

# UNIVERSAL NEWS



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## IT'S A KILLER



**Addiction almost ended my life, but I OVERCAME it.**



BECAUSE OF DRUG USE AND OVERUSE OF MEDICATION, SHE DEVELOPED MENTAL PROBLEMS AND ENDED UP IN A PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL TWICE.



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## | IN THIS EDITION |

### ADDICTIONS ALMOST ENDED MY LIFE, BUT I OVERCAME ADDICTION...

"I don't need help; I can quit whenever I want to; Only this time...." How many times have you heard these phrases? You may have heard at least one of these phrases from a family member, friend, or even yourself. These are common phrases that addicts and their loved ones know far too well.

An addiction, in its most basic definition, is a compulsive or strong inclination to do, use, or indulge in something repeatedly which negatively affects a person physically, psychologically, or socially (Webster Dictionary). Thus a person can be addicted to a wide variety of things, not just drugs and alcohol.

One of the most common signs to know if you have an addiction to something is by seeing how you react when you withdraw or abstain from that inclination. If you begin to feel anxiety, have tremors, and become irritable or nauseous, there is a sign that you are an addict.

No one ever starts off as a full-blown addict. Addictions usually start small and can grow gradually with time if not controlled or stopped. One of the most challenging but crucial steps an addict must take to beat an addiction is to admit they have a problem and seek help.

Do you have an addiction or have a loved one who an addict? It is not too late to seek help. Visit a Universal Church near you today and begin a Chain of Prayer. You will receive spiritual support through prayer and practice steps to help you overcome your addiction.

## | BEATING DEPRESSION |

Depression is an illness of the soul that you can only cure through the power of Faith. Who, other than the Savior of Souls, can heal the soul? What medicine can we use to cure that which is spiritual?

Every Friday, at every Universal Church, we have a service for spiritual cleansing against depression. Make a Chain of Prayer by attending the prayer meeting for seven consecutive weeks. You will receive practical advice and spiritual help through the power of prayers to overcome. There are thousands of testimonials worldwide that prove a Chain of Prayer works. You CAN have a new beginning. You, too, can defeat depression.

**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



**Bishop Edir Macedo**



### MAN'S GREATEST ADDICTION



**I**s it drugs, alcohol, gambling, pornography, binge eating, Internet, or lying? No! Man's greatest addiction is doing his own will!

Man is addicted to doing their will. The root of this addiction is not in a substance or product but in a person's deceitful heart (Jeremiah 17.9).

**"This addiction manifests itself through the choices, decisions, customs, relationships, and feelings people set as priorities.... .."**

We have got to overcome it 24 hours a day; no wonder why the apostle Paul said: I DIE DAILY! (1 Corinthians 15.31), that is, I overcome this addiction

day after day. We have to keep our nature dead every day by deciding to DO the will of God.

This addiction manifests itself through the choices, decisions, customs, relationships, and feelings people set as priorities, placing God's will in second place.

The Our Father prayer teaches us the way to heaven, and the sacrifice of man's greatest addiction is in it, to DECIDE TO DO the will of God.

This is why many have not yet received the Holy Spirit. They have not overcome this addiction: THEIR OWN WILL!

**Already an addict at 14, Daniel thought he would never be able to break free. But when he found the Universal Church, he found freedom. Continue reading and see how his life changed for the better.**



### "I WAS ABOUT TO LOSE MY LIFE"

"I started using drugs when I was about ten or twelve. It happened out of curiosity, leading me to become an addict. I started smoking cigarettes and got introduced to marijuana, alcohol, pills, and eventually cocaine.

When I was fourteen years old, consumption was no longer a curiosity, but a habit, a routine.

I dropped out of school. I had a job but lost it, and my family no longer trusted me because I

into my hands to buy drugs. I would leave my house for two or three days at a time and consume more and more.

When I was sixteen years old, I had my first overdose of pills. For me, it was only something new, almost like a joke. I told myself, "These are things that happen; it's normal." On that occasion, I ended up in the hospital and was about to lose my life.

The second overdose I had was from cocaine. Around that time, my mom was going to the Universal Church. She invited me for three years, but I didn't want to seek help because I believed I could quit doing drugs whenever I wanted. I thought I was in

control of the situation but was sorely mistaken.

On one of those invitations, I had a flashback of when I was lying on the floor due to an overdose. So, I decided to come and participate in the church meetings. I made a chain of prayer. At first, I didn't quite understand what they were teaching, but I came out differently, with another way of seeing life. At that moment, I understood I was wrong and heading down the wrong path. I started to leave behind bad friendships and quit my addiction. Today I no longer take drugs; I broke free from the addictions. My life has turned around for the better."

Daniel



# MIRACLES EXIST

## I WAS DIAGNOSED WITH CEREBRAL THROMBOSIS.

In July 2017, I started to experience severe headaches and a sensation of numbness in the tongue and on the right side of the body. I went to the hospital, where I did various tests. Then they sent me to a specialist, who found, through a CT scan of the skull, that I was suffering from cerebral thrombosis. After three days in the hospital, I got discharged, but the situation worsened. I didn't feel like taking a shower; I was afraid of being electrocuted in the shower and even going out to the house gate. One day I ended up watching a TV program about the Universal Church. Everything the pastor said was similar to my problems, so I decided to attend the service and seek help from God.



Day after day, I noticed I was no longer having panic attacks or severe headaches. In 2018 I had more tests done, and I was surprised with the CT scan results; God healed me. Today I have peace. -Grace



## I WAS TAKING 16 PILLS PER DAY, SUFFERING FROM FIBROMYALGIA, PANIC ATTACKS, AND PTSD.

I had a skin disease which led me to seek professional help. The doctors gave me many medications which made me dizzy and sometimes unable to eat, and my skin was still the same. The doctor said I would have to stay on this medication for the rest of my life. Once I started using my faith in this ministry, I decided to stop taking all the medicines I had. Through my faith, I got healed from the skin disease I had. Look at my skin today! It's totally restored. I always drink the Divine water!

Alison, NY



## NOW I CAN WALK WITHOUT A CANE!

I was going through many things, like sleepless nights and anxiousness. I also had asthma since childhood to the point I had to be rushed to the emergency room once, and I remember telling my friend, "Please, don't let me die." After I started using my faith and taking the Spiritual Treatment water, the pains disappeared. It's been more than three months. I do not need medications for asthma, I am sleeping well, and I have no more anxiety. Donna, MD

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

Get your Divine Water every Sunday at your nearest Universal Church

See page 12 for a location near you!



|Message|

BISHOP JOSHUA

## LIGHTEN THE LOAD

I'm sure you've carried a heavy weight before. You refused to take multiple trips carrying your groceries, moving furniture, etc. A heavy weight is no

gle with depression, anxiety, etc.

Maybe your problem wasn't listed, but you know the name of your weight.

I want to help you understand that you can let go of this burden and trade it for a new one.

*For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.*

*Matt. 11:30*

God's burden is not a burden at



breeze to maintain. But what's even worse is having a burden you can't put down, an inner weight that weighs on your soul and mind.

Are you familiar with this kind of weight? Perhaps you feel it every day because of the problems you are facing. Your family is torn apart, your health is deteriorating, and you strug-

all. When you give your life to God, He takes away the burdens of your life. He removes the anguish and replaces it with His light and easy load.

Although problems may come and go, you will no longer have that inner weight. And that will be like shedding a ton!

May the God of the Bible bless you.

## DRUGS COULD NOT FILL THE VOID IN ME



My parents got separated when I was two years old. My mother and I moved to another city to live with a relative. With a lot of effort and work, she saved money to rent a space with two rooms, and the bathroom was outside. At age 8, I was already going to school alone. In high school, I noticed how much I needed the presence of a father", he reports. At age 11, he says that some people he met at school introduced him to drugs. "First marijuana, then cocaine and alcohol. At first, it didn't seem harmful to me, but it became a problem over time. I used drugs to fill a void, but the more I used them, the more it felt like the void remained. I got into crime, and, at first, I practiced petty theft, but then came the robberies of trucks. At 16, I was spending all the money I could get on drugs. The more time passed, the more I got involved with addictions and criminality." These problems, however, did

not prevent him from having several relationships, and he had five children.



Gradually, in addition to addictions, I began to experience depression.

"There was a lot of loneliness and a desire to die. I didn't have the strength to change that situation, and I was already without dignity before my family and acquaintances. The coin dropped the day I was in front of my son's

school, drinking and snorting cocaine; his friend pointed it out to me, and my son replied that he didn't have a father. Even under the influence of drugs, that sentence was like an arrow in my heart. It reminded me of everything I had gone through in my childhood and how much I missed the presence of a father. Shortly after, the person I was in a relationship with wanted to separate from me, and my mother wanted to put me in a clinic."

### Turning the page

He reports that, seven years ago, a visit changed everything: "I was at my mother's house when a couple said there was a solution for my situation. It was enough for me to seek God. This couple invited me to the Universal Church, and I accepted despite not believing it. It was my last chance before hospitalization, which my family had already decided. I went on a Sunday, and it seemed like the pastor knew my whole story. I approached the Altar in tears because I couldn't take so much suffering anymore.

I finally freed myself; I repented. I was baptized in water and committed to seeking baptism with the Holy Spirit. Today I am another man, responsible friend, partner, another son, and another husband". He guarantees that he found the peace he was looking for. "The Holy Spirit is my treasure, strength, and help. He brings me inner peace amid wars; He is my joy. If before I wanted to die, today, because of the Holy Spirit, I want to live and bring life to those walking towards death", he concludes. Joseph Silva



BISHOP JOSHUA

>>><https://birafonseca.com>

Join our mailing list to receive the latest updates from Bishop Joshua

FEB  
2023  
TURN AROUND

Bible Reading



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 ✓ Genesis 1	2 ✓ Jeremiah 18	3 ✓ Psalms 25	4 ✓ 1 Corinthians 11
5 ✓ Isaiah 49	6 ✓ Proverbs 14	7 ✓ Exodus 13	8 ✓ John 15	9 ✓ Romans 12	10 ✓ Daniel 6	11 ✓ Job 1
12 ✓ Joel 2	13 ✓ Haggai 2	14 ✓ Matthew 23	15 ✓ 2 Corinthians 6	16 ✓ Nehemiah 4	17 ✓ James 1	18 ✓ Hebrews 12
19 ✓ Ezekiel 33	20 ✓ Numbers 16	21 ✓ Leviticus 10	22 ✓ Mark 9	23 ✓ Deuteronomy 26	24 ✓ Acts 2	25 ✓ Philippians 2
26 ✓ 2 Chronicles 29	27 ✓ Joshua 3	28 ✓ Galatians 5				

# "CRUSADE OF FAITH AND MIRACLES IN HARLEM AMC MAGIC JOHNSON THEATERS"

Sunday, February 12th, 2023



The Universal Church holds its Sunday Crusade of Faith and Miracles at 10 AM at AMC Magic Johnson Theaters in Harlem, New York. It was the Sunday of Prophecy:

"...Believe His Prophets, and you shall prosper" 2 Chronicles 20:20

The Man of God then prophesied blessings, healing, and deliverance in the lives of the attendees for all those passing through the "Valley of Dry Bones." "He asked me, Son of man, can these bones live? (Ezekiel 37:3)

All the members of Caleb group and the elderly in attendance were anointed with the "Blessed Oil from Israel" consecrated and blessed during the service. Pastor Luis prayed for their healing, protection, health, and families. The pastor then invited them to attend a great service dedicated to them on Tuesdays at 4 PM at the church.

Pastor Roger led the congregation in prayer for their families, asking for their deliverance, blessing, and protection and for them to be in the presence of God.

Pastor Luis spoke about the "Water of Great Miracle" event, which will happen on Sunday, February 19, 2023, at AMC Magic Johnson Theater, the distribution of the Water from the Temple of Solomon.

We heard testimonies from members who used the "Blessed Water" in various areas of their lives to see the greatness of God in their lives.

Our greatest riches or asset is our soul. The pastor led the congregation in seeking the holy Spirit, reminding the attendees that as much as they invest in their body/health, they need to invest in their soul. He invited all who wanted to give their lives to God to the altar and invited them to surrender their lives through water baptism.

## RESULTS OF FAITH

*Ms. Jacqueline Foster used the water on behalf of her family member whose wife was suffering from fertility issues. By using her Faith and believing in the Power of God, she witnessed the wife's pregnancy with twins and the safe arrival of the twins with their mother.*



*Ms. Subrena Phillips received healing from knee pain caused by arthritis after using the Blessed Water. She also used it to get a job after three months of unemployment by using her Faith.*

*Ms. Parish used the Blessed Water for her deliverance from witchcraft, which made her confused and caused her to lack clarity in her thoughts. She also used the Blessed Water to obtain her healing from cancer.*



*Ms. Elsa Lopez used the blessed Water to be healed from asthmatic attacks that used to cause her to call for an ambulance and be hospitalized.*

*Ms. Laura used the Blessed Water to be healed and delivered from liver cancer. She received a liver transplant in 2020 and restoration of her health.*



*Ms. Dee used the Blessed Water for peace at home and unity with a contentious neighbor who was causing problems for her. God delivered her from this situation and even brought them together as friends.*



Ms. Marie Watkins, a first-time attendee at AMC Magic Johnson Theater, spoke about the importance of being in the service to receive the Word and Spirit. "You can't make it without God," said Ms. Marie.

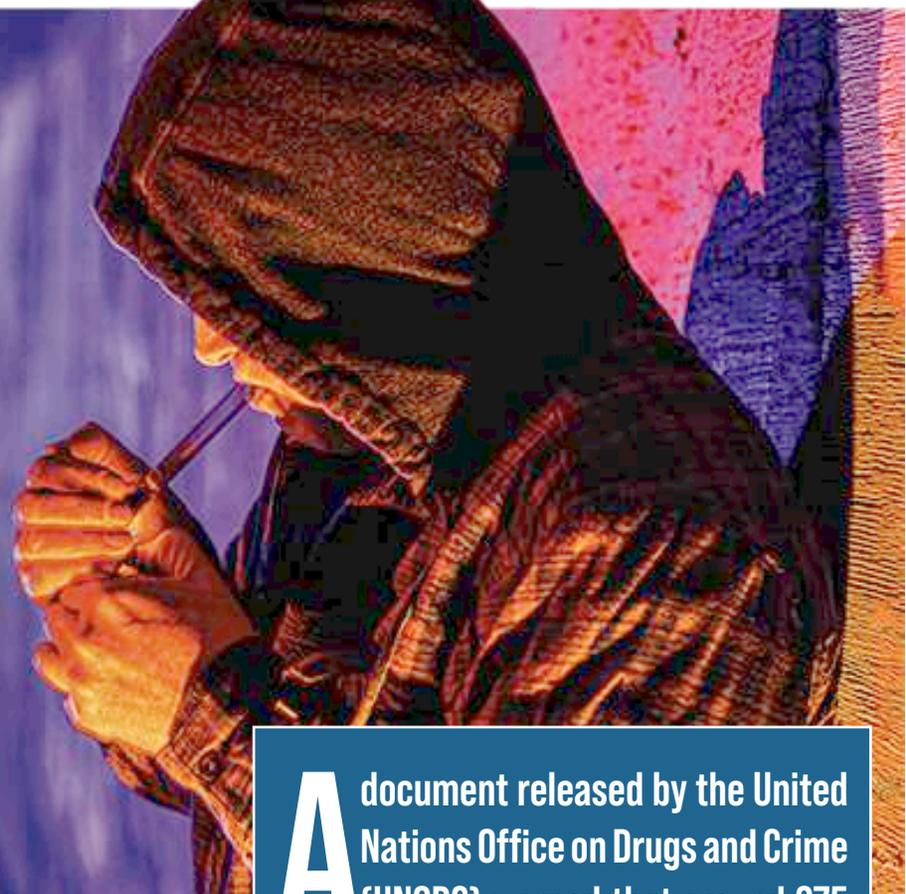
Our address: AMC Magic Johnson Theater - 2309 Frederick Douglas Blvd., Harlem, NY

For more information you can find us on Facebook by scanning the QR code to the right



SCAN ME

# I OVERCAME ADDICTION!



**G**eovania went through a difficult time as a teenager, triggering numerous problems throughout her youth. It all started when she was 13 and lost her father in a car accident. Geovania made a wrong choice that had terrible consequences for her life: "revolted by having lost my father, I started to use drugs and drink. I was the opposite of my cousins, and I was always the problem in the family."

Two years after the death of Geovania's father, the family began to face financial difficulties. "After my father died, my mother started to drink a lot. Because of her addiction, things started to go missing from the house," she recalls.

Because of these problems, she had to ask for food daily at her relatives' house, but only an aunt helped. So, tired of that humiliating situation, Geovania decided to get a job.

At 15, Geovania was already working, but she was also addicted even more. She spent

sleepless nights consuming drugs, such as cocaine. In addition, she used psychotropic medicines on her own. Because of drug use and overuse of

medication, she developed mental problems and ended up in a psychiatric hospital twice.

"I cannot explain the reason for my madness. I believe that evil convinced people around me that I was crazy. In a way, I also believed it to be true because

**Because of drug use and overuse of medication, she developed mental problems and ended up in a psychiatric hospital twice.**

I accepted that problem", she analyzes.

Geovania points out that several thoughts of death came to her mind. However, thanks to her mother's support, she discovered that there was still a way out of her life.

When Geovania was 18, her

mother learned about Universal's work and began attending church meetings. Over time, Geovania began to notice some changes in her behavior. "My mother no longer drank. She had changed, and, with that, she started looking for me at meetings too."

She remembers that her mother began to insist that she attend church, but it was in vain. Geovania argued a lot with her, but in the face of so much insistence, she started attending church to please her mother.

Despite this, she did not decide to change her life quickly and went sporadically to Universal. However, two years ago, she decided to commit to God. From then on, she began to see a transformation in her life. "I decided to seek help. I put aside all prejudice. I understood that I had to change my life and make a commitment to God.

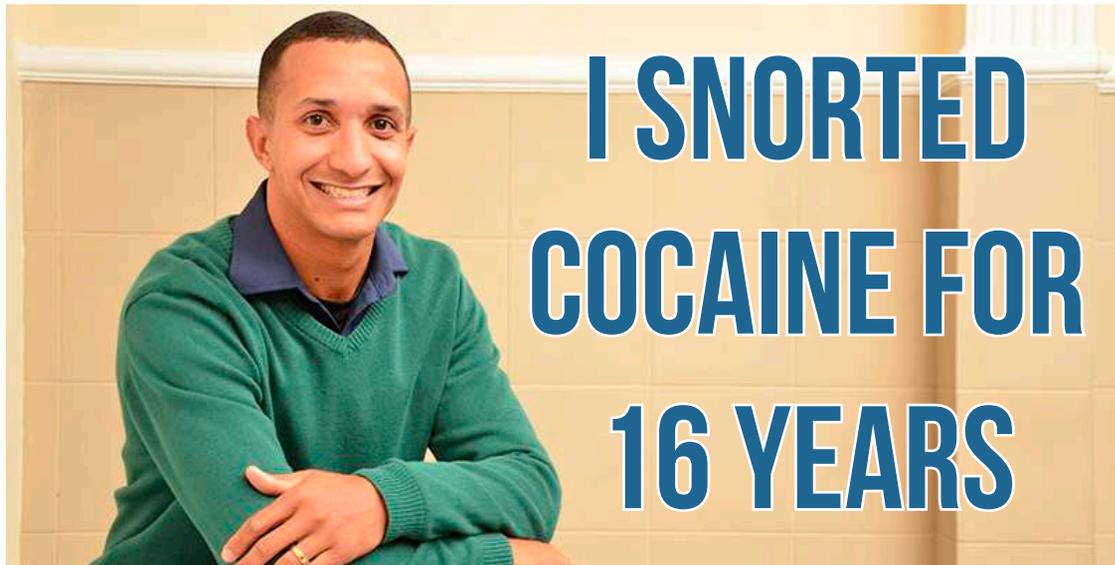
My life changed as soon as I started obeying His Word. Soon I could free myself from addictions and previously considered psychiatric problems, and I realized that everything was spiritual.

**Today I am free, and I help other people."**

**A** document released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) warned that around 275 million people used drugs worldwide last year. At the same time, more than 36 million suffer from disorders associated with their consumption.

**With drug use comes several problems like financial crises, family division, and health problems. Something that may seem harmless can later cause more significant harm to friends, family, and local communities/boroughs. It can be likened to a domino effect, leaving others to pick up the pieces. Have negative habits become a source of pain in your household? Do you long for your family members to get the help they need to break free from them finally?**

**The deliverance service on Fridays can assist you and your family member on the journey of overcoming negative habits. You will be on your way to telling a new story through practical teachings from the Word of God, listening to inspiring real-life stories, and receiving prayers for inner strength.**



Jonathan was born into an evangelical home. His mother, who is an assistant, took him to church. He says, however, that he moved away from the Presence of God as he grew up. "My parents divorced, and I looked for ways to fill my void. I couldn't understand why my family wasn't more complete," he says.

Although he still went to Universal with his mother, Jonathan says he transformed into someone else when he went to his father's house. At 14,

**"I went to the hospital several times because it was terrible. I came very close to death."**



he got familiarized with alcohol and started snorting cocaine. "When the drink no longer brought the effects I had hoped for, I wanted to try other drugs, such as marijuana, the perfume launcher, and the mixed (marijuana mixed

with crack)."  
Afterward, he started watching stadium football matches: "I went out into the streets to harm others. I was angry with rival fans. I wanted to kill people, all because of football."

In addition to addictions and financial problems, he had difficulties in his romantic relationships. He once started dating a woman, and before long, the two moved in together, got married, and had a daughter. "My ex-wife asked me to cut down on drug use. She knew about my addictions, but she didn't know the intensity and how much I used drugs. I wasted my money and hers too. I stopped using drugs for a few days, but it was even more excessive when I started using them again."

Because of the destructive lifestyle, Jonathan did not have stability at work and constantly changed jobs. "Everything I put in my hands went wrong and didn't prosper," he declares.

In addition to using drugs, he encouraged others to do the same: "I ruined many lives. I snorted cocaine for 16 years. I had a dirty name, and I couldn't pay my bills". He says the drugs led him to the beginning of an overdose. "I went to the hospital several times because it was terrible. I

came very close to death."  
After a conflict with his ex-wife, Jonathan was kicked out of the house by her: "my first thought was to end up on drugs and drink. However, God spoke to my heart, and the Holy Spirit asked me to look for a church", he reveals. Jonathan remembered when he went to church with his mother when he watched the TV program of the Universal Church.

Jonathan participated in the deliverance services at the Universal Church. He got rid of addictions and everything that kept him away from God. "I was baptized in water and started to have a relationship with God. Receiving His Spirit was the greatest joy I have ever had in my entire life," he reports. He apologized to anyone he had offended, including his ex-wife and her family.

Today he is married to a woman of God, and his daughter lives with the couple.

**"Although God has fixed every detail of my life, there is nothing more valuable than knowing the destiny of my soul. I am extremely grateful to God for my Salvation," he concludes.**

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.

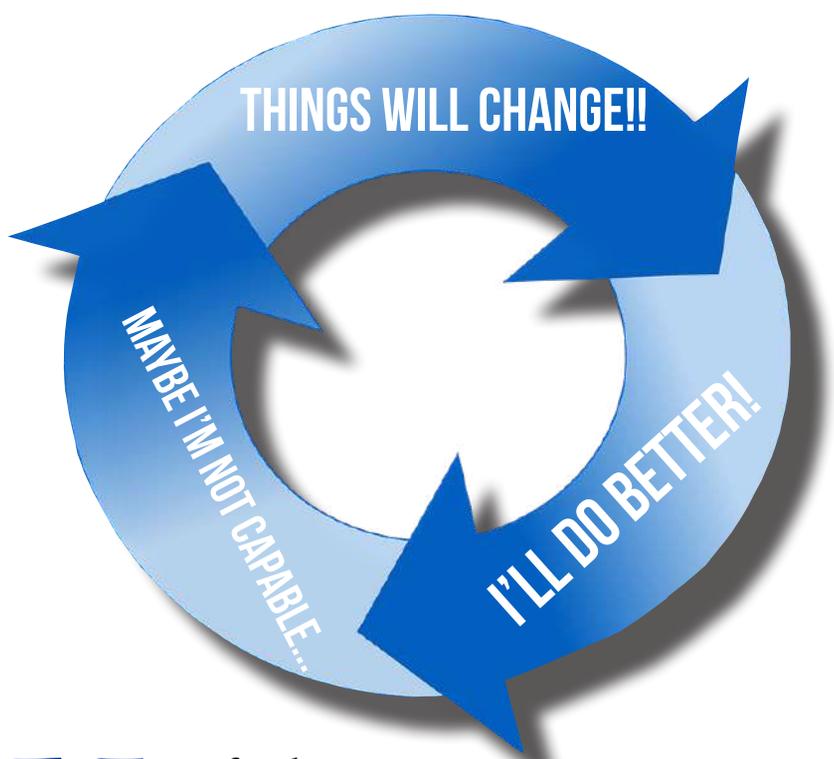
Saturday - Impossible Cases  
8am & 12pm

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.

# IT'S NOT NORMAL



How often have you found yourself returning to old habits, falling into unhealthy cycles, and chasing toxic relationships? You keep promising things will change and genuinely want better for yourself and your loved ones.

Still, nothing seems to change in reality, and it's not due to a lack of desire!

Here's something to consider: perhaps the change you seek is not much of a difference.

Maybe there are so many things that have become 'normal' that you are not trying to change them anymore without realizing it.

For example, you decide on significant changes. Such as stopping drugs, no more walking the streets, or getting into crime – and you succeed in staying away from such things. However, in your mind, the first place you see as 'home' is the ghetto where you grew up.

**YOU DON'T EVER SEE YOURSELF BEING ABLE TO LIVE IN THAT WHITE PICKET FENCE AREA! OR MAYBE YOU STRUGGLE WITH THOUGHTS OF NEVER GETTING A JOB WHEN YOU GET OUT OF PRISON, BUT THE IDEA OF OWNING YOUR OWN BUSINESS DOESN'T EVEN CROSS YOUR MIND.**

Your mind has taught you that it is normal to live in a poverty-stricken area where the risk of falling back into old ways is high.

Your mind has taught you that it is normal for you to struggle financially and be seen as an outcast in society. Your mind has taught you that you will never have a loving family – you will be in and out of relationships.

If all of this seems normal, how can you reach for anything more significant? Instead, you will make some changes here and there, but then the 'normal' problems will keep drawing you back into the same old cycle.

It's time to decide that certain things are not typical and that dramatic change is possible through faith. Only when you open your mindset, change your focus, and believe in the 'abnormal' will you experience true and permanent change.

## UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS (UBB) NATIONWIDE SCHEDULE

\* Scheduling may vary depending on local changes

### TEXAS

#### Monday's:

C.t. Terrell unit: 1pm & 4pm  
Luther Unit: 10AM  
Clemens unit: 2:30pm  
Clements 2 Unit: 1PM  
Terrell Unit: 2PM

#### Tuesday's:

Ferguson unit: 8am & 5pm  
Hobby Unit: 8AM  
Lane Murray Unit:12:30PM  
Goree Unit: 2PM  
Jester Unit: 1PM  
Jester 3 unit: 12:30pm  
Kegan unit:1pm

#### Wednesday's:

Luther Unit: 11:00AM  
Clements Unit: 3PM  
Goree Unit- Every 1st and 4th Wed of the month @ 4PM.  
Holiday unit: 8am

#### Thursday's:

Crain Unit: 5PM  
Hilltop Unit:1PM  
Sander's unit: 5pm & 6pm

#### Friday's:

Luther Unit:10AM  
Darrington/Memorial Unit: 3PM

#### Saturday's:

Jester Unit, every 1st Saturday of the month @ 1PM.

\* Note: Ferguson Unit, please speak to your Chaplain for the UBB course schedule.

### FLORIDA

#### Tuesday's:

Metro West Detention Center: 10AM-2PM  
Broward Regional Juvenile Detention Center: 4PM-5PM  
Tgk (female jail)- every 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 10am-12pm.

#### Saturday's:

Miami Dade County Pre-Trial Detention Center:10AM-11AM

### CALIFORNIA

#### Tuesday's:

Avenal State Prison: 2PM- 4PM

### HAWAII

#### Tuesday's:

Halawa Correctional Facility: 7PM

#### Wednesday's:

Halawa Correctional Facility- 7pm

**\* IF YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR UNIT ON THE UBB SCHEDULE YET, DO NOT WORRY. THERE IS STILL AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE UBB (UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS) BY SENDING YOUR LETTER TO BISHOP JOSHUA AT:**

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

**YOU CAN BE SURE THAT BISHOP JOSHUA WILL READ AND RESPOND TO YOUR LETTER. HE MAY ALSO ATTACH A BIBLE STUDY TO IT SO THAT YOU CAN KEEP YOUR MIND FOCUSED ON SOMETHING POSITIVE, AND STOP THINKING ON THE NEGATIVE THINGS.**

**IF YOU NEED ANYMORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DIFFERENT COURSES OFFERED BY THE UBB, PLEASE GET IN CONTACT WITH THE CHAPLAIN IN YOUR FACILITY.**

**CONTACT US UPON RELEASE:  
1 (888) 691-2291**



**UBB IS SPONSORED BY THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH. WHEN YOU GET OUT, COME AND LOOK FOR THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH THAT SPONSORS THE UBB! CALL US TO FIND THE NEAREST LOCATION TO YOU: 1 (888) 332-4141 OR VISIT US AT: WWW.ULFN.ORG/LOCATIONS! WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.**

**NO MATTER WHAT YOU'VE DONE, OR WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH, YOU MATTER.**

**... REMEMBER YOU CAN SEND YOUR LETTER TO BP. JOSHUA, HE WILL PERSONALLY READ AND REPLY.**

**SEND YOUR LETTER TO: 7075 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY. HOUSTON, TX 77074.**

**BE SURE TO INCLUDE: FULL NAME (FIRST/LAST).INMATE ID # COMPLETE FACILITY NAME. CORRECT ADDRESS. CITY/STATE. AND ZIP CODE.**





## UNIVERSAL BEYOND BARS

*You are not alone!*



## ADDICTIONS COST ME MY FREEDOM

When I was 20yrs old, I was introduced to the world of crime. I came from a life of separation. I had a son at a young age and had a hard time caring for him. For a long time, I used everything I gained I never would give to help with anything.

I just kept it for myself. I came to know some people involved with drug transport. To transport the drugs, they would steal the trucks we used to transport them. I started transporting drugs and made a lot of money doing this. At this point, I was transporting cocaine and started using cocaine myself. At this point, I had lost all focus on life, and I was not that father preoccupied with taking care of my son. Now I was worried about myself.



JOHNATHAN AND HIS SON.

Every day I was consumed with the desire to gain more. Everything was about drugs, partying, and nightclubs. At first, it was only transporting drugs, and now I also participated in assaults. On Dec 23rd, 2007, at 8 PM, I was sleeping, and by 5 AM the following day, I was robbing the bank because my mind was so focused on money.

Just on my part, I had gotten \$30,000.

I would commit several assaults throughout the week. I had more money than I could imagine, had cars, a house, and more than two cell phones. Every day I could eat at the finest restaurants and get whatever alcoholic beverages I wanted. I took the drugs I had I would bring to the farmhouse I stayed at and would hide them there.

I would use so much cocaine, eat, and go to parties and nightclubs, but none fulfilled my emptiness. It looked like I was "happy," but this was only on the outside. I ended up meeting someone and liking her, and after some time, we got married in 2009.

My life never changed because I did not choose for it to change. Not long after I married, I committed a terrible assault which landed me in prison for three years.



I became abandoned, I went into a deep depression, and I could only sleep using drugs. One day my wife sent me one of the books from the UBB. Although receiving this support from my wife, I decided to continue using drugs, and that was final. One day I consumed 54 grams of cocaine while I was in prison.

I intended to fall asleep and never wake up again...

I thought, "If I cannot die, what will I do with this life?" I remembered the book I had received and the testimonies, which reminded me that my life could change. I realized my emptiness was within, and I decided to speak to God that day.

The first words I told God were that I want to place my life in Your hands, and if You are genuine, please do something for me, or you change my life because I can't take it, or You kill me. But it was something that I learned how to pray, I presented to Him what I wanted to do in my life, and I felt a great joy that was extraordinary.

I was in a cell with over 40 inmates, and that day I turned off the TV and said to the other inmates, "Today, I place my life in God's hands." After that day, I was no longer considered a criminal anymore. Now I have been called by my name since then, and I no longer use or have the desire for drugs.



My life now is completely

transformed. I stayed in prison for another five years. Still, I continued seeking God in faith, praying, and even sharing my testimony with other inmates.



After eight years, I received my freedom, and the first place I went to was the Universal Church. I have peace now, joy, and my battles and difficulties, but this does not weaken my faith because I have the certainty that God is within me and I will overcome. My entire family is now on the altar and serving God, my son whom I had abandoned in my past. Now we are reunited and in the same faith.



**"NOBODY CARES ABOUT ME...." "I'M ALL ALONE..." "WHO WILL EVER REMEMBER ME...?" "IT'S OK..."**

**HAVE THESE THOUGHTS BEEN RUNNING THROUGH YOUR MIND? YOU'RE AT POINT WHERE IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE, AND NOW YOU'RE SIMPLY DEALING WITH IT. DO NOT DEAL WITH IT ALONE! WRITE YOUR LETTER TO BP. JOSHUA, BECAUSE HE WILL PERSONALLY READ AND REPLY TO YOU.**

**\* BE SURE TO INCLUDE: FIRST/LAST NAME, YOUR ID NUMBER, THE FACILITY NAME, ADDRESS, ALONG WITH THE CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE.**

**\* SEND YOUR LETTER TO BP JOSHUA AT: 7075 SOUTHWEST, FREEWAY. HOUSTON, TX 77074**

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### ULFN PROGRAMS SCHEDULE (ET)

**SHOWDOWN OF FAITH | 8am & 9pm**  
with Bishop Joshua

**OVERCOMING DEPRESSION | 9am**  
with Pastor Edwin

**THE LAST HIT | 10am & 11pm**  
with Pastor Damien

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

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

**MIRACLES EXIST | 1pm**  
with Bishop Edson

**LET THERE BE LIGHT | 2pm**  
with Pastor Dennis

**WOMEN IN REAL TIME | 3pm**

**STOP SUFFERING | 4pm**  
with Pastor Diego

**AT THE EDGE OF DEATH | 5pm**  
with Pastor Valdo

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

**THE PROMISED LAND | 8pm**

**KING DAVID | 10pm**

#### FIGHTING THE UNSEEN ENEMY



What's unseen is more real than what is seen. If you believe in God, you have to believe in the supernatural. It's impossible not to believe in the spiritual realm and claim to be a Christian. Bishop David and Evelyn teach you how to identify the unseen enemies attacking your life and loved ones, and they share powerful tools based on God's Word to overcome them.

#### PROBLEMS & SOLUTIONS



Problems and Solutions is a program dedicated to those who have lost their faith. If you are being overwhelmed by problems and feel like not even God will help you, take the challenge to watch this program and receive the solutions to your problems!

### WAYS TO WATCH ULFN:

**VERIZON:** Channel 794  
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# THEY FACED ONE PROBLEM AFTER ANOTHER BUT THEY FOUND THEIR SOLUTION

*The loss of a child, a failing business, a warrant for his arrest and a broken marriage. It seemed there was no hope but they found a miracle.*

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FIND THE SOLUTION TO YOUR FINANCIAL PROBLEMS THROUGH FAITH.

They owned a car dealership and had a debt of more than \$300,000. But their problems weren't just about debt. Their marriage was also in trouble. The strain on the relationship was a result of financial issues. In addition, there was an arrest warrant against Antonio. "My husband rented cars and one of them was involved in a homicide.

To make matters worse, our three-month-old daughter passed away due to ill health. The doctor who attended her advised us to seek some spiritual help at that difficult time. The only place we found with open doors at that time was the Universal church", says Andressa. First, we received spiritual comfort and God restored our

marriage. The couple also found a direction for their business and began to receive teachings that turned their failed venture into a successful company. "We started to participate in the Monday services. Gradually, the debts were paid off. "I was able to prove in court that I was innocent. We paid

off our debts and started investing in other car stores. Over time, we sold the stores and set up another company focused on the real estate sector", says Antonio. But anyone who thinks that the business couple's problems just ended, as if by magic, is wrong. The two guarantee that,

**To make matters worse, our three-month-old daughter passed away due to ill health.**

with the strength of God, they learned to face the obstacles that arise in their lives. Our new company was experiencing serious difficulties. Bankruptcy returned to threaten us. We looked to God for strength and started looking for new customers. We believed in our business. For someone to have a powerful structure and conquer their problems without being discouraged, only with faith in God. Your eyes only show problems, but your faith shows the solution. It's one thing to have God in front of you, another is to have God inside you", he concludes.



# BECOME A SPONSOR OF THIS MINISTRY

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SCAN THE CODE AND LEARN THE WAYS YOU CAN **DONATE**



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# The Universal Church

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