



# RESCUE CHATTANOOGA

News from Chattanooga Rescue Mission

SUMMER 2011

www.chattanoogarescuemission.org

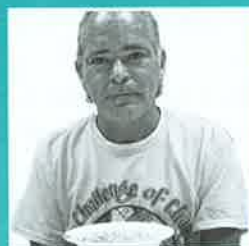
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Touch more lives  
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## After a life of abuse to myself and others I finally came home to Jesus

**M**y name is Rick. Coming to Chattanooga Rescue Mission was the turning point of my life. For much of

**"I don't have the words to thank you for keeping the Mission's doors open for someone like me."**

For the first time, I cry when I meet people who do not know Christ, and I do what I can to be a witness for the faith that's in me.

### Rebuilding a 1951 Chevy is my metaphor for living

Right now I'm rebuilding a 1951 Chevy, and I plan to give it to my son. Just like that old truck, I too need to be rebuilt, overhauled. And like that vehicle, I will always need constant maintenance. I'm looking forward to becoming the man God wants me to be.

I know when I meet Jesus I can stand before Him a forgiven man. I'm also going to thank Him for a donor like you who helped me put my feet on solid ground. I don't have the words to thank you for keeping the Mission's doors open for someone like me.

God bless you and keep you always.

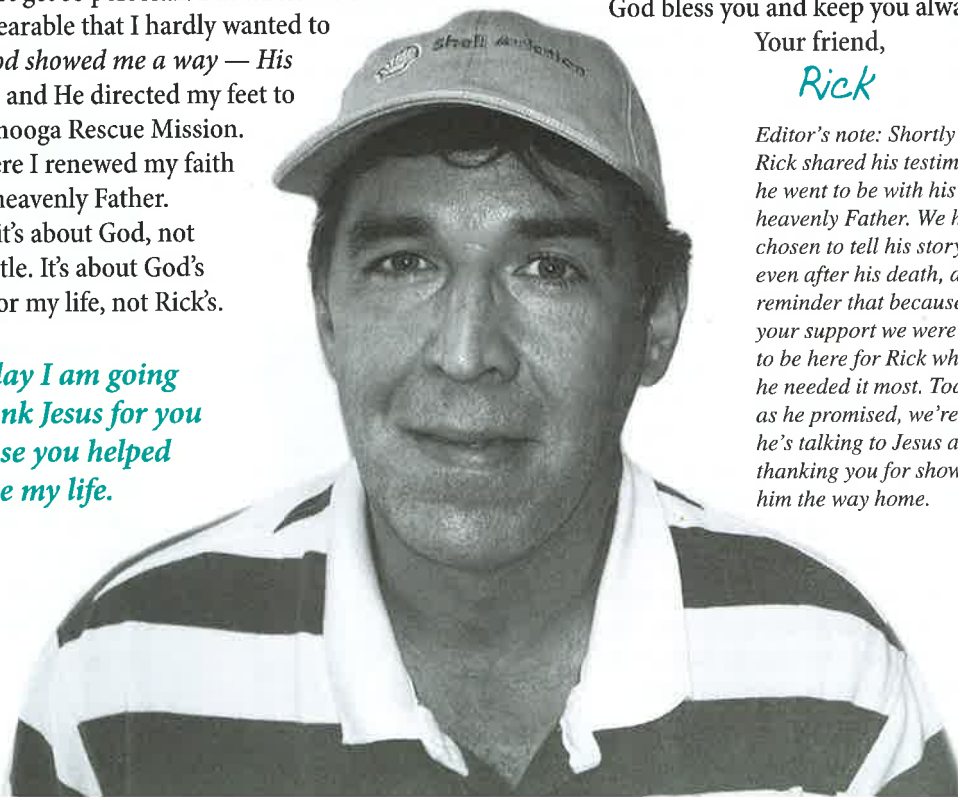
Your friend,  
**Rick**

my life, alcohol was king. My father was an alcoholic, and I fell right in line. My behavior was unacceptable and my mood swings were all a result of my drinking. I was mean. Belligerent. I was not setting a good example for my son. How I regret all the time I wasted.

My drinking was so bad even the bartenders told me I should lay off. So what did I do? I found other bartenders who wouldn't get so personal. But when life became so unbearable that I hardly wanted to live, *God showed me a way — His way* — and He directed my feet to Chattanooga Rescue Mission.

Here I renewed my faith in my heavenly Father. Today it's about God, not the bottle. It's about God's plans for my life, not Rick's.

**One day I am going to thank Jesus for you because you helped to save my life.**



*Editor's note: Shortly after Rick shared his testimony, he went to be with his heavenly Father. We have chosen to tell his story, even after his death, as a reminder that because of your support we were able to be here for Rick when he needed it most. Today, as he promised, we're sure he's talking to Jesus and thanking you for showing him the way home.*

## An Encouraging Word from Dale Grisso

Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

**"Folks come to us when they find themselves at the end of the line. But when Jesus occupies their hearts, chaos turns into peace ... and riotous living becomes righteous living."**



**D**o you know what happens when you lend your support to Chattanooga Rescue Mission? You interfere with Satan's plans to ruin a life. You stand in the way of an alcoholic returning to the bars ... or a drug addict from running back to the crack house. That makes you special in my book. And who could feel more special now than our brother Rick, who is now in the presence of his Lord and Savior?

We never know how long any of our guests will be with us — or even will be on Earth, for that matter. Folks come to us when they find themselves at the end of the line. But when Jesus captures their hearts, chaos turns into peace ... and riotous living becomes righteous living.

### Rick gave the best gift of all to his son

Just before Rick passed away, he led his son to the Lord. It's true that Rick won't be able to hand over that 1951 Chevy pickup to his son personally, but he gave him an even greater gift ... *entrance to life everlasting.*

If you want to meet lives that are being changed daily, I urge you to come down and pay us a visit this summer. At the end of our time together you may well say ... I never knew how much good the Chattanooga Rescue Mission is doing for people in need. Come visit us. I hope to see you soon.

Your servant to the needy,

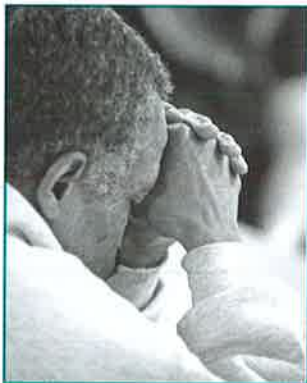
*Dale Grisso*

Dale Grisso, Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

## A Troubled World

**T**he year 2011 has presented a number of unique problems to our world. We've seen blizzards, earthquakes, tsunamis, mass rioting, the overthrow of governments, and nuclear disasters. Everywhere we look, people are hurting. To the rest of the world, such widespread pain is somewhat an unusual situation. At a rescue mission it is a daily occurrence.

We deal with people who are at the end of their rope. They have exhausted the government programs. Many are no longer welcome with their family. For some, addictions have robbed them of their career, house, and car. Like so many around the world today, they are hurting. But that is where things have the potential to get exciting. It is often when the heart is most distressed that men turn to the God of heaven for relief. What a wonderful opportunity to share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Let us seize the opportunity and redouble our acts of compassion both here and abroad so that precious souls can be brought to a right relationship with the Lord.



## You can touch even more lives during the critical summer months

**"It's been said we may not have all come over on the same ship, but we are all in the same boat. That means we're all in this together."**

**D**o you ever suppose that when people suffer in some extraordinary way they must have been guilty of some extraordinary sin? Not so, says Jesus in Luke 13:5 ... *I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.* As human beings, we all face the same verdict, whether the results of our poor choices make it into the newspapers or not.

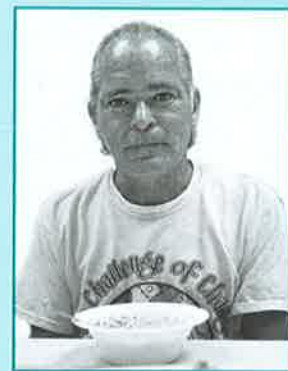
That's why at Chattanooga Rescue Mission we understand the seriousness of our desire to do things our own way. Each day our staff and Mission guests make it a point to turn to Jesus for forgiveness, and then to do our best to live consciously and continuously by His mercy.

### We're all in this together

When you give your donations, you help us continue to be the men, women and children God wants us to be. It's been said we may not have all come over on the same ship, but we are all in the same boat. That means we're all in this together.

God bless you for your generosity, which provides nourishing food, safe shelter and Christian counseling for so many who've lost their way. We could not carry on this ministry without your support and friendship.

To make a donation today, kindly use the remit slip enclosed and send it along with your gift. You may also take advantage of giving on our secure website at [www.chattanoogarescuemission.org](http://www.chattanoogarescuemission.org). God bless you for being a friend to people in need during the summer months. Thank you for caring.



## Seeing the real need

**I**t is easy to see the physical needs of the homeless: food to eat, clothes to wear, a bed to sleep in, a place to shower ... As Christians, we must also see that they have a greater need, one that can only be met through compassion, love, and spiritual guidance which points men and women to the Savior.

I received a Valentine's Day card from a lady who has stayed in our shelter on and off for several years. One line in the card caught my attention: "You told me the truth, yet you softened it by caring." I had talked with her many times about getting her life straightened out. Those loving seeds we have sown in her life are now beginning to bear fruit. She now sees that her greatest need is not a bed to sleep in but a changed life. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the lives of people for both now and eternity.

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**"We know that unless our residents place the power of a living, loving God at the center of their hearts, nothing will change."**