

THE MISSION Bell

LIFE-CHANGING MINISTRY

"Where Healing Begins"

Robbie O'Neal

RESIDENT TESTIMONY

My name is Robbie O'Neal, and this is the story of my recovery.

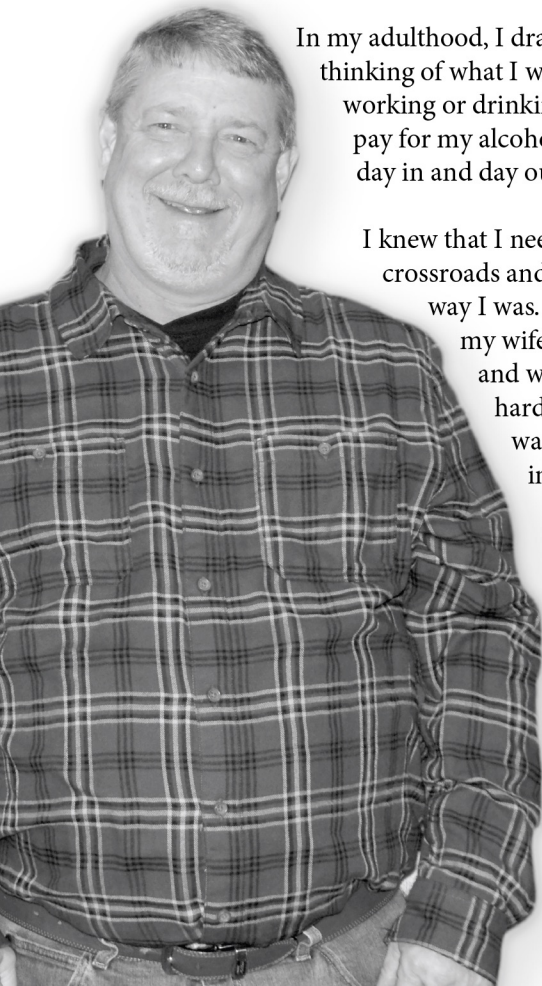
I come from a broken home. My parents divorced when I was around 3 years of age. My mom remarried, but there was a lot of alcohol consumption on my stepdad's side of the family. I remember a lot of arguing and fighting with temporary break-ups. They eventually divorced, and she then married a wonderful man. My dad remarried. His marriage lasted for 10 years. They eventually divorced, because he was an alcoholic. I have one sibling, a younger sister. Growing up, we didn't know any better; this was our normal life.

In my adulthood, I drank daily. I was very self-centered, only thinking of what I wanted. My life consisted of me either working or drinking. I was good at my job but only worked to pay for my alcohol addiction. My life revolved around this, day in and day out.

I knew that I needed help long before I sought it. I came to a crossroads and knew I could no longer go on living the way I was. I was at rock bottom. I was separated from my wife, had lost my job because of my addiction, and was in jail for some serious charges that I hardly remember. As I sat in jail, I knew this was it for me; major changes had to take place in my life.

I left jail on April 11, 2022 and came directly to the Rescue Mission. I was really unsure of what this place could do for me, but I was willing to give it a try. I am so thankful I did. This place has changed my life in so many ways. I am a born-again Christian. I have learned how to be a godly husband to my wife and a godly father according to His word. My wife and I are starting over and working

continued inside cover...



02 RESIDENT TESTIMONY
Robbie O'Neal

TAKE ME TO THE WATER
Baptized at the Mission

03 HELP ELDERLY RESIDENTS
Raise Money for Golf Carts to Shuttle Residents

04 "I HAD NO IDEA" EXPERIENCE
Tour of the Rescue Mission

WEDDING GOWNS
Bargain Center Deals



Proud "Certified Excellent" member of City Gate, accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, and recognized as a "Four Star Charity" by Charity Navigator.



continued from front cover...

on our relationship, forgiveness, and building the trust that I have broken. I realize that God is first and foremost in my life, and as long as I keep Him first, He will keep my paths straight. He is the center of my world, and now my family goes to church on a regular basis. He is the true foundation that I was missing most of my life.

I have 2 biological children aged 26 and 16. My wife has four biological children. She also has 6 adopted children ranging from 8-19 years old. Our family is certainly full, but God has entrusted us with these precious children. I am so very thankful that He now lives in me, so I can be a better parent to them. In total, I have 2 children, 10 stepchildren, and 3 grandchildren. Truly, they are my blessings!

I am learning patience and to wait on God. I know His timing is perfect, but this can be difficult for me. I am trusting Him and that He will help me with this. I have found that I am passionate about helping others. While

at the Mission, I was a Resident Manager and was given night and weekend responsibilities. My peers found me to be trustworthy and honest. I enjoyed being in this position and was able to walk with other men through their recovery. It is so much easier to love others well when I realize how much God loves me.

God blessed me with employment after I graduated from the program in January. I started work at Lowe's and am really enjoying it. I have moved back home with my family. If you would have asked me about this back in 2021 when I was sitting in jail, I would have never imagined my life would be where it is today.

I am truly in awe of what God has done and continues to do in my life. I will remain connected with my Rescue Mission family, and my church family, and continue attending Celebrate Recovery. These are the missing links from my past life. Now that I have them, I will never let them go!



Take Me To The Water...



One of the blessings of "life at the Mission" is getting to witness our guests being baptized. Last year 113 men and women were baptized, most by members of the Mission's staff. Steven Z. (pictured above) stated in class one day that he wanted to be baptized. When asked when, he jubilantly replied, "RIGHT NOW!"

So off the class went to the creek on our campus to witness Steven being baptized by Jason Beck, VP of Programs.

Since that day, the creek has served as our own "River Jordan" as more and more guests are opting to "go to the water" to be baptized at the Mission...God is so good!

Take me to the water to be baptized
Bury me with Jesus, the crucified
Plunge me in the fountain
And may I rise with open eyes
Take me to the water to be baptized

What a joy and blessing, to be baptized
As a testimony of a work inside
Jesus's blood has cleansed me,
and to new life He bids me rise
I've come to the water, to be baptized
To be baptized

Come to the water, to be baptized
- Artist: Nathan Young

Help for Elderly & Physically Challenged Residents

We Need to Raise \$20,000 for Campus Transportation to Shuttle These Residents

Please return the enclosed reply card or give online at rescuemissionga.com/campustransportation



According to the Mayo Clinic, the average American walks 3,000 to 4,000 steps a day, or roughly 1.5 to 2 miles. Sedentary is less than 5,000 steps per day. Low active is 5,000 to 7,499 steps per day. Somewhat active is 7,500 to 9,999 and active is more than 10,000 steps per day. **10,000 - WOW!** That's a lot of steps.

Do you know how many steps you walk in a day? Especially in this world of cars, trucks, motorcycles, bikes, busses, Uber, and dozens of other types of two and four wheel vehicles.

Chances are most of our guests at the Rescue Mission could tell you how many steps they walk throughout their

day. You see, the only vehicle some of them have is a bicycle to take them to classes, counseling sessions, work therapy, meals, chapel, and everywhere else. Most, the majority really, walk to all their daily activities on our 200 acre campus.

As the Mayo Clinic numbers show, walking is good for us all. Especially those in our life-recovery program who are focused on their physical, mental, and spiritual healing.

BUT, for those who are elderly and/or have physical concerns this amount of walking each day is very challenging.

Right now we have just two golf carts (a 2 seat and a 4 seat) to help shuttle them around the campus and they are quite old and often in need of repair.

That's why we need your help to raise \$20,000 so we can purchase new campus transportation to assist these residents in getting around the campus each day.

This will also help with transportation when the weather is bad, or we have larger groups of residents to shuttle.

YOUR help is needed to help us meet this urgent need and is greatly appreciated.



GIVE TODAY TO HELP OUR ELDERLY AND PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED GUESTS GET AROUND OUR CAMPUS!



“What if there was a place so safe that the worst of me could be known, and I would discover that I would not be loved less, but more in the telling of it?”

-The Cure / TrueFace Publishing

Know someone struggling with addiction, domestic violence, homelessness, or other life challenging issues? We're here to help.

Contact us for more information at 478-743-5445 or visit rescuemissionga.com

The “I Had No Idea” Experience



“I had no idea the Rescue Mission did this!” is a commonly heard phrase after taking a tour of our ministry. We invite you, your church, company, or civic group to join us for an exciting, life-changing experience as you meet the staff and residents – and see your gifts in action. You will never think of the Rescue Mission the same way again. Schedule your “I Had No Idea” tour today!

Karen Kinsler, 478-743-5445 ext. 404 or email karen@rescuemissionga.com

Calling All Brides to Be...



The Bargain Center is now carrying wedding gowns. Get your dream dress and enjoy big savings! We also have a wide selection of shoes and jewelry.

You've fallen in love with him, now fall in love with the perfect gown for your big day at the Bargain Center.

The Bargain Center
3775 Napier Avenue, Macon
Monday – Saturday 10 am to 6 pm

You don't have to spend a fortune to look like a million bucks on your big day! Beautiful gowns at pretty prices! Some as low as \$25.00.

And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love, but the greatest of these is love.



GIVE YEAR-ROUND

Consider becoming a monthly giver and have a lasting impact throughout the year! Find out how at rescuemissionga.com/monthly



6601 ZEBULON RD • MACON, GA



BARGAIN CENTER

3775 Napier Avenue
BARN CENTER
6601 Zebulon Road

Schedule a pick-up
478-743-5445 ext.314