

Paul's Ponderings

As I ponder this word, the first thing that comes to mind is nobility or belonging to a high social class by heredity. But on a personal level it has to do with having or showing fine personal qualities or high moral principles. For example, if you say that someone is a noble person, you admire and respect them due to their selflessness and morally good character. Living an honorable life means helping others in need, being a voice for those who have none and living the age-old Golden Rule that we all learned growing up: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" (Matthew 7:12 & Luke 6:31).



Paul Stasi
Executive Director

Paul concludes his letter to the church in Phillipi by encouraging them to think about a list of characteristics, one of which is "things that are noble," or the Greek word used here means honorable or honest.

Paul further talks about living in a way that follows Christ's example (1 Corinthians 10) and concludes in verse 23 with "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial or constructive. No one should seek their own good, but the good of others."

NOBLE

CRM program has classes "Revolution of Character" and "Character Transformation". So much of living the Christian life involves having a noble character. This is Christ-like living. We want to help others to live in this manner. It makes sense. And, the fruit is good, as listed in Galatians: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The Mission displays a noble life by helping others and being a voice for the voiceless, helping the underrepresented, the vulnerable, the disadvantaged, and advocating for our invisible neighbors (those experiencing homelessness).

Isaiah 32:8 says, "The noble make noble plans, and by noble deeds they stand." The Hebrew word for noble furthers the earlier characteristics to being generous, a liberal giver, and magnanimous—someone who is big-hearted.

It is only through your continued prayers and financial support that all we do at The Mission is possible, especially through the summer months.

Gift Horses and Your Giving



You may have heard the phrase don't look a gift horse in the mouth, meaning you should accept a gift as-is because you might be surprised (or disappointed) if you look at it more closely.

What if you thought about that idea differently, especially when it comes to giving?

You may have appreciated assets that can make a difference for the organizations you love. When you look this gift horse in the mouth, you'll find:

Your gift of stock helps you steward wisely. Your appreciated assets can be a tool for stewarding a legacy of generosity, opening the door for conversations with your loved ones about values, giving, and the causes close to your heart.

Your gift of stock makes your giving go further. Donating appreciated stock, bonds, or mutual funds can make your gift up to 20% larger because you avoid the taxes you would have to pay from selling those assets and donating the cash.

Examining the "gift horse" of your non-cash assets a bit more closely will show you some unexpected ways to support your favorite charities.

For more information, please contact Angela Washington at (904) 421-5147 or awashington@crmjax.org.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

City Rescue Mission is in need of the following:

- (6) Music Stands
- Women's Scrubs - small, medium, large, XL, 2XL, and 3XL *Urgent Needs*
- Clothing, shoes, and accessories for men, women, and children
- Homes of Hope Roof \$15,000
- (2) 5,000 BTU Window AC units with heat \$500 each
- Refrigerator New \$1,000
- Electric stove New \$800
- Microwave New \$300
- New Life Inn Campus Kitchen exit doors \$10,000
- McDuff Campus exit doors \$22,000
- Box Truck Replacement \$50,000

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

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New Life NEWS

JULY 2024



JAMES

When his childhood dream was shattered, James hit rock bottom. He adopted destructive habits and behaviors that prevented him from building a stable future. Then after a near-death experience, he realized God had a purpose for his life... and he came to the Mission to find it. Today, through the Mission's guidance and your gifts, prayers and support, he's re-embracing a role that gives his life meaning. We're grateful for your continued generosity.

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JAMES' STORY

IT WAS GOD WHO SAVED ME

James loved playing baseball; he excelled at it, too. Almost as much as the game itself, he enjoyed coaching younger kids and helping them develop their skills.

So after college, when he failed to be drafted by a professional team, the dream he'd held since childhood was shattered. The disappointment was devastating.

"I knew not everyone can make it," he says, "but it really took a toll on my life. I started using drugs and it just went downhill."

James struggled with substance abuse for more than 40 years, adopting habits that jeopardized his career path, relationships and self-esteem. While blessed by a stable family who provided a safety net and prevented him from experiencing homelessness, their unwavering support enabled him to continue his destructive lifestyle.

"I was the dark sheep, but they loved me so much."

After failing at treatment more than a dozen times, James had given up hope of ever building a meaningful life – until a frightening experience nearly ended it. While sharing drugs with a friend he unknowingly ingested fentanyl. He became deathly ill but miraculously survived. He credits God for guiding those who saved him.



"I thank God for that," he says. "I knew He had a purpose for me."

And he came to the Mission to find it.

James joined our LifeBuilders program, and like all in our care who seek a faith-based new beginning, he's studying God's Word, overcoming destructive habits, developing essential life skills, establishing healthy relationships and exploring options for sustainable employment and housing.

As he completes his 18-month curriculum, he serves as a landscaper at the Mission, using skills his father taught him. It's something he loves to do, while at the same time he learns to be responsible and accountable.

"All these things here, they're showing us how to live again, and it's time to put that puzzle together."

After graduation, James says, he wants to enjoy life: "Get married. Travel. Talk to God." More specifically, he hopes to return to his role of coaching children – not only teaching them baseball skills, but also sharing his story and modeling Godly life skills.

"You have to be a leader even when people aren't watching."

Today, James is grateful for this opportunity to express his gratitude for the Mission and for friends like you who have given him a second chance.

"They've all played a part in making me right. They showed me how to grow, how to learn - how to live. I don't take life for granted and I can't stop here. I'm going to help someone else know God's Word."

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

JEFF JACQMEIN

Jeff Jacqmein is a lifelong fitness enthusiast and a family doctor of more than 25 years who volunteers his time weekly as a fitness trainer for the men at City Rescue Mission.

Jeff and his wife have supported City Rescue Mission for more than a decade. The two attended a LifeBuilders program graduation a few years back: "I remember looking at the balcony. Seeing guys support the graduates. It fired me up. Brothers supporting brothers."



Jeff continued to read our monthly newsletter and saw an opportunity to be of service as a trainer. The Monday evening

fitness group has been termed CR Strong. "I share the word, introduce the workout, and then we crank the tunes," says Jeff. These fitness classes are an opportunity for men to invest in a balanced lifestyle, by adding a component of wellness that allows them to show up for themselves in all areas of life.

Fitness is "kind of like faith," Jeff reflects. "It's the turbo booster."

YOU ARE INVITED!

LIFEBUILDERS GRADUATION

Class of Fall 2024
 Friday, September 27, 2024
 7:00 p.m.
 CRM McDuff Campus
 Mission Church
 426 McDuff Avenue S., Jacksonville, FL 32254



Support City Rescue Mission through AMAZON WISHLIST!

You can view a list of City Rescue Mission's ongoing needs, as well as a list of CRM's special needs using our Amazon Wishlist. Amazon Wishlist allows friends of the Mission to quickly and conveniently view and purchase selected items for donation to CRM! You can view the lists by visiting [crmjax.org](https://www.crmjax.org). Every gift helps us better serve the hungry, homeless and addicted in our community. THANK YOU!



USE THIS LINK: <https://www.crmjax.org/crm-needs-list/>



City Rescue Mission's 16th Annual Champion's Challenge Golf Tournament

TPC SAWGRASS STADIUM COURSE

AUGUST 26, 2024

12:30 P.M. SHOTGUN START

PLAY GOLF FOR A CAUSE!

Enjoy a day of golf at the iconic TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and help transform the lives of those experiencing homelessness, hardship, and addiction right here on the First Coast.

Each registered player will enjoy a full afternoon of golf, complete with lunch, dinner, awards ceremony, golfer swag bag, and silent and live auctions in the beautiful TPC Sawgrass Clubhouse.

Registration fees include on-course concessions, bag tags, and all of your forecaddie gratuities and golf fees!

Sign up as a team (4 players), an individual player or become a sponsor of this event!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
 Angela Washington at
 (904) 421-5147 or
CRMDevelopment@crmjax.org



WE NEED SILENT AUCTION ITEMS!

Do you own a business and could donate items for our Golf Silent Auction? We would greatly appreciate your help to make this year's golf outing a success.

Summer SAVINGS

CRM THRIFT STORE

In addition to our already low prices on high quality clothing, furniture, household goods or other items, this coupon saves you an extra 15% off your entire purchase! Simply bring this exclusive newsletter coupon with you to City Rescue Mission Thrift Store to get a special discount during one visit this summer.

7200 Normandy Blvd.
 Jacksonville, FL 32205
 Monday - Friday 10am - 6pm
 Saturday 9am - 6pm

Summer COUPON

Save 15% on your entire purchase at City Rescue Mission Thrift Store. Offer ends July 31, 2024. This coupon must be presented at the register to redeem. Good 7/1/24 - 7/31/24.

CRM CITY RESCUE MISSION

15%