



**SET FREE CHURCH OF THE HIGH DESERT**  
 PO BOX 291265 PHELAN, CA 92329 760 868-3805

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JANUARY—2018

## IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS



It was a December to remember and as we ring in the new year, we put Jesus first and are excited about everything He is doing in us through us and to us. On December 20th, 2017 we were please to hold our annual Toy Giveaway in cooperation with New Life Church in Phelan. The event which ran from 5PM-7PM at New Life Church was a tremendous success. Families of hundreds of local children showed up to participate in the event, receiving free toys or bikes. It was a blessing to see the smiles and joy on everyone's faces and a privilege to spread the love of Jesus with the community. We look forward to continuing the tradition in the coming years.

We collected toys all throughout the month of December. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, we had a Toy Drive at the Cadillac Ranch in Apple Valley to collect toys for the event. Then on December 14<sup>th</sup> Our Pastor Ron and the *Ministry of the Word* Team went to Los Angeles and pickup hundreds of toys to bless local children in our community for Christmas with.



On December 17th, 2017, we partnered alongside New Life Church to help raise toys for our annual toy drive. Santa rode through Phelan to help share the Christmas Spirit and we collected toys at the T-Bird Bar. God blessed us abundantly with so many toys to give out to children in our community.



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information or to plan to be a part of next year's toy giveaway call (760) 868-3805. Family Day was on December 17th, and we had a blessed time in Jesus. Pastor Ron shared about Walking in the Newness of Christ from Ephesians Chapter 4. 2 men and three woman outwardly demonstrated the inward change Christ has done in them by receiving baptism. Afterward all enjoyed a Pasta Sunday Potluck. Family Day is the third Sunday of every month. For more information call (760) 868-3805. Jesus loves You!

### CONTACT INFO

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- Ranch Office- (760) 868-3805
- Pastor Scott- (760) 985-0803

**Visit our Website!**

<http://setfreechurchofthehighdesert.org>



### **PASTOR'S CORNER**

*BY PASTOR  
RON THOMAS*

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:41-42)

We at Set Free invite you to come and join us as we continue to see God move in and through the Church, just as He moved through the early church. We are excited for everything the Lord is bringing about in our ministry for the New Year. As we continue to grow the church and our ministries, including outreach, convalescent ministries, and church planting we are enthusiastic about having opportunities for all our brothers and sisters in the Lord to be a part, and look forward to new partnerships with other ministries to help us further the King's Work in reaching the community. God has great things for us to do and we are confident that the Lord will supply all our needs and we look forward to working with you, not just going to church, but being the church. Come experience the Lord and be a part of everything He is doing in the New Year at Set Free Church of the High Desert. Jesus loves You!

—Pastor Ron

# Word of our Testimony

## Tammy's Testimony

I've been using for about 45 years. I was molested at a young age. I was introduced to drugs and alcohol and started using both so I wouldn't have to deal with the hurt and the pain. As we both know, that doesn't really work. I've been through many programs. I even graduated a couple. I was missing something and you know what that was? God! I've learned without God in my life, I have nothing and when you're walking with Him and keep Him first in your life, remember He will never leave you or forsake you! Now what has God done in my life? When I came to Set Free my eyes got so bad I was almost legally blind. Kerri (One of the leaders) decided I was going to be her project. Thanks to her and Set Free and the staff I was able to get laser surgery in both eyes. Now I have good eye sight. I had other medical issues also. I had a heart murmur. I went to a heart specialist. He took some tests and said I need a heart valve replaced. I was told I'd be in ICU for a couple of days, then in about four or five days and then sent home to recover. NOT! I was in ICU for about a week and in the hospital for a week or more. I was really weak, so they decided to send me to a recovery place. The next day I was back in the hospital with pneumonia. God had another plan for my life, and restoration. I hadn't seen my son for about three years. He came to see me in ICU and was able to bring my granddaughter who I've never seen. She's a little over a year old. This brought me even closer to my son. And you know, Its nothing I've done-its all by His grace. Whoever is still out there remember John 3:16" For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that each and everyone of us can have eternal life. I hope I can help. Just remember to

be still and know that He is God. Love You All.

— Tammy Garcia

## Brian's Testimony

My name is Brian Tappe and this is my testimony. I'm 47 years old, 25+ of which I was an alcoholic/ drug addict. I lived a seemingly normal life, the youngest of four boys, parents still married. I have always known about God, but never really "knew" Him. I started acting out at a young age because I didn't feel like I fit in. I started smoking and experimenting with drugs and sneaking alcohol at age 13 and it was to look cool so I wouldn't get picked on. As I felt more "normal", like I fit in, it progressed. I was in a car accident when I was eighteen that should have killed me; rather than thanking God I took on the attitude that I was invincible. I started partying every day. I lived my life reckless and carefree. There were many times I should have been dead. I woke up on my thirtieth birthday and the first thought was that I was alive, now what? I started to try digging myself out of my muck and mire. In 2002 I met a woman I thought was going to be my wife and the mother of my children forever. We did get married and had two beautiful boys together, Sean-Ryan and Daniel Luke. Unfortunately, I was too new to being sober and responsible. I ended up in prison, after leaving them for drugs and alcohol. The shame, guilt, regret and depression overcame me. I did my first AA/NA program in 2011. It lasted for a few years. I held a job and got better jobs, leading me to North Dakota in 2013. Everything was going great. My brother Mike, who I looked up to and was my best friend came to work with me in September, 2013. The 7<sup>th</sup> of October, we crashed our truck on the way to work, jumping it sixty feet. We both had minor injuries. November 1<sup>st</sup>, He

was killed in another car accident. That was more than I could handle and I turned into a mean alcoholic. I hurt the ones I love, not knowing how to let go of the hurt I felt. On July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 I had a heart attack. I know God lifted me off the ground. At the same time of the heart attack, I had a blood clot in both of my lungs. Three months later I went and got a motel room and spent two months drinking and doing meth, U was at my end. Later in September 2016 I attempted suicide and survived it. At that point I knew God had a plan for me. I called Set Free and hit my knees begging God to fix me. It has been an amazing redemption process. All glory to God, I am getting restoration with family and am of service here at the ranch. I'm not going anywhere until He gives me direction. I know everything is possible through Christ who strengthens me!

—Brian Tappe

*Brian Tappe serves as the Assistant Cook at Set Free Men's Ranch in Phelan*

