



Destiny

The New Destiny Treatment Center newsletter
www.newdestinytreatmentcenter.org

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Finding a new beginning *Dr. R.W. Bolois, executive director*



Dr. R.W. Bolois

People everywhere love the new start that comes with January 1. Celebrating begins New Year's Eve. We look forward to see what in 2009 will be better than 2008.

At the start of the new year we think about what in the past year we accomplished and that at which we failed. Sometimes the picture is not pretty, but we believe that things can get better.

New Year's resolutions are often a major focus point for those approaching the next 12 months

with hope. But year after year it's the same story. Within a few weeks we feel deflated, sad and guilty, sometimes for the rest of the year.

I'm not a big believer in New Year's resolutions, but resolutions do show us that a great many people want their lives to be different, to count for something, to make a difference. I haven't met many people who say, "My goal is to waste my life," or "I want to grow up and be an absolute loser."

The good news is that it doesn't require Einstein-like intelligence or great wealth for your life to make a lasting difference. You need

only base your actions on a few great things that really matter—or perhaps just one—and then be willing to live for them or die for them.



In his book, "Don't Waste Your Life," John Piper recalls a story from the February 1998 edition of *Readers Digest*. A couple took early retirement

from their jobs in the northeastern United States. when the husband was 59 and the wife was 51. They moved to Punta Gorda, Florida, where they cruise on their 30 foot

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Redemption *Client testimony by Donnie Reese*

My name is Donnie Reese. I am 43 years old and I am from New Philadelphia, Ohio. Like everyone else, I had hopes, dreams, and ambitions for my life.

My mom and dad divorced in 1977 and I came to Ohio to live with my dad. In 1979 he was killed in a truck driving accident.

Dad's best friend and his wife became my guardians and took me in to live with them. They were very helpful,

getting me involved in high school football and track and tried to teach me responsibility.

I graduated from high school in 1983 after taking college prep courses. However, I decided not to go to college, but instead got a job.

Four years later, at 22, I got married. Then, my first child, a



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Thanksgiving meal for NDTC staff and clients

Rev. Lester Rowan, assistant director



Rev. Lester Rowan

On Thursday evening, November 20, a traditional Thanksgiving dinner was enjoyed by NDTC clients, staff members and a number of their family members.

including grandchildren—blessed all of the staff and clients with their extraordinary expression of love.

The meal included turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, salad, rolls, and pie. The food was

prepared to perfection and served with spiritually moving expressions of Christian love. As we went through the serving line it was easy to see that the love of Christ

was being wonderfully expressed.

It was inspiring to walk in the dining room and visit with clients and their family members.

This rewarding event has taken place for the past several years.

The wonderful Thanksgiving meal was prepared and served by the Ike Rufener family. Ike is a member of the NDTC Board of Trustees.

Ike, his wife and their extended family carry out this labor of love as a way of demonstrating their support for the ministry of New Destiny Treatment Center. The entire Rufener family—



Above: Thanksgiving meal attendees enjoy food and fellowship together.

Right: NDTC staff and clients gather before the delicious meal.



Above: More attendees enjoy their Thanksgiving meal together.

Expressions of happiness and joy were on everyone's faces as they enjoyed the meal and fellowship.

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Reese (continued from page 1)

daughter, was born. I bought a house and had a good job. I was working as a truck driver, mechanic and equipment operator at mine reclamation projects. In 1989 I started driving a coal truck full-time for the man who is still my employer.

In 1992 my son was born. I thought my life was set. I had a wife, two kids, a house, a new car, a motorcycle and was making good money. It seemed like I had everything I needed.



Donnie Reese

Soon my marriage started falling apart and ended in divorce in 2002. I lost my house, car, bike—and more.

I was never a heavy drinker, except for occasional weekend parties. However, I got a DUI charge that put me out of truck driving. I tried a few different things for work, but came back to work as a mechanic at the trucking company I'd worked for several years before.

I drank more frequently and violated my DUI probation. While I waited for the probation violation court date, I got another DUI along with a driving under suspension (DUS) charge. I was looking at a possible 18 months in jail.

I was given a "last-chance" opportunity to get my life under control by coming to New Destiny. The staff here has been very supportive and helpful. They presented me with the tools and opportunities to live sober, but it is up to me to act on

them. New Destiny offers something for everyone—if you want to change. The staff offers understanding and direction for men ranging from teenagers to senior citizens.

I've met a lot of great people from different backgrounds, from the staff to the youngest client. I've improved my work status, have better relationships with my children, and have regained my goals and ambitions to improve my life. I have resolved most of my issues with the law.

Thanks to New Destiny Treatment Center for helping get me back to the person I once was.

The grace of giving

Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. I Corinthians 16: 1 - 3

This passage is an example for the Corinthians—and for us—of the grace of giving, and for us. Christian giving begins under grace. Grace in this context is the free gift of blessings that God extends to us through Jesus. We give to say thank you to God for His unmerited favor and continued

Melinda Holsopple, director of development

outpouring of blessing in our lives.

Also, Paul is encouraging believers to be careful givers and stewards of the Lord's resources. God wants us to place our treasure where His heart is—with His people, doing His work.

NDTC is thankful beyond words for the resources that His people bestow upon us for the Lord's work in treating people enslaved by addiction. We praise the Lord for placing our needs on the hearts of His people and for their willingness to give sacrificially

to our cause. We rejoice in each gift. We pledge to always be good stewards of money contributed by our brothers and sisters in Christ, glorifying Him in all that we do.



We are thankful to you. You volunteer, pray, and support us with your financial gifts. All are coveted and appreciated!

Your contributions are making an eternal difference in the lives of men and their families.

New beginning (continued from page 1)

trawler, play softball and collect shells.

Piper notes, "At first, when I read it I thought it might be a joke. A spoof on the American dream. But it wasn't. Tragically, this was the dream: Come to the end of your life—your one and only precious, God-given life—and let the last great work of your life, before you give an account to your Creator, be this: playing softball and collecting shells. Picture them before Christ at the great judgment day: "Look, Lord. See my shells." This is a tragedy. I don't want you to stand before God and only be able to say, "Look, Lord. See my boat."

At New Destiny we are working with many men of all ages who have totally given up on life. The past year has produced nothing but grief, jail time, broken relationships, fines, and other bad things. Just about all of it is due to choices.

They started breaking the law to satisfy their urges and desires. They thought only of themselves and lost their families. They have racked up court costs and fines in different counties. They have been in and out of many jails. They sit

during moments of sobriety and feel lonely and cry. They have nothing but hatred for themselves.

Many of them ask, "What does life offer me," instead of asking, "What do I have to offer life?" But just like the rest of us, they know the new year is coming. They commit to make changes and create resolutions. If only it were so easy.

My job is to let each man know that he can have a better year, but only as he surrenders

his life to Christ. The men need an inner power and strength that they are not going to get by making a resolution or trying to turn over a new leaf. It doesn't work that way.

A new client who arrived about a month ago has already started to seek the Lord and get his life in order. He wanted to see me the other day to talk over some issues.

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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

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.

Thanksgiving (continued from page 2)

Family members expressed appreciation for inviting them to be part of this celebration of God's wonderful grace.



the love of Christ. God has also provided wonderful Christian friends and

supporters like the Rufener family. We want to give praise to God and thanks to the Rufeners for this kind and thoughtful demonstration of love and support.

God has blessed NDTC in many ways. He has provided the means for this ministry to keep sharing



Top left: Staff member, John Scharf, enjoys a brief conversation with a client during the Thanksgiving meal.

Left: Rufener family members serve food to the clients and family members in the serving line.

New beginning (continued from page 3)

He asked me if it was possible for him to get married in our chapel. He said, "I am now a Christian and I know that it is wrong to be living together. God wants us to be a married couple." I assured him that his ceremony could be performed here.

This is just one of many men who are going to have a better year because of New

Destiny. They may be hearing the Gospel for the first time. My goal is to make sure each one knows that someday we will all stand before the Lord. We don't want to just offer shells that we have gathered. We want to be able to present a good life that has been lived by grace through faith. Pray that the Lord will help us rescue as many men as possible. We want this

treatment center to be a beacon light for the lost. This year can be the best one we have ever experienced and my prayer is that God will lead us all the way.

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.

January 2009

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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