us are in churches. Would you consider asking your Pastor to sow into this ministry by sharing with him how it has touched your life?

The WHC continues to provide prayer, biblical counseling and deliverance ministry as well as offer Kingdom dynamic

teachings monthly to educate us on walking out godly principles in our daily lives. They have future plans for a Kingdom Oasis Recovery Center in the area as well. They stand as a beacon of light in this community but as with all faith ministries, we trust our great God for all our resources. Please search your hearts and be faithful to give as God directs. We will be so very thankful!

With faith, hope and love,
Shalom!

Wendy Poole Mercer

You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing...Psalm 30:11