

Paul's Ponderings

In running residential programs, the issue of consequences is constantly at the forefront. Often, when people do something wrong, like break rules, they expect to be punished. This is due to many factors. 1. that could be what happened in their home growing up, 2. perhaps this occurred in school as a child, or 3. maybe they spent time in jail.

I prefer to help them see things differently, as consequences. As Newton said, "to every action there is a reaction." In this case, to every bad decision, choice, or action, there is a consequence. God is a loving father that gives consequences. He's not the big guy in the sky that is about to strike people with lightening. Unfortunately, that is how many view God.



Paul Stasi
Executive Director

CONSEQUENCES

The Bible is filled with stories that illustrate the consequences of choices. Each decision led to significant outcomes. These can be a lesson for us today. They show how actions have repercussions, both good and bad.

The first lesson is from our first parents...Adam and Eve, who made a crucial choice to disobey God's clear command. This not only expelled them from the Garden of Eden and a loss of the direct presence of God, pain in childbirth, and work becoming toil, but there were repercussions affecting all of humanity to come.

All throughout the Old and New Testament, we see man's disobedience and the consequences for that. Each story illustrates that actions, whether good or bad, lead to significant outcomes. By learning from these examples, we can strive to make choices that honor God and lead to positive consequences in our lives.

For those in our programs, we help them to see that ABBA, Father is a loving Daddy, who allows consequences for our actions, not as punishment, but to help us learn from them so we do not repeatedly make the same mistake.

Part of the healing that takes place at City Rescue Mission is helping people understand this. It is only because of you that this is possible. Your continued support builds disciples, who can mature in the faith and then reach others. What we do has more effect than we may think. So, your action of giving, causes a reaction of a changed life, which then has further reaction of more changed lives for Christ's sake.

Paul

Expanding Your Family Circle

Social worker Alan Naiman worked with families in crisis, served as a foster parent, and was the main caregiver for his developmentally disabled brother. When he died in 2018, Alan left \$11 million to charities that directly meet children's needs.*



Music teacher Jane Kesson left a gift in her will to the Philadelphia Orchestra, an organization she supported for many years. They use that gift to fund teacher workshops and concerts for school children in honor of Jane.**

Neither Alan nor Jane ever married or had children of their own, which affected the way they approached their estate plans. Without spouses or heirs, they expanded the definition of family to include causes that were important to them—and left legacies that are impacting many beyond their lifetimes.

Married or single, parent or not, you can leave a lasting inheritance through a simple concept known as "Child Called Charity" — adding a charitable organization you're deeply connected with to your estate plan as one of your heirs. Expand your family circle to make a difference for years to come.

*Source: CNN
**Source: Associated Press

For the full version of this article, request a FREE copy of "Is it Time to Expand Your Family Circle?" by contacting Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org - Visit crmjax.legacywill.org to bless your family with an up-to-date will.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following:

- (4) Full size mattress and boxspring set \$1,000 each
- (38) Blinds \$75 each
- (2) Hally Stainless Steel tables for prep 30"x48" \$162 each
- Bus passes for 1 week \$40.60 each
- Adopt a dorm room
- Clothing, shoes, and accessories for men, women, and children for Thrift Store

Contact: Angela Washington
awashington@crmjax.org
(904) 421-5147



CRMjax.org

Follow Us on Social Media



Board of Directors

Mark Anderson, Chair Robin Hyde, Vice-Chair
Kendall Spencer, Finance Doug Milne, Secretary/Parliamentarian

Shontrell Anderson
Brian Andrew
Alan Cotrill
Tina Daniels

Steve Desorbo
David Eure
Craig Henderson
Lee Nimnicht

Chad Perce
Ed Perez
Laura Smith
Clay Yarborough

APRIL 2025



JONATHAN I SEE CLEARLY NOW

Jonathan's life had become a slippery slope of poor choices. Before he knew it, he had hit rock bottom and was experiencing homelessness. But that wasn't the way he wanted to live. So, he made a decision that changed his trajectory – the best one of his life. He came to the Mission where, through the love and strength of God, he's found stability, faith-based direction and joy and purpose serving the Lord. We're so grateful for your partnership and prayers, which have given Jonathan this second chance.

JONATHAN'S STORY

Page 2

10TH ANNUAL DIFFERENCE MAKERS GALA

Page 3

PAUL'S PONDERINGS MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Page 4

JONATHAN'S STORY

I SEE CLEARLY NOW

Jonathan knows firsthand how one bad decision can serve as a gateway to another... and then one more... until life spirals out of control. First, it was dropping out of college. Then losing a series of jobs. And finally, facing substance abuse. These choices are what Jonathan calls "life letdowns." Before coming to the Mission, he says, he was stuck in a loop of self-sabotage.

Although raised in the church, Jonathan had drifted far from the faith-based foundation that kept him grounded in his early years. For more than a decade, he chose habits and behaviors that led to disappointment and self-doubt – and prevented him from building financial stability, personal independence and healthy relationships.

One day his eyes were opened to his meager existence when he woke up to the fact that he was alone, living out of a duffle bag, with no permanent place to lay his head.

Finally admitting to himself it was not the life he'd envisioned – and he was not the man God intended him to be – he knew he had to change.

Jonathan was familiar with the Mission; friends and family members had sought our assistance in the past. So, with hope in his heart, he knew where to go. He came to our doors with just the clothes on his back and his few belongings in his bag... and we welcomed him with open arms.

Immediately, Jonathan says, he could feel the love of God in



"I'm really thinking about my purpose and what it's going to take to get there."

this place. After a chain of poor choices, he knew he'd finally made the right decision. This is where he was meant to be.

"I was ready. I wanted to see what that other life was like... the life that I always expected for myself."

In our holistic and faith-based LifeBuilders program, we're helping Jonathan overcome destructive habits, strengthen his self-esteem and achieve financial and social stability. Most importantly, we're encouraging him to rebuild his walk with the Lord.

He attributes Bible study and Christ-centered classes to steering him back onto the right path. **"I call it my spiritual bootcamp."**

He now also understands he can't solely rely on his own strength. Instead, by staying meek and trusting in God's guidance, he can make good choices and sound decisions and achieve success. **"One of the things I've learned is to be careful of the self-righteous spirit."**

As he prepares to re-enter the workforce, Jonathan enjoys giving back to the Mission by working in the kitchen and

on our maintenance team. When he leaves our care, he plans to return to school for a degree in computer technology, for which we're helping him to prepare – emotionally, spiritually and practically. **"The Mission is encouraging me to think broader than the little box my mind has been in. I'm seeing my purpose now."**

"I was suffocating myself with my addictions and my choices. The Mission has allowed my spirit to breathe."

Motivated by the progress he's making, Jonathan is dedicated to staying active in his home church and serving his community. He is passionate about coaching the youth of his neighborhood in an after-school program. And he's grateful for his story of transformation which will allow him to inspire others who have struggled as he did.

Join City Rescue Mission in Celebrating our

10th Annual Difference Makers Gala

"A Night at the Opera"

FEATURING

Katherine Kincaid
Mezza-Soprano, Singer/Songwriter

A LIMITED AMOUNT OF TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!

Tickets: Individual and Table (10 seats)

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025
SEATING AT 6 PM
GALA BEGINS AT 6:30 PM

CONTACT

ANGELA WASHINGTON
(904) 421-5147
crmdevelopment@crmjax.org

SOUTHBANK HOTEL | JACKSONVILLE RIVERWALK
1515 PRUDENTIAL DRIVE
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32207

WE'VE MOVED!

CRM
CITY RESCUE MISSION

**Same Mission,
New Page!**
Follow our new Instagram



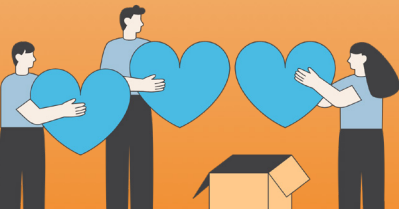
@cityrescuemissionjax



SPRING CLEANING

JOIN US FOR SPRING CLEANING!
We welcome gently used clothing, furniture,
household goods and more!
Contact our donation center!

(904) 421 - 5171
7200 Normandy Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32205
Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm



CRM
CITY RESCUE MISSION
THRIFT STORE

SAVE THE DATE

17th Annual Champions Challenge Golf Tournament



CONTACT

ANGELA WASHINGTON
(904) 421-5147
crmdevelopment@crmjax.org

TPC SAWGRASS AUGUST 25, 2025

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

Title Sponsor	\$25,000
Eagle Sponsor	\$15,000
Award Sponsor	\$12,500
Birdie Sponsor	\$10,000
Par Sponsor	\$6,000
Team Sponsor	\$4,000
Beverage Cart Sponsor	\$3,500
Trophy Sponsor	\$2,500
Hole Sponsor	\$800