

# NO WAY OUT...

## What to do or where to go?



**LEONARDO HAD PANIC DISORDER, SLEEPLESS NIGHTS, AND RECURRING NIGHTMARES OF DEATH.**

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**PATRICIA SPENT NIGHTS USING DRUGS IN THE BATHROOM.**

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MESSAGE

**BISHOP EDIR MACEDO**  
**HOPE VS. hope**

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**I spent two years in a wheel chair; I had 1% chance of walking again.**

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SCAN ME



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**NOT TO BE SOLD**

## | IN THIS EDITION |

### NO WAY OUT

Almost everyone has heard the phrase, "I have tried everything, but nothing worked." Maybe you have said this once before. We usually hear this phrase when a person feels hopeless before a problem. When they believe they have exhausted all the possible resources, they can think of and don't know what else to do or where to go.

From a realistic perspective, the situation before them or their dream seems impossible. Thus frustration grows within them. The disappointment from failures, rejection, bad news, years of waiting, and the lack of change have caused many to "throw in the towel." To give up dreaming and hoping altogether. But what does the word of God say to those in this situation? "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:11 -13.

Now the question is, have you indeed given God a chance to help you? Just praying is not enough. You have to trust Him enough to obey all He tells you to do in His word. For hope in the fulfillment of God's promise will not disappoint. For although we as humans are limited, God is not. There is a way out.

Have certainty that God will do all that He said He will. Choose today to believe this promise against all the negative things that may have happened or what others may say. If your faith has been weak, join us at a Universal Church near you this Sunday to strengthen your faith and seek God's help.

*"Do not remember the former things..Behold, I will do a new thing... I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:18-19*

## | BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is a sickness of the soul that cannot be cured by medication. Although medication may provide temporary relief, once its effect wears off, the feelings of depression return, leaving a person in a constant state of sadness and hopelessness.

Are you feeling hopeless because of your current state? Have you tried everything in your power to change your life, but things remain the same? Are you so overwhelmed that you have lost the desire to live? It is a sign of evil at work in a person's life. Don't lose hope yet, dear friend! Depression does not have to be the end of you. Taking your life now will only take away the opportunity to see it change.

God wants to free you from this depression, but you must turn to Him. Every Friday, at every Universal Church, we have a service to undo all evil. Come to receive a powerful prayer at one of our locations. I guarantee you will instantly feel a difference. You will learn how to fight against the evil that has been working in your life and defeat depression once and for all.

**YOU CAN BEAT DEPRESSION**  
YOUR STORY ISNT OVER!

Call 1.888.332.4141  
Text 1.888.312.4141  
For more information  
SEE PAGE 12 FOR LOCATIONS



## | MESSAGE |

### Bishop Edir Macedo



## HOPE vs. hope

Who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." Romans 4.18.

Note that the word "hope" is used twice at the beginning of this verse. There are two kinds of people in the world, and both certainly feed one of the two kinds of hope. How can one hope to be against the other? It would not make sense, which is why we conclude that the apostle Paul uses the word hope with two contrasting definitions.

1 - The first kind is "hope" in the Greek sense of the word, where "hope" means "uncertainty of the future." It refers to hope in something that is humanly possible. This natural hope excludes the supernatural power of God's work, denying that all things are possible for those who use their faith. So this definition of hope can be characterized as "hoping everything goes well."

It is the kind of hope that Paul states Abraham opposed. It is the spirit of this world. With this "hope," when things "don't happen," people become powerless. These people will never change their life! Instead of dictating the rules in their lives, the problems are the ones that dictate them. Instead of reigning, they surrender to the echoes of past failures and present challenges, making their future perceptions miserable. They are essentially negative individuals. A synonym for this kind of hope is "unbelief."

Fear is a kind of faith, but it works negatively. The hope that is rooted in the natural can only produce fear.

That is the spirit of unbelief, which acts in the mind to destroy dreams. Always expecting the worst is the most accurate definition of unbelief.

2 - The second kind follows the traditional Jewish interpretation that hope is the "ex-



pectation that things will work out because God is faithful." This hope characterized Abraham's faith. He had faith in the Promises and the Character of God. There was no reason for Abraham to have hope in his human condition, but his hope was in what God had promised and that He would surely fulfill it. It is the "hope" that pleases God and nourishes faith.

When you have hope that God will do the impossible, you are challenging the spirits of hell and everything else that is not of the faith. These spirits will try to manifest in your thoughts and use people you highly regard. People who are used by the spirit of unbelief or a religious spirit will oppose you. (Take a look at the example of Jesus and how He dealt with Jairus' "friends" when they said his daughter had died and there was nothing they could do. (Mark 5.35,36).

Paul highlights the battle that took place in the mind of Abraham: "against hope (Greek version)... with HOPE (Jewish version)...." This is the first battle you will have to face during your faith journey. It is fundamental for true hope to win because the kind of hope that wins will inspire your faith and determine the course of your life! Remember, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham." John 8.39

**"The kind of hope that wins will inspire your faith and determine the course of your life!"**



**Ermelinda felt lost after receiving the news of her breast cancer and cervical cancer diagnosis. Still, after an invitation to the church, her life got transformed entirely.**

I was experiencing dizziness, weakness, and pain in the middle of my back. I went to a doctor and was diagnosed with high blood pressure. The doctor prescribed me some medicine, but as time went by, I got worse. The symptoms didn't improve; I felt even more weakness like I was going to die. I felt unwell

## THE DOCTORS TOLD ME THERE WAS NOTHING ELSE THEY COULD DO

on a trip to my country to resolve some issues.

I called my doctor in the United States and informed her about what was happening. She asked me to come back urgently for some tests. I received a diagnosis that brought me to the floor. They discovered that I had breast cancer. The news took the ground from under my feet. I felt hopeless and went into a deep depression.

My doctor guided me to do treatments; I had two surgeries and took 13 different medications daily. For six years, I fought for my life, but nothing I did had any effect. When I discovered a second cancer in my cervix, I got devastated. The doctors had already given up; they said they couldn't do anything else. But I couldn't accept these words.

One day I met an acquaintance, it had been a long time since we had seen each other, and she

almost didn't recognize me. I was so desperate that I begged for her help. I knew she was going to a church and asked her to take me. I wanted to hear the word of God to calm my spirit, and that was the best choice I made. The first day I went to church, I managed to sleep; this was something I hadn't done in a long time. Since then, I haven't missed a meeting. The peace I found always made me want more. Each day, I learned to use my faith. I took part in the purposes of faith and held on to hope. I noticed improvements, so I went to do new tests. When the result came, the doctor was surprised. There was no trace of cancer left. I got healed.

Today I am healthy and fulfilled—all through faith for the glory of my God.

- Ermelinda



# MIRACLES EXIST

## NO MORE HEART FAILURE



I was having trouble with my heart, I had congested Heart failure. I went to the doctor and they wanted to put me on medication. I just started drinking the Divine water and I began to feel better. When I returned to the doctor he saw that my heart was strong, that I was looking good. I knew it was my faith using the Water on Sundays. **Deryl, TX**



## I HAD TWO STROKES AND HEART CONGESTED FAILURE

I had two stroke and congested heart failure. I found out about this ministry watching the Showdown of Faith on TV which made me feel very good. I also came to the church and begun to use the Divine water for my healing. I believed in God and He has healed me. When I went back to the Doctor this last time he said that I didn't need any defibrillator because all tests came out good. **Solomon, LA**



Adailton today is walking and back to work.

## I SPENT TWO YEARS IN A WHEEL CHAIR I HAD 1% CHANCE OF WALKING AGAIN

It all started with some pain while I was in my job. The pains increased and soon I was having problems to move around. When I decided to seek professional help it was too late, I couldn't walk any longer. So, I was admitted in the hospital, I had serious back problem and the doctor tried to help me because it looked like it was an inflammation but in reality it was worst than what they imagined. I was taken to have surgery in an attempt to decompress the spinal cord and reverse the problem. I came out of surgery with the diagnosis of paraplegia and the doctors said I would not walk again, the chance of me walking again was 1%. I had three herniated discs and one of them had compressed the spinal cord.

I came out of the hospital 23 days later in a wheel chair. I lost my job, however my wife helped me during this whole time. My faith is what kept me strong and confident. The doctors continued doing treatments and physical therapy. I also attended the service in the church everytime I could. My family were all together in prayer for me.

I was two years in the wheel chair doing physical therapy and applying what I lerned in the church services. After two years I started to move my toes, then my legs and soon I was walking with a walker which I stopped using six months later. Today I am healed and



working as I used to do before. I keep my faith strong!

Learn to put your faith in action in order to fight your problems!

Get your Divine Water every Sunday at your nearest Universal Church



|MESSAGE|

## Bishop Joshua

### AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE

“If you are traveling with a child or someone who requires assistance, secure your mask first and then assist the other person.” Sound familiar? It’s part of the safety protocol we usually hear when flying. It’s interesting to think that a parent could face such a tough decision in a difficult moment like this. However, it’s in the best interest of those around them to care for themselves first so they can care for that loved one.

When fighting for your family, the same rule applies. After we have cared for ourselves, God equips us to care for our family.

**“But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”**

Joshua 24:15

If we pay close attention, we see that the verse

says “will,” It refers to the future because perhaps at this moment, your house has not begun to serve the Lord, but through your faith, they will.

Maybe, you are faced with an overwhelming situation in your house; a son on drugs, a broken marriage, a daughter that wants nothing to do with you, and so on. Don’t allow the current situation in your home to discourage you. Remember all that God has done for you, remember the battles you overcame, and then take strength and be assured that God will do the same for your loved ones, too. You know what to do to lead your family to serve God as well: Trust them into God’s hands.

It isn’t to say that you shouldn’t pray for your family while working on yourself but never lose sight of the end goal, for all of you to be together in the same faith. Don’t be discouraged; continue praying for each of them because soon you will serve the Lord together.

May the God of the Bible bless you!

### FEELING LIKE THERE IS NO WAY OUT?

If you’ve ever felt like giving up on life, you’re not alone. Sometimes people who want to give up on life may not have always endured a dramatic life change. Instead, they could have grown tired of the same situation, leaving them feeling burnt out.

Experiencing certain health conditions, unexpected events, long-time hardships, or simply feeling like life has not turned out as planned could be why a person can end up feeling this way. The good news is, there is hope for you!

**“He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”**  
(Isaiah 40:29).

**START A CHAIN OF PRAYER - IT WORKS!!!**

10	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
OCTOBER 2022							1 1 Corinthians 1
	2 1 Corinthians 2	3 1 Corinthians 3	4 1 Corinthians 4	5 1 Corinthians 5	6 1 Corinthians 6	7 1 Corinthians 7	8 1 Corinthians 8
	9 1 Corinthians 9	10 1 Corinthians 10	11 1 Corinthians 11	12 1 Corinthians 12	13 1 Corinthians 13	14 1 Corinthians 14	15 1 Corinthians 15
	16 1 Corinthians 16	17 2 Corinthians 1	18 2 Corinthians 2	19 2 Corinthians 3	20 2 Corinthians 4	21 2 Corinthians 5	22 2 Corinthians 6
	23 2 Corinthians 7	24 2 Corinthians 8	25 2 Corinthians 9	26 2 Corinthians 10	27 2 Corinthians 11	28 2 Corinthians 12	29 2 Corinthians 13
	30 Haggai 1	31 Haggai 2					

 **BISHOP JOSHUA** >>><https://birafonseca.com>  
Join our mailing list to receive the latest updates from Bishop Joshua

### *I could not afford to buy food* **NOW I AM A BUSINESS OWNER**



I was sick with nervous colitis; I was a very self-conscious woman, and I also had depression. At home, things were not good because sometimes there was no money to buy food. We lost some of our belongings because of the bills that we had. I tried to avoid reality by drinking in my room without anyone noticing. I remember that I even mistreated

my children; I was desperate because of the problems, and thoughts of taking my own life crossed my mind. I felt like I was worthless and incapable of achieving something great.

When I started attending Universal Church, things took a different course. The first thing that changed was my character and mentality. Even when the problems were still there, I learned to look at them with faith that a transformation would come. I learned to value myself as a woman, and I healed from the sickness I suffered. I also received peace within me, which was something I

never had. As I became faithful to God, the doors opened in my financial life. I currently have a machine and spare parts business for the textile industry. I also work in real estate: I buy houses, and God gives me the vision to build and remodel them. I have received many blessings; I have a beautiful home with a pool. I also have a truck, and my economy is not limited. Besides the healing and financial blessings, my greatest treasure is the Holy Spirit; I am alive thanks to Him. If you are living something like what I lived, I invite you to visit the Universal Church near you; your life can change

Envy Lopez



While Patricia didn't have it easy growing up, nothing could prepare her for the life she would face as a teenager. She got lost in the world of drugs and to handle the debt that came with it, she started working as a call girl. She was desperate for a change and found one, here at the Universal Church.

## SHE SPENT HER NIGHTS USING DRUGS IN THE BATHROOM



She says that her childhood was difficult, as her father was an alcoholic, and her mother got often hospitalized with bouts of depression. Because of this, Patricia spent much of her childhood with her grandmother. "As a teenager, I felt inferior to other people. I thought I didn't deserve anything. As an adult, I was at war with my mother and felt resentment toward her. I was only interested in the wrong people, and my relationships had many fights and betrayals," she says. When she was 19, she moved in with a boyfriend to escape arguments at home. Patricia spent four years in this relationship but separated from her partner when he cheated on her. That's when she started having suicidal thoughts and went back to live with her mother. She began using drugs at 24.

**"At that time, I was already smoking cigarettes and got introduced to marijuana. Then I used ecstasy, and my rock bottom was cocaine," she says.**

Drug use left Patricia in debt, and she resorted to a "solution" that brought her more problems: "I had a friend who was a call girl, so I got into that line of work. I felt

terrible and stopped going for a while, but I returned when I needed money. I spent the night in the bathroom taking drugs. Patricia used drugs from the age of 24 to 31. She jumped at the opportunity to have a new life when she got invited to attend a meeting at the Universal Church. That's how she started her walk in Faith. "I arrived at Church on a Wednesday, came back on Friday, and that day I was free from addictions. I didn't feel or see anything, but the urge to smoke and use drugs was gone when I left the meeting. I slept through the night after many sleepless nights," she recalls.

Determined to seek a new life, Patricia was baptized in water, abandoned addictions and prostitution, and received the greatest treasure. "I received the Holy Spirit and everything that I lacked in childhood, such as a father's love, care, protection, and guidance," she says. Since then, everything has changed. "I go through struggles like everyone else, but God instructs me to solve every problem. I have a good job, am an exemplary mother, and teach my children which path they should walk. I get along well with my mother, and I

see God's love, care, and protection with me in the smallest details", she concludes.



**I had a friend who was a call girl, so I got into that line of work. I felt terrible and stopped going for a while, but I returned when I needed money. I spent the night in the bathroom taking drugs.**

### THE SPIRITUAL CLEANSING WATER

With each passing day, spiritual problems have enslaved people's lives. Depression, anxiety, paranormal activity, hearing voices, undiagnosable diseases, envy, insomnia, addictions, and so on. However, all these problems can be overcome through faith! That's why if you identify with any of these spiritual attacks you should not miss this Friday at a Universal near you. You will receive the Spiritual Cleansing water from the Holy Land. By faith all the evil that has marked your life will be removed.

## SPIRITUAL CLEANSING



**FRIDAY AT 7PM (ALSO AT 7AM, 10AM AND 4PM)**  
(Times may vary depending on location)

For more information: **1.888.332.4141**

For many years, the life of Valdeci and Mércia was marked by problems. Their relationship was one of the most sensitive points. **“Our life and our marriage were on the verge of being unbearable.** I had already left the house ten times, back and forth. We fought a lot.” In addition, his company was facing a crisis. “I was in debt and aimless, losing what I had achieved.”

To make matters worse, Valdeci revealed that he was addicted to alcohol, causing his mood to run high in his home. “I would go to the bar to ease the anguish; I looked for happiness in drinking. I’d rather be at the bar than at home. I lost credibility with my children. **I felt like a loser.”**

As much as he wanted a change, things stayed the same. In 2015, Mércia made a decision. Tired of so many disappointments, she used her faith and began to attend the Universal Church meetings. “Mércia’s behavior has changed a lot. One day, she told me that she was going to church and that it would be essential for her to accompany her so that we could improve our relationship. I accepted”, says Valdeci.

In the very first meetings, Valdeci explains that he decided to follow the teachings of God. “It was the time of the Campaign of faith, and I realized that the secret for life to work was to obey and sacrifice everything. I sacrificed my addiction, my old way of being, and my pride. I surrendered my everything at the Altar. After the sacrifice, I was sure that God was with me.”

The first change was in their relationship. “We started talking more, and the fights ended. **I stopped drinking after 36 years of addiction.**” With the improvement in the relationship, Valdeci gained more disposition and could focus on business.



## “I FELT LIKE A LOSER”

Gradually, his finances stabilized. He also took care of his health. “I lost 20 kilos. I adopted a healthier lifestyle.”

Valdeci and Mércia attend the meetings and participate in the campaigns of faith. The last one was in 2019.

“My company has been operating for more than 20 years in the area of concierge services. We shared the business with another company.

Just over two months ago, the client said that it was not feasible to maintain two companies. We were chosen to continue with the contract, and the value doubled.”

**“I am a true miracle, and my life has changed from A to Z.** The campaigns of faith represented the complete change I was looking for. Of course, the struggles continue, but the difference is that today God is with me, and I know that I will overcome.”

**“I am a true miracle, and my life has changed from A to Z. The campaigns of faith represented the complete change I was looking for. Of course, the struggles continue, but the difference is that today God is with me, and I know that I will overcome.”**

# DO YOU FEEL LIKE THERE'S NO WAY OUT?



If you’ve ever felt like giving up on life or felt like there’s no way out, you’re not alone. Sometimes people who want to give up on life may not have always endured a dramatic life change. Instead, they could have grown tired of the same situation, leaving them feeling burnt out. Experiencing certain health conditions, unexpected events, long-time hardships, simply feeling like life has not turned out as planned could be a person can end up feeling this way. But look at what the word of God says: **“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” (Psalm 46:1)** There is a way out for you. No matter how big or small the problem is, God can help you and deliver you from any situation. Visit the closest location to you now and receive help. See back page for locations.

Leonardo says it took him a long time to get help. **“My depression started in childhood.** I was three years old, and my mother gave me to someone, but a year later, that person passed away. I was given to my grandmother. I grew up without my parents. Up to this day, I don’t know who my father is or if he’s alive. Not having a father figure to protect me, I grew up without a reference. I also felt an emptiness, and the lack of this reference brought me a lot of sadness.”

As he was distant from his mother, who visited him every two or three years, he couldn’t even call her mother. **“I also had panic disorder, sleepless nights, and constant and recurring nightmares of death.** For years, the images of funerals I saw as a child tormented me. I dreamed that I was falling into a deep abyss, and I was short of breath. I would wake up as if someone was squeezing my throat. I would jump on the bed until I could breathe, but no one in my family knew anything.”

As a teenager, Leonardo’s problems intensified. “After an unrequited crush, I put a knife against my chest. It was a joke in my head, but a friend stopped me immediately. I felt undervalued. All the girls I talked to and not even my mother wanted me. I had such a lack and a revolt that I decided to run away to another city when I turned 18, but my mother brought me back to our hometown. She was already attending the Universal Church, and I

started attending church”. He remembers that he felt his heart race at the first meeting he attended and saw people manifesting with spirits. “My legs shook, and I felt dizzy, but I was guided to forgive everything in my life. At home, I went to pray and heard an evil voice saying, ‘Get up from there.’ The room was closed, I felt the wind and shivered, but I said: ‘I’m not going to get up because I’m in the Presence of God.’ I didn’t say anything to anyone, but to God, I did. I bent my knees and learned

inferiority complex, and my smile and joy have become real”.

He forgave everything that happened to him. **“By forgiving, I have set myself free from a lot.**

Today I can call my mother’ mother’. Depression is a feeling that kills us inside, but when God enters our lives, He fills in all the gaps and ensures we don’t miss anything. He is the most important in my life,” he emphasizes.

**“WHEN I DISCOVERED THE LOVE OF JESUS, I GAVE MYSELF COMPLETELY. I GOT BAPTIZED, FASTED, AND PRAYED AND RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT SEVEN MONTHS LATER. I NO LONGER HAVE AN INFERIORITY COMPLEX, AND MY SMILE AND JOY HAVE BECOME REAL.”**

to pray that day.

**It was my first prayer and the first night I slept peacefully.”** Leonardo says he lived in solitude all his life without anything, not even love. Still, from then on, everything changed: “When I discovered the love of Jesus, I gave myself completely. I got baptized, fasted, and prayed and received the Holy Spirit seven months later. I no longer have an



## MAKE A



## CHAIN OF PRAYER

### IT WORKS!

A Chain of Prayer is when you attend a prayer meeting for a certain number of weeks without interruption in order to see a breakthrough in your life. Whether it is healing, a financial breakthrough or spiritual deliverance that you need, a Chain of Prayer helps you develop the faith and determination to overcome.

**Monday - Strong Nation**  
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



Learn the secrets to overcome financially. Receive direction to grow and become a successful person.

**Tuesday - Prayer for healing**  
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



Receive prayers for your physical, mental and spiritual well-being.

**Wednesday - Night of Salvation**  
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



A meeting will be held for those who want to invest in a genuine relationship with God.

**Thursday - Family & Love Therapy**  
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



The goal of the family meeting is to bring families together. No family is perfect, but they can be free from any hate, separation and other underlying issues.

**Friday - Deliverance**  
7am, 10am, 4pm & 7pm



There is a root to every problem. No issue can be dealt with permanently without removing its root. Every Friday, strong prayers is provided for anyone who is facing a problem that is influenced by negativity.

**IMPOSSIBLE**

**Saturday - Impossible Cases**  
8am & 12pm

Have you ever looked at a problem or situation and thought, 'this is impossible, there is no solution to this?' If you want to see the 'impossible become possible', join us every Saturday.

**Sunday - Gathering of Faith & Miracles**  
7am, 10am, 3pm & 6pm



These meetings aim to help people connect with God, to empower people and teach them how to use their faith to achieve what they want in their lives.

# INTELLIMEN GRADUATION:

## HOW LONG WAS THE INTELLIMEN COURSE?

The men from Clemens participated in the IntelliMen course, which took six months for the men to complete. It was a course of dedication, and the men took time to dedicate themselves to change for the better and not the worse.

ONE INMATE STATED, **"THE INTELLIMEN HELPS YOU LOOK WITHIN YOURSELF AND EVALUATE YOUR MISTAKES INSTEAD OF ALWAYS PLAYING THE "VICTIM." THE BIGGEST THING THAT HELPED ME WAS LOOKING AT MYSELF IN THE MIRROR AFTER GOING THROUGH MY "BLAME PHASE" AND TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY ACTIONS."**

The course was an investment for these men to change for and well worth it. They could do as this inmate stated above: self-evaluate.

Often, your average person does not even do it in their day-to-day lives. Each day they continue to grow. So, it's essential to take a step back and do as they did to look within ourselves and fight to see change no matter what.



### THERE'S ALWAYS A WAY OUT!

In the photo are some of the men who proudly graduated from the course; from the smiles on their faces, you can see that hard work pays off.

If anyone told you, "there's no way out," or maybe you heard, "you'll never change," take a look at these few men and tell yourself you can.

No one is limited to change; it is possible if a person is thirsty for it. Is change for the better easy? No.

There's always a way out, maybe you're not "out" physically speaking, but you can come out of the life you have been living, you can come out of the old mentality you have had all these years, you can come out of looking at yourself and thinking, "I'll never change" etc.

Who's to say that a way out is only from the four walls you see daily?

Your way out is more than what you may think; the

men you see here are freer and liberated because they found freedom within themselves and did not stay "caged" into their past. Contrary, they looked deep within and found purpose.



**" I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME. PHILIPPIANS 4:13 "**

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

Maybe you did not get the opportunity to participate in the IntelliMen course this time, but do not worry; there is a chance for you. It would be best if you were willing to change and go after it. Be on the lookout for the next intellimen enrollment; you can be the next to make changes for the better; it's not a competition with anyone else but yourself.



What would you do with the opportunity they had? You see, opportunities come around to everyone; it's just a matter of what you will do with that opportunity.

No one is exempt from change, or change is not for one kind of person and not the other. It is for everyone, but there is a thin line.

Would you embrace it or despise it? Maybe not only regarding the IntelliMen course, but in life, you have found yourself turning away from positive opportunities because you may think you are undeserving, or you have just been so used to trouble you say forget it.

Don't sell yourself short; take hold of the positive opportunities presented before you, and determine the change you want to see in your life.

No one will stop you if you are willing to reach for it.



Jesus taught us to come to Him when the burden is too much; not only come to Him, He teaches us to learn from Him too.

When we choose to learn, we grow; the inmates in Clemens Trustee Camp decided to learn; they chose to listen before they acted, giving them the change many had been looking for, for a long time. They found it through participating in the IntelliMen course.



**"I learned to always keep changing, and do something different. Never stay in my comfort zone, keep doing things to improve me as an individual."**

**I'm TIRED of being IDENTIFIED by my PAST... Is there ANYONE who will see ME for ME?**

**YES.** Write to Bp. Joshua: your questions, doubts, fears, concerns, he will personally read and respond to your letter! Be sure to include: **FULL NAME/INMATE ID #, COMPLETE PRISON NAME, ADDRESS, CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE**

Send it to:

**7075 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY. HOUSTON, TX 77074**



# CLEMENS TRUSTEE CAMP II

I was a bully and very violent, short-tempered, and challenging to get along with; I had a cold heart and did terrible things, I never got involved with gang banging, but I personally never decided to take part in that.

What got me into crime was being bored, I found myself with nothing to do, so I became intrigued with mischief. If other guys were walking with knives, I had to get a knife, too, because I couldn't run away if they confronted me; I had to face them.



minimum sentence I would have to serve would be four years, and it wasn't something I wanted, but I had to face the consequences of my actions.

I served 7yrs of my 8-year sentence. I went to prison at 19 years old, and when I was released, I was 26 years old. It was something hard for me, especially adapting to society again.

I remember while I was in prison, the UBB would write to me, and their volunteers would also visit me while I was in prison. I appreciated the positivity; every time they visited, it motivated me to help me better, so this allowed me to be mentally prepared upon my release.

I am a business owner today; I am a married man, and I am no longer involved in crime. Things have been good, God has taken care of me, and I thank Him for that.

I committed an armed robbery and was chased and then caught by the police, and was caught for kidnapping as well; I was sentenced to 8yrs in prison at the age of 18, and I got bail.

I committed more crimes while I was on bail and went to prison again. Out of my 8-year sentence, I knew the



**MICHAEL & HIS WIFE**

**PICTURE THE SCENE: YOU'VE JUST BEEN TOLD THAT THERE IS NO CURE FOR YOUR DISEASE. YOUR CHILD HAS LEFT HOME AND YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHERE TO START LOOKING. YOUR PARTNER HAS TOLD YOU TO LEAVE AND YOUR FINANCES ARE SO BAD THAT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE YOUR NEXT MEAL IS COMING FROM. AND ON TOP OF ALL THIS, YOU HAVE A COURT CASE LOOMING OVER YOUR HEAD.**

**PERHAPS THIS IS A SCENE OUT OF YOUR LIFE; IT'S BEEN ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER. EVERY DAY IS A STRUGGLE FOR YOU AND NIGHT TIMES ARE NO BETTER.**

**WHERE DO YOU TURN WHEN EVERYONE ELSE HAS GIVEN UP ON YOU? HOW DO YOU FIND MOTIVATION AND EVEN THE STRENGTH TO KEEP ON FIGHTING?**

**WHAT TO DO?**

**HERE IS WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO: DON'T GIVE UP AND DON'T ALLOW THE MULTITUDE OF YOUR PROBLEMS TO DECEIVE YOU INTO THINKING THAT GOD ISN'T THERE. INSTEAD, THIS IS THE TIME THAT YOU SHOULD HOLD FAST TO GOD'S WORD. SPEND TIME READING HIS WORD BECAUSE THERE, YOU WILL FIND PROMISES AND SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY SITUATION. PERHAPS LIKE MANY, YOU ARE NOT AWARE OF JUST HOW MUCH GOD CAN DO — IN TERMS OF HELPING YOU OUT OF THOSE PROBLEMS. LEARN ABOUT THEM AND ASK HIM TO MAKE THEM BECOME REAL IN YOUR LIFE.**

**"BEHOLD, THE LORD'S HAND IS NOT SHORTENED, THAT IT CANNOT SAVE; NOR HIS EAR HEAVY, THAT IT CANNOT HEAR." (ISAIAH 59:1)**

**IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT MAN CANNOT DO, GOD CAN.**

**GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST, TELL HIM WHAT YOU ARE GOING THROUGH. PHYSICALLY YOU MAY BE IN A SITUATION THAT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S NO WAY OUT, AND HUMANLY SPEAKING, THAT MAY BE THE CASE. BUT NOT FOR GOD. READ THE ABOVE VERSE AGAIN; IT'S SAYING THAT GOD IS NOT FAR FROM YOU AND THAT HE CAN HEAR YOU. HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT HOW POWERFUL THAT IS? HAVING GOD ON STANDBY JUST WAITING TO TAKE THAT LOAD OFF YOUR SHOULDERS.**

**DON'T KEEP HIM WAITING ANY LONGER. GOD IS NOT WEAK OR OTHERWISE OCCUPIED. HE IS YOUR WAY OUT.**

## I AM BROKEN INSIDE...

- I feel misunderstood, I'm only "known" by my inmate #.
- I'm not looked at as a person anymore, just some criminal...
- It would be nice to be a part of society again.

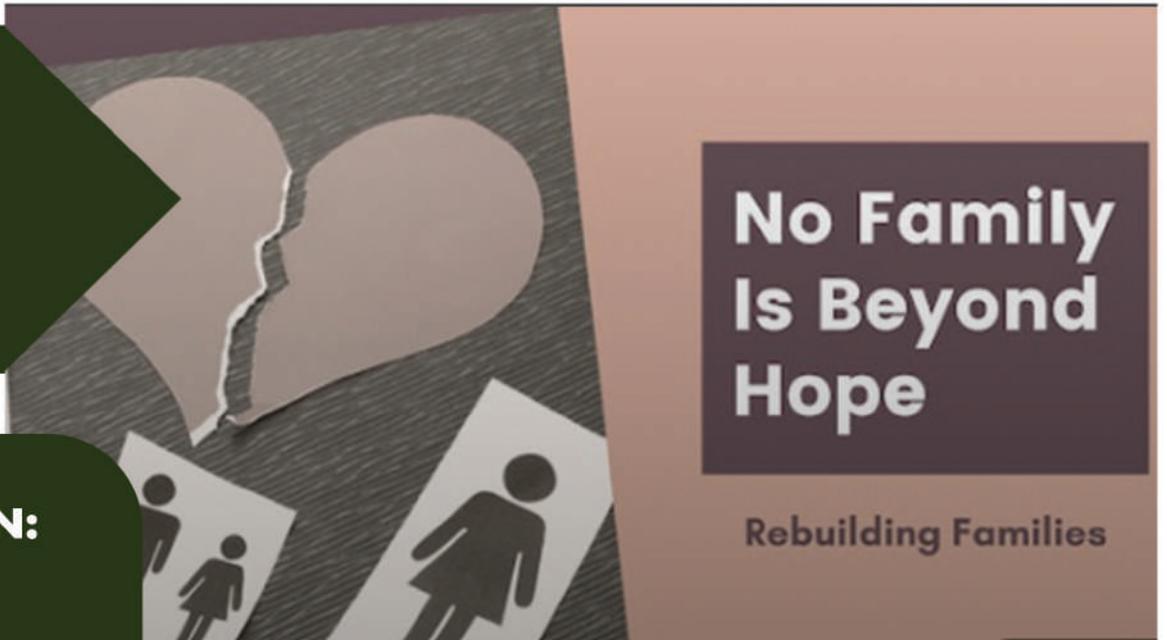
Write to Bp. Joshua: 7075 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77074  
Include: Full Name/Inmate ID #, Facility Name, Address, City/State, Zip code



## STAY ENCOURAGED WITH DAILY PROGRAMS

**REBUILDING FAMILIES at 12pm**  
with Pastor Samuel

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9am with Pastor Valdo

**THE LAST HIT | 10am & 9pm**  
with Pastor Damien

**PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS**  
11am & 12am with Pastor Israel

**REBUILDING FAMILIES**  
12pm with Pastor Samuel

**MIRACLES EXIST**  
1pm with Bishop Edson

**LET THERE BE LIGHT**  
2pm & 12am with Pastor Dennis

**WOMEN IN REAL TIME | 3pm**

**STOP SUFFERING**  
4pm with Pastor Diego

**FIGHTING THE UNSEEN ENEMY**  
7pm with Bishop David

**MOSES & THE TEN**  
**COMMANDMENTS | 8pm**

**JESUS THE SERIES | 10pm**



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# FROM BEGGAR TO BUSINESSMAN



**H**e lost his father in adolescence, and his mother had to raise him and his eight brothers alone, with her only income coming from working in the fields.

At the age of 16, Silvano got a girl pregnant, and her parents wanted to force them to marry. When he refused, her father tried to kill him.

Her mother stopped him by saying: "don't kill him because what I have for him is much worse than death: he will become a beggar, he will eat garbage." Later, he got his first job at a restaurant. Silvano got promoted to be in charge of the place. Still, he reports: "I started getting involved with the wrong people,

drinking, and late-night partying. I would leave work and go party until, because of addictions, I got fired."

**Soon, due to his addiction, Silvano began to live on the streets. "I became a beggar and started eating garbage. It was the hardest time I ever went through," he recalls.**

One morning, he remembered the curse that that woman had placed on him. Silvano received an invitation to the Universal Church. "I already received help there and then because I felt light; I saw a new way to start my life because that weight had already left me. The pastor gave me the Word that is much more than a plate of food." Silvanus decided to live according to the Word of God. He abandoned addictions, and the mark of his change was when he received the Presence

of God. Sometime later, Silvano met his wife. Initially, they sold snacks door-to-door, but later they rented a small space. Today they have a pizzeria and a restaurant. "I was homeless, a nobody; I never imagined having what God has given me. The most precious possession I have is the Holy Spirit.

I always say in my prayers that with Jesus I can go back to the street, but without Him, I don't want to live in palaces", he concludes.

## Financial Tip

Thinking about changing careers? There is no predetermined time to make the transition into a new field. You can decide today to invest in researching little by little the things needed for a new career.



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