RAM Ministries Newsletter

### February 2024

# Meet Shelby









CHANGING LIVES THROUGH THE POWER OF PRAYER



Ihere's a better life.

## Where are they NOW? Check out the amazing success stories of our Women of Courage program!

**THEN:** Shelby's life was a complete mess when she came to our program. She was a meth and heroine addict and was living in a drug infested trailer park. She had been in a controlling and emotionally abusive marriage and had cheated on her husband with her drug dealer. She had never had a job, hated her life, and hated herself, and it showed. She came to our Women of Courage Program straight out of rehab at the urging of her sister, who had also been in our program. At that time, she had no desire to live at all.

**NOW:** On April 15th of this year, it will be 4 years since Shelby walked into our office. Shelby attended class almost every week for a full year even though our program is usually only 8 weeks. Shelby found a new relationship with Jesus through our program and learned how to make Him her priority. She learned how to become a person of integrity and close the doors to the things that were destroying her life. She attended Celebrate Recovery

for several years at her church and gave her testimony to hundreds of people to try to help others in similar situations. Today, Shelby has a great job and works full time. She is drug free and spends her private time reading her bible, working out at the gym, listening to Christian music, and singing in the choir at her church. She lives in a nice home and recently took her very 1st vacation to the Outer Banks. She calls April 15th her "Miracle Day" God Bless Shelby! We are so proud of her and so thankful to God for His amazing Grace.

#### **CONNECT WITH US**

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#### WAYS TO SUPPORT

Mail a check payable to RAM Ministries to 1820 Rosemont Road Alliance, OH 44601

You can now conveniently donate by credit card through our website.

Venmo: @RAMMinistries Cash App: \$Ramministries13 PayPal: @RAMMinistries

Leave a lasting gift, remember us in your will.

#### WISH LIST

- Shop-Vac
- Commercial sized stand mixer
- Van
- We are always accepting food donations like: canned fruits, vegetables, cream of chicken and cream of mushroom, tuna, pasta (penne, bow tie, macaroni, & spaghetti) & boxed mashed potatoes

Helieve

I shared this story once before right after it happened, but since it is about Shelby, who is featured in this newsletter, I decided to reshare

it. I had just finished feeding the poor and as I was loading up the back of my van with the empty roasters, I noticed that the bath towels I had purchased for one of the women in our program that just got a

house, were still in the car. I had a little extra time before my first appointment for the day and her house was kind of on the way, so I thought I would drop them off. I gave her a quick call to ask if it was ok to stop and told her to just run out real quick and I would give her

the gift since they had just recently moved in and things were probably still out of whack. As I pulled up I saw her coming out of the house and struggling with her dog that had come out with her. She grabbed his collar and put him back in the house and pulled the door shut. I remember thinking that I hoped she hadn't locked herself out

of the house. She ran down the steps and I got the gift out of the back of the car. She thanked me, gave me a quick hug, told me that

she had the baby in the house (her 3 year old niece) and headed towards her porch yelling that she loved me as she ran. I went to pull away when the thought crossed my mind again that she could have locked herself out. I stopped the car and waited for her to get to the door. I saw the look of panic on her face when she realized the door was locked. I yelled for her to go around the house looking for any possible way to get in. She was panicked with the child and dog inside alone. I started searching through my car for absolutely anything I could use to try to slide between the door and the frame to jimmy the lock, but I had left my purse at home so I didn't have anything strong enough like a credit card. I prayed as I searched, "Lord, please give me what I need to open that door." Over and over I prayed it, but nothing. I grabbed a thick sheet of photo type paper that wasn't nearly strong enough, but I shoved it in my pocket just in case. I ran up to the door and as soon as I saw the door, I realized that all of the searching was in vain because the door had a seal all the way around it so nothing could be shoved in between to jimmy the lock. I started praying again, "Lord, help me open this door!" I grabbed the knob and turned it back and forth and back and forth, but it was tight.

I looked around for some other way and yelled to the back of the house to the woman to see if she had found a way, but nothing. I ran back to the door, still praying, "Help me open this door!!" I yelled "OPEN THE DOOR" and just then the knob turned very gently in my hand and opened, just as if someone had unlocked it on the other side. I walked in the house and there was no one on the other side. The dog came running wanting to eat me alive and the little girl right behind him. The woman came around the house and saw I was inside. "How did you get it open?" she asked. "Well", I said, "God opened it for me." Once again, the power of prayer prevails. He's AMAZING, all the time!