



Destiny

The New Destiny Treatment Center newsletter
www.newdestinytreatmentcenter.org

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Christmas at New Destiny

Dr. R.W. Bolois, executive director



Dr. Bolois

Do you remember how heart-wrenching it is to be away from home at Christmas time? You try to imagine what is taking place at exact moments. Your emotions are mixed, caught between the joy of memories of Christmases past and sorrow at being separated from holiday season activities. Plans are made and vacation days set to be home for Christmas next year.

Our job at Christmas time is to try and make men at New Destiny Treatment Center feel as if they are home. We want them to enjoy the

season and its spirit and festivities. Many men have not been home for months or even years. For them, Christmas was just another day to get drunk or high. There were no gift exchanges, no family celebrations. Their families were trying to fend for themselves.

A New Destiny objective is to make sure that our residents experience Christmas and know its purpose. This is part of our work to bring men to Christ and reality. We all know they have made a mess of their lives, but that is no reason to think they cannot change. Our goal is to see these men reunited with their families. We care about them.

I asked four of our men questions related to Christmas. The first question was, "What holiday did you

grieve the most over not being with your family?" All four answered Christmas.

The second question was, "What's different for you about this Christmas being here at New Destiny? The answers:

- "I have a new outlook and am going to enjoy celebrating my new beliefs with my family."
- "I am sober and not used to being this way during the holiday, but I know now that I am closer to God."
- "I am going to spend time with my son and be able to enjoy time with my family with a clear mind."
- "It is meaningful to have a clear mind and enjoy my children while sober. It will feel good to realize I belong."

See "Christmas," page 4

NDTC returned this father to his son

Client testimony by Jeremy Shetler

My name is Jeremy Shetler. I am 29 years old. When I was four years old, my grandparents adopted my sister and me. My mother struggled with drugs and alcohol. My father left when I was two.

At 13, I got drunk for the first time. I smoked marijuana at 14.

Marijuana appealed to me more than alcohol. Finding acceptance

in the wrong crowd, I ran with them all through high school. I was a skinny kid with low self-esteem. All my partying friends had problems at home too. We stuck together. High school was a lonely and confusing time in my life.

At 18, I was arrested for the first time. I received a marijuana possession charge, DUI and underage consumption.



Counselor Vance Little presents Shetler with a certificate for completing the NDTC program

See "Shetler," page 2

An old story *Rev. Lester Rowan, assistant director*



Rev. Lester Rowan

Is Christmas an old story to you? The Christmas story for many people has become so familiar that it no longer has significance. We've grown accustomed to the season's commercialization while in many

places the spiritual emphasis is given casual lip service. However, the message and the story are still as real and relevant as ever.

To some of us it seems trite to say, "Christ is the meaning of Christmas," or "Jesus is the reason for the season." To others, however, it is a real revelation. It is a truth that they have rarely, if ever, considered. Yet the truth is worthy of our reflection every year.

Christmas is all about the incarnation – God becoming flesh and living in our world.

The Scriptures are clear that God's love and justice are behind the gift of his only

begotten Son. His justice would not allow Him to ignore the sin of our first parents in disobeying His explicit command. His love would not permit complete ruin and destruction of those created in His own image. The remedy required the gift of His own perfect Son to uphold His love and satisfy His justice.

God's love and His gift are truly amazing. It dazzles the mind to try to comprehend God's reach to redeem fallen humanity. The message of Christ's descent from heavenly glory to earthly grime is more than one can intellectually grasp. What a privilege it is for the Christian to explain this truth to those who've never heard!

One of the blessings of working at New Destiny Treatment Center is the honor of sharing the message of Christmas. We have

the privilege of reaching out to those others who have rejected and communicating to them the love that Christ has for us all. Some of us are asked by both clients and outsiders why we spend our time and talents in this work. The answer is that we try to demonstrate, in a miniscule way, the same kind of love that brought God's Son to us.

Merry Christmas!



Shetler (continued from page 1)

I was so empty and alone that I was living with a drug dealer and sometimes in my car. I was arrested for theft and stopped to take a look at my life. At 19, I joined the Marine Corps to get my life on the right path.

The Marines taught me a lot about being a man, hard work and responsibility. I learned that I was an alcoholic. We never did drugs in the military but we drank daily. A lot. When I was discharged at 23 I was a full-blown alcoholic. I went through a 28-day rehab while in the service. It did no good.

I came home and immediately fell back into the same life. I was in and out of trouble with the law. I went to jail from periods as short as 10 days up to a year. Drugs and alcohol robbed me of everything important to me. They were destroying my family and my son. I

wanted to quit, but had no power to do so.

When I came to New Destiny Treatment Center I was a broken man. I had lost everything. I was skinny, tired and lonely. God could never truly help me change my ways until I came to the very end of myself. That was how I felt my first day at New Destiny.

The NDTC counselors and staff were always encouraging. They showed a real interest in my life. Men with common struggles would relate to me. It was so nice to finally feel accepted somewhere.

Today, as an NDTC graduate, I love the Lord with all my heart. I have nothing without Jesus and I am completely sold out to Him. The void and the emptiness in my life are gone; I have peace, joy, and happiness. I can see good fruit in my life for the first time.

I have a five-year-old son whom I love dearly. I am becoming the father drugs and alcohol kept me from becoming. I must daily surrender to God's will and put to death the old sinful man in me. NDTC has given me the tools to complete this difficult task. I am so blessed to have Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior.

The success of this program is based on trust in the Lord and committing to His ways. NDTC does not work miracles; there are no classes that fix men instantly. This program is a tool in the Lord's hands. He works miracles and changes lives.

Giving to New Destiny: gifts with eternal impact

Melinda Holsopple, director of development

As you look forward to the end of the year please remember NDTC as you consider your year-end tax planning. Of course, giving is much more than credits and tax brackets. Your gifts make an eternal difference in the lives of men once enslaved to drugs and alcohol. Each dollar helps to return husbands to wives, fathers to children and sons to parents.

No matter what your income bracket, if you itemize you can almost always lower your income taxes through giving to New Destiny Treatment Center. NDTC is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization. Your gifts to us are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. There are several ways to lower your tax burden and support the New Destiny ministry. These include:

- **Cash gifts:** Gifts of cash (including checks and credit cards) are the easiest way to increase your charitable deduction. Be sure that your gift to New Destiny is postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2006 to receive credit in 2006. Check with your employer to see if they offer matching charitable gifts. This is an easy way to grow your contribution.

- **Gifts of real estate:** Your real estate has probably appreciated in value. If you own a residence, vacation home, farm or other property, you can avoid capital gains tax through a gift of property while receiving a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the property.

- **Gifts of stock:** Tax experts indicate that gifts of stock are almost always more tax-wise than cash. Gifts of stock help individuals avoid capital gains tax on the increased value of stock and provide a charitable deduction for the full market value of the stock at the time of the gift. Tax laws from 2006 mandate that you

must have owned the stock for more than 12 months to qualify for full deduction.

The board of trustees, administration, staff, residents, and volunteers appreciate your support of the NDTC ministry. Whether

you give financial resources, your time or your prayers, you are a valued partner in God's work here. We pray God's richest blessings upon you and those you love in the upcoming new year.

One of the most meaningful gifts you can give this holiday season...

Each year, NDTC clients show love for their children by giving gifts purchased with your donations. This holiday season, partner with your Sunday School class, small group or friends to show a child that dad still cares.

Dads Still Care

Please hurry!
Donations must be received by December 10, 2006. Please mark your donation on the response card below.




(Party to be held December 17, 2006)

Yes, I want to help return husbands to their wives, fathers to their children, and sons to their parents.

I am enclosing \$ _____ as a: 900 Club Member (\$100 per month) beginning the month of _____, 200__.

(If partnering with a friend, please include full name and address of partner for tracking purposes.)

Monthly gift (other than 900 Club) Annual gift One-time gift Dads Still Care (see ad above)

In memory of: In honor of: _____

I prefer to donate by credit card: Visa MasterCard

Gift amount: \$ _____ Card #: _____ Exp. date: ____/____/____

Signature (required): _____

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

I am unable to contribute at this time, but I want to be a prayer partner for the New Destiny Treatment Center. Please continue sending the *Destiny* newsletter.

Christmas (continued from page 1)

The third question was, "What emotions do you feel while thinking about giving gifts to your children?" The answers were thrilling:

- "Wonderful! I feel like a dad and a responsible parent now."
- "I am happy, excited, and thankful to be giving them gifts. I'm looking forward to seeing them smile."
- "Happy and sad. Sad because I cannot give them all I would like, but happy because I can provide some things."
- "I am happy, joyful, and humbled."

The fourth question was, "Do you expect anything different in the future as you celebrate Christmas?" These answers brought tears to my eyes and joy to my heart:

- "Each Christmas will become more meaningful as I grow closer to Christ."
- "I am more family-oriented, which makes Christmas more meaningful. Due to my newfound spirituality, I can enjoy sobriety."

• "I will not be in treatment or a similar place, so I'll get to be home with my family."

• "I expect to have freedom to love my children without reserve. Every Christmas will be new and genuine."

On Dec. 17 we will observe "Dads Still Care," (please see page 3) a special day when wives and children are here with our clients. "Dads Still Care" is when the gifts you, our supporters, help purchase are given to the children. Watching children open their gifts and hug their daddies is worth more than any present we can receive.

The children know that their daddies have not forgotten them and still love them. As soon as NDTC enables these men to get their lives together they will be back home, hopefully never to be away again. Please pray that by sharing Christ and His message, we will be able to make the best possible Christmas atmosphere at



New Destiny.

Thank you for making this Christmas special for so many people. Merry Christmas to all of you!

Mailing list changes: Requests for change of address or removal from mailing list should be sent to Melinda Holsopple at (330) 825-5202 (ext. 120) or gholsopple@aol.com. Please remember it often takes at least one month for changes to take effect.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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New Destiny
Treatment Center
A ministry of Barberton Rescue Mission:



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