

My name is Andrew Keteles and I wanted to share a little bit about my experience in coming to the Lord. For 20 years I've struggled with addiction. I was raised seeing first hand my family abusing alcohol and drugs. I started using around age 16 and that quickly accelerated to the harder drugs, which in turn, led me to prison and to jail more times than I can count. It ruined every relationship I've ever had with anyone in one way or another. I got married to my wife and we had our first child together, and myself having two children already from previously damaged relationships in my past, you would think I would get it right when I got married. I did not. I stole, I lied, and stayed spending every cent I made on opiates and cocaine during our entire marriage. I got off work one Friday and told my wife I'd be home in about 15 minutes. I turned my phone back on at 8:30 Saturday morning and came home to find all my stuff packed and my wife kicking me out and telling me to get help and that we were also done regardless. She told me that if I wanted to see my child I had to get clean. I came straight to Converting Hearts after a 30 day program in Virginia and stayed four months. I learned I had a heart problem, not simply a drug problem. I was not living for the Lord and my running from him my entire life had led to the path I was on. I learned more about Christ in four months, than I had my entire life and I accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior. My wife stood by me the entire time. Since I left Converting Hearts, it's been about 14 months and I've been the same since the day I left CHM. I got my license back from the DMV that said that would never happen in my lifetime, and me and my wife bought our first house together. This is what the Lord has done for me. Have things been easy? Not even close. There's a lot of trust I haven't earned yet, and a lot of people who don't believe I have changed for good. God knows my heart and my actions have shown that I am His. At times I find myself trying to handle things on my own, without first coming to Christ and things don't get better until I give it to Him and trust in His timing and not mine. I am proof that the Lord can change anyone who is lost if they believe in Him and pursue Christ first.

-Andrew Keteles