



Transitions

Be not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...
Romans 12:2

This is a Test

Unemployment rate climbs, home foreclosures increase and the list goes on and on. We are surrounded by financial uncertainties. These uncertainties certainly have an impact on our financial giving.

The Apostle Paul reminds us that it is the “trying of our faith” that makes us strong. That being the case it would seem that the more “uncertainties” in life the stronger we grow.

We see this on a daily basis at Grace House. Men come to us overloaded with the uncertainties in their lives. We rejoice as we witness their growth during their strengthening process.

Please keep up your faithful gifts. Together we are changing the world, one life at a time.

From the Director's Desk

Richard Sempel, Executive Director

Walking the Walk

It was a “bit chilly” on that Saturday morning as the large group began streaming out of the Student Center at Indiana Wesleyan University. Students, Faculty, Administrators and friends gathered at the traffic circle in preparation to begin the three and a half mile walk to the Grant County Court House. This was not to be just another stroll, it was a



group of people that set aside time to walk and pray for our community, for residents, outreach programs, City and County Administrators asking God to guide, direct and provide for all during these trying times.

The group received last minute instructions and quietly began their journey.

Following a Police Car with its lights flashing hundreds of participants stretched out for more than three blocks as they quietly headed down South Washington Street, through “The Village” and

wind blew, people shivered and the ceremony began. One Voice, a coral group from IWU shared a couple of stirring songs to begin the ceremony.

Indiana Wesleyan University President, Dr. Henry Smith, IWU Vice President, Todd Voss, Dr. Jim Lo, Dean of the Chapel, Dean of Chapel, IWU Professor, Dr. Doug Daugherty, IWU and Marion Fire Chief Steve Gorrell all shared of the need for and impact that prayer can have on a community.

onto Adams Street towards the downtown square. Some participants ran, some walked and some were even wheeled in wheel chairs.

Upon reaching the Town Square they were greeted by the sounds of music and a group of supporters that had already gathered. The cold

As part of the event each of the participants were asked to donate \$20 in support of area service organizations. Dr. Lo reported that they had raised about \$12,000 through the campaign. The Senior Center,

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WHERE YOU CAN HELP:

- Pray for the men and ministry of Grace House.
- Volunteer to become a positive influence in the lives of Grace House residents.
- Remember Grace House in your local mission's giving.
- Refer someone struggling with addictions to Grace House.

Director's Desk Continued

St. Martin's, Cancer Services, Family Service Society and Grace House each received a portion of the funds raised by the event. Canned goods and food items had been collected and donated to the Marion Gospel Mission.

After the closing prayer many of the participants hurriedly boarded a "heated" IWU bus to be transported back to the University. Some chose to run, or walk back to the finish line.

This event was more than a group of people making a statement. It was individuals gathering together to express their loving concerns for the needs of a community, to prayerfully intercede on behalf of those going through hard times and to be a living testament to us all.

In the opening chapter of his first letter to his friends in Thessalonica Paul wrote of how he, Timothy and Silas had not just told them how to

deal with adversity in their lives but of how they had presented themselves as living examples among them.

Paul went on to encourage them to take what they had seen and duplicate it in their own lives. Then he recognized them for how well they had handled that task and what a dynamic witness it was to not only their immediate community but to their entire nation.

Real leaders lead by doing, not just directing others. I asked myself a couple

of questions; What is it in your life that you would like others to duplicate? What do I demonstrate in my daily life that is a hindrance to others? I am still compiling my list. How about you?

Those men and women that spearheaded the prayer walk led by doing. Those that discussed the power and need for prayer, prayed. Those that recognized a community's financial need gave. The testimony that this was to those participating was great. Yet the power of

people taking action is still reverberating through our community.

So often in our society we are swamped with "directions to follow" with few leaders following their own instructions. The leadership that was demonstrated in all aspects of this Prayer Walk is what made it a success. The impact that it had on lives, and our community is much greater than the sum of money raised or food distributed. People of all ages and beliefs saw leaders as active participants in addressing a need.

What an interesting concept, and it works! Guess that's why Paul's letter is made readily available to us today. But after all, the One that he chose to follow taught him how to lead by his actions and not just his words.



VISIT OUR WEB SITE
www.gracehouse-marion.org

"Saving Grace" 12-Step Meeting
Big Book Discussion ~ Open Meeting ~ Non-Smoking
Hosted By: **Grace House for Recovery**
Every Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.

"Giving Back" is an important part of the recovery process. It is with this important step in mind that the Grace House Board of Directors, staff and residents have opened the doors of our beautiful home to those in the recovery community.

If you or someone you know is seeking positive change in their life feel free to attend.

**IWU CHAPEL COMMUNITY PRAYER
WALK— March 28, 2009**



Close-up

Program Graduate Sam

This area of the newsletter is reserved for testimonies of individuals who desire to share their Grace House experiences.

Everyone comes with preconceived ideas of what to expect at Grace House. They all leave having been both blessed and being a blessing to others.

The following is taken from a recent interview conducted with Grace House Graduate Sam Sample:

How did you first hear about Grace House?

My Brother was a past graduate and now a Staff person at Grace House. I found out through him.

When did you become a resident of Grace House?

I first arrived at Grace House on September 30, 2009 and Graduated on Jan 15, 2009.

How many times have you enrolled at Grace House?

I am here for a second time. I left for a couple of weeks and returned realizing my need for more stability in my life.

What had you heard about Grace House prior to your first visit?

That it was a great place to get “recovery” and back on your feet.

Were you aware of Grace House being “faith-based” and how did that affect your decision to seek residency?



I was not aware of it being Faith Based, but jumped in anyway.

What did you expect to find when visiting Grace House for the first time?

Just a bunch of guys hanging out and trying to deal with their addictions.

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Resident Update

How would you describe your state of mental, physical and spiritual condition when you first arrived at Grace House?

I was very confused and trying to cope with everything. Spiritual was there, but not like it should have been.

What were you searching for in your life that brought you to Grace House?

To get clean and back on track.

What most surprised you about Grace House?

The way the whole program worked. How everybody was so nice and could relate to you. Also the cleanliness of the house.

Other than abstaining from drugs and alcohol use what was the hardest requirement for you upon entering Grace House?

Getting to know everyone, going to meetings and admitting that I had a serious problem for the first time

Please share what you found Grace House to be and how your time there has impacted your life.

I think that Grace House is the best thing that has ever happened to me and I will tell everyone that I have made a lot of great friends. It has changed my life and it's been just great.

Give a man a fish; you have fed him for today. Teach a man to fish; and you have fed him for a lifetime...

Opposition to Change

Have you ever been in a position where everything was "great". All of your worldly needs were being met, good job, bills all caught up, no physical ailments, good relationships, feeling spiritually and emotionally secure? What happens next in your world?

For many the "good" becomes a time of worry about how long it will last, or when will it all fall apart. The grateful thoughts quickly turn to fear as what we feel as impending doom is on the horizon.

Now the real battle begins. The one in our minds that so often tries to first convince us we deserve every good thing, and then that we deserve nothing. Those thoughts that start us on the path of a process of justification and rationalization can only lead us in one direction, down.

We see men facing this battle on a daily basis. Some are wrapped in a feeling of guilt when they start to succeed. The

Current Resident Update:

Capacity.....	10
Current Residents	7
Number in Phase 1....	2
Number in Phase 2.....	0
Number in Phase 3.....	2
Graduates	3
Residents Employed Upon Entry...	0
Residents Currently Employed.....	5
Men Served Since Last Newsletter..	10
Known Relapse Since Last Newsletter ..	3
Graduates Since Last Newsletter....	3
Former Residents Continuing to be Actively Involved ...	2

Immediate Needs

Linens: Sheets (long twin), pillows, bath towels, wash cloths.

Our Food Pantry is getting low on canned goods!

Would you or your group like to organize a canned food drive?

struggles will always be there, but it is how we face them that makes us either victorious, or a victim. The choices we make under fire are the ones that mark our lives.

Grace House is a place where men are learning to recognize their personal "triggers" from afar and in turn respond to them out of wisdom, not fear. But you don't have to be "in recovery" to experience these challenges.

How we prepare, prioritize and learn a proper response to the attacks before they get here is what will be the deciding factor in if we sink or swim when the time comes for those choices to be made...

Thank you for your prayers.

INVEST IN A LIFE

Do you know of an individual, group or organizations willing to financially sponsor men desiring to enter the Grace House program?

Prior to entry men are required to pay \$200 to cover their first twelve days at GH. Many desire the change and cannot afford the initial payment.

Help us to keep the lights on and to allow an applicant to begin his journey to recovery.

Please remember Grace House in your thoughts and prayers. Victories do not come without a battle. It is through your faithful gifts and prayers that lives are truly being "transformed by the renewing of their minds." If you would like to have the ministry efforts of Grace House presented to your group or organization please contact us.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT

