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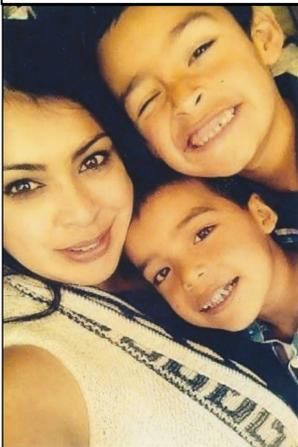
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Mirtha's Story



My name is Mirtha and I am from Nipomo, California. Before coming to Captive Hearts, I had been raised Catholic and knew God from attending church with my parents.

My biological father has never been in my life and in 2008, I had the first of my two sons, Jordan and then Junior and had the family

I had always wanted.

My sons' father and I used drugs and alcohol heavily and lived a lifestyle of partying every weekend. I always had a job, but drinking and using always came first, and I would end up calling in late or missing work. I usually ended up losing the job and had to look for another one.

This type of living lasted for about two years. It slowed after an incident one night. I'd been drinking and three people jumped me and, during the fight, I was sliced through my arm. An ambulance came for me and I was losing so much blood they said if the ambulance had come five minutes later, I could have died.

My parents were at the point where they would no longer help me until I started to get help, but I wasn't ready yet. I ended up staying with people who used meth since my family wouldn't come pick me up. I stayed with them several months before

I came to the realization that this was not the life I wanted to live. I didn't want to be this kind of daughter or mother.

I found another job and stopped the meth but the alcoholism quickly escalated to more than ever before.

I lived with my boys from hotels to hotels and I eventually got us a place to live but quickly lost it after losing another job. Having nowhere to live, this drove me to drink more. I soon lost my boys, and they were ordered to live with their dad, which was a safe place for them.

I asked God to take me the right direction and in attending Drug & Alcohol Services, I heard about Captive Hearts. And when I learned it was a program that was revolved around God, I knew I wanted to go there.

Since being here, I feel the closest to God that I've ever been. I feel my head is finally clear and no longer foggy. I'm not as angry as I used to be and my family is talking to me more and treating me as an adult. I'm surrendered to God's will and His guiding in my life. It's because of Him that I have the good things in my life. I get to see my boys every week. I have new friends in my life who don't use but also love Jesus. Having people around who want to live their life for Him has been an amazing experience, and I'm just excited for the plans God has for my life and the woman He is shaping me to be.

—Mirtha

Our Homes

Our houses are full and prospering with ladies who are being healed and set free from their addictions and brokenness. There are not enough words to give appreciation to the staff who labor so faithfully in their dedication to these women.

Thank you, Cyd, LeeAnn, Sandra and Kayla!

New Life Women

New Life Women's Ministry blessed our ladies recently with a "Beautify Our Bedroom" with bedspreads and accessories project. Our love goes out to those who give so freely in our community. The women in our homes are so grateful for this love in action!. Thank you to everyone who participated in this endeavor!

“From My Heart to Yours”

Often I minister to our ladies and others in our area by breaking soul ties in their lives. A soul tie is affiliated with your mind, emotions and actions. Many of us can't walk a full, free walk of freedom because we have shattered emotions—our mind is tormented and we make wrong choices. We feel that this is a very important step to their healing from alcohol and drug addiction. The scene is set in a very intimate place as deep hurts are expressed. Taking the steps that God has shown me, we break every tie that is connected to an unhealthy person and relationship and deep hurts that hold one in bondage. The second session is “Shutting the Doors to Witchcraft Control.” I cannot emphasize enough the freedom that comes from these two sessions.

Recently, the Lord spoke to my heart to put this course into a book form, so I have begun to write again. I don't know how long it will take me, but I am in obedience as I feel anyone who battles within, needs ties broken. Countless people, men and women alike, have come to my house or office over the past few years and are still walking in the freedom they received.

Please contact me if you want to schedule an appointment. Pray for me as I put this book together so that many can be set free from the bondages that hold them captive. I am aware every day that “*Where there is no vision, the people perish*” (Proverbs 29:18). That means where there is no dream, excitement, revelation, no sense of our created purpose—we perish. You and I are made for so much more. Let's dream and see what God will do! —Chaplain Judy

Second Chances



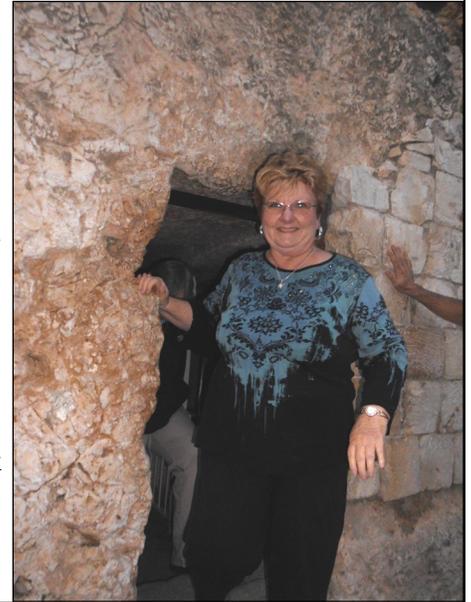
We are seriously looking for a larger building to expand our Second Chances resale store as we are bursting at the seams. Preferably, we would like to combine

both our administrative Captive Hearts offices and the store into one building. We are praying and want to God to lead this transaction.

We have 4-hour shifts per week available if you are interested in a great place to minister. We have exceptional ladies who give of their time so freely just to come together and lift each other up while serving in our store. Jeannie, our store manager, is a phenomenal person who you will want to meet. Stop by and chat.

He is Alive!

Three years ago, I was blessed to be able to visit Israel. I must tell you that the highlight of the entire trip was standing in the tomb where Jesus was buried and was raised from the grave. This time of the year reiterates even more strongly, **He is alive!** I was there—the tomb was empty! Celebrate Easter this year knowing that because of His death and resurrection, we can live, because He is alive, and He is coming back for us!



Happy Easter!

Seeds & Needs

I love this time of the year, and on March 20th, was the first day of Spring. A time of new beginnings. Let's plant so that our harvest will be plentiful.

- ◇ Consider planting into our scholarship account so that someone who has no funds can come into our homes.
- ◇ Collecting good Christian books to take into the jail and send to inmates.
- ◇ Mentors needed for the ladies (call Cyd or LeeAnn at Captive Hearts office—481-4500).
- ◇ We need a grant writer.
- ◇ Someone who is tech savvy to take over and redevelop and manage our website.
- ◇ Are you interested in advertising Captive Hearts or Second Chances??? We are looking for a volunteer who would like to be a Public Relations person in the community for us. That would entail arranging speaking engagements, interviews, outings, seminars, conferences, etc. for our ladies as well as Chaplain Judy.
- ◇ Someone to donate and install a sensor light at our transitional home for safety.