

Paul's Ponderings

As 21st century Americans we live in the microwave generation and want everything immediately. But, one of the fruits of the spirit is longsuffering. What does the Bible mean by longsuffering? Longsuffering, from the Greek word "makrothumia," means "long-tempered" or patience that endures. It's not just the ability to wait, but it has to do with how we act while we are waiting and our attitude. It is a willingness to stick with things. Contrary to what many think today, a person who is long-suffering is not weak or timid. Rather, they are strong in character and bold in resisting hasty or even reckless reactions. We should all be grateful that God is the personification of long-suffering love.



Paul Stasi
Executive Director

Longsuffering

So, we should work toward this ability to be patient. There's the old joke, "don't pray for patience, because something will come your way to REALLY teach it to you." So, just develop your character to have patience. Think about the patience God has for us. It's because of His longsuffering, that we choose to have patience for others.

Many who come to us for help are sober for the first time in years. Because of this sobriety, they have awoken to the reality of the mess they've created in their life. It is challenging for them to have enduring patience to stick it out and work through their issues and relationship with God. They want to quit the program to run home and try to fix things. The only problem is that when that happens their feet are not on solid ground, and they are unable to stand for long and normally relapse.

It is thanks to your giving and faithfulness that CRM offers God's grace and mercy everyday to many people in need. Through longsuffering, good counsel, and the ministry of Holy Spirit they experience transformation and then go home and see their family restored. I cannot tell you how often I have children of our students thanking us because they now have their father or mother back, clean and sober.

Our thankfulness is for you too! Your giving has a generational impact.

Simplify Your Life in Three Steps

Does your life feel chaotic? Do you wish to experience greater peace? Here are three ways to create margin and find rest today:

1. Set limits. Create rules around screen time, commitments, errands, and work.
2. Declutter. Simplify and organize your spaces for a clearer mind.
3. Plan for the future. Have you created your estate plan? Long-term planning brings peace of mind and is quite a simple process.

To learn more, request our free bulletin "6 Ways to Experience More Peace Today."



Contact Angela A. Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org Visit christianwill.org/crm to bless your family with an up-to-date will.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following:

- Gently used or new furniture, clothing, home goods, books, and more for the CRM Thrift Store at **Urgent Need** 7200 Normandy Blvd.
- White twin sheet sets
- White towels and washcloths
- White, large drawstring laundry bags for student use
- NIV Life Study Bibles - Large Print
- Travel size shampoo, conditioner, and body wash
- Bus passes - 3 day passes - \$12/ 7 day passes - \$20



CITY RESCUE MISSION

CRMjax.org



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New Life NEWS

MARCH 2023



FELTER

FELTER WAS INTRODUCED TO DRUGS AT AN EARLY AGE. AFTER 30 YEARS, GOD BROUGHT HIM TO CITY RESCUE MISSION. HIS PATIENCE IN THE PROGRAM PAVED A NEW LIFE AND HE IS ALREADY GIVING BACK SERVING OTHERS.

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FELTER

My parent's divorced when I was young. My father was present in my life, but he was not a positive role model. The lifestyle he lived was filled with drugs, alcohol, and women. I was introduced to cocaine at the age of 14 by my father. It didn't take long to start using because I believed my



When my father passed away, I reflected on my life. I considered my age, relationships I've destroyed and that I wasn't doing what God called me to do. I asked God to help me overcome my addiction because I was tired mentally, spiritually and physically. My prayer was answered soon enough when my god brother shared his testimony video from City Rescue Mission, being a guest years before. This inspired me to check out the Mission. Although I didn't plan on spending much time there, I just wanted to detox and get my thoughts in order, but God had other plans. I felt so overwhelmed with the resources here and everything being done to help others, I wanted to use the gifts God had instilled into me to be a part of that. I knew I was right where I was suppose to be.



father wouldn't offer me anything that would harm me. I was wrong. This decision took 30 seconds to make, but became a battle that took over 30 years to overcome.

As I spent more time in the Life Builders program, studying the Bible, learning important life skills and embracing the workforce development role in our kitchen, I discovered the lifestyle change I hungered for. I discovered that I loved serving at any capacity, even something as simple as a good meal and giving it to those who are less fortunate, it feels amazing. After graduation, I became a full-time member of our kitchen staff and I continue to pursue God's call to serve. My goal is to become a resident assistant and work my way up to become a counselor. The Mission has helped me see myself the way God sees me and I have a new purpose in life. I know I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

During this battle of substance abuse, failed rehabilitation, illegal activity and repeated incarceration, I often found myself living on the streets. I always knew that I had a place to lay my head at my mother's home, but I never did because of the guilt I had about the man that I had become. I didn't want her to see me like that, I knew I could have been doing something better.



CHARIS CAFE
CITY RESCUE MISSION

VISIT US at Charis Cafe! Did you know that 100% of Charis Cafe profits go to the Mission? That means by stopping in for breakfast, lunch or coffee you will help others in need! Here is a sample of our delicious menu:

BREAKFAST

Donuts, pastries, bagels and incredible breakfast sandwiches; Bacon or ham, egg and cheese on a bagel or croissant.

LUNCH try our Meat Trio, Turkey, Veggie

Hummus, B.L.T., or PBJ for the kids. Don't forget our new blend coffee, and Charis dessert!

We are at 7200 Normanday Blvd.
Open Mon. - Sat. 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.
(904) 421-5178



SIDES
Red Skin Potato Salad
Orzo Salad
Kettle Chips
SALADS
Chef Salad
Chicken Salad
Hummus



CITY RESCUE MISSION'S 8TH ANNUAL DIFFERENCE MAKERS BANQUET

Featuring The Comedy of

The Water Coolers



Tickets Available

Ever start your day with 300 meetings scheduled, 700 emails in your inbox, a kid to pick up from ju-jitsu and your boss pinging you in Slack? Well, you are not alone! Come see The Water Coolers, the award-winning music and comedy act Entertainment TV calls "the hottest ticket in town". Written by comedy pros and real people with "regular" jobs, The Water Coolers hilarious brand of song and sketch comedy celebrates anyone who's ever been held captive by a help line, pretended to understand an IT guy, weathered a Zoom call or had an at-home haircut. Like a mash up of high-end song parody and American Auto, The Water Coolers uses top NY talent

to answer the question "does this stuff happen to anyone else?" So, take a break, put down that smart phone and see The Water Coolers, the act The Chicago Sun Times says is "Guaranteed to make you laugh".



Thursday May 4, 2023
Seating begins at 6 p.m.
Banquet begins at 6:30 p.m.
Southbank Hotel Jacksonville Riverwalk
1515 Prudential Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Tickets: Individual \$140
Table (10 seats) \$1400
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