



U-Turn For Christ New Jersey

Freedom from Addiction through Christ



U-Turn For Christ New Jersey Men's Ranch

"Give em' Jesus, bud!" On Sunday mornings I often send that short text to a few of my pastor friends who will be teaching later that day. Some of the replies I get back are, "Nothing but!" or "That's the plan!" Ministry can be a lonely place and I love to encourage them not to grow weary. But recently I've been thinking how important it is for ALL of us to, "give em' Jesus!" Not just those of us who are pastors, and not just on Sunday mornings. Every Christian, every day, has opportunities to reflect the love of Christ to those around us. We can all "give em' Jesus" everywhere we go!

At our Thursday evening study recently, one of the men confessed that he felt uncomfortable sharing Jesus with others because of his lack of Scripture knowledge. I told him two things. 1) You will learn the Word of God as you study it daily, and 2) There's more than one way to share Jesus with those around us. We do it by our words, absolutely, but we also do it by our deeds. As we live by faith, His righteousness is revealed. Romans 1:16-17 says,

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Christianity goes deeper than knowledge; it is a change of heart – a U-Turn for Christ! It's not how we talk that matters most, it's how we walk! When we begin to live a life that is sold out for Jesus Christ, we will begin "giving em' Jesus" and they will want to know more.

I always tell the men who come to U-Turn for Christ NJ that if they are willing to commit their lives to the gospel of Jesus Christ while they are here, they will see the power of God at work in them, and so will their family and friends. That is the best way to "give em' Jesus!" Nothing speaks louder in our world than a transformed life. It is heard and seen by all who know us. Every personal relationship we have will be changed and when they ask what made the difference we can "**give em' Jesus.**" So wherever you are today my friend let me encourage you to "give em' Jesus bud!"

God Bless,
Pastor Kevin

Pastor's Heart

As the summer begins to wind down, we covet your prayers more each day. Daily, we labor in this ministry to reclaim a generation from the bonds of addiction. Please pray that:

**"We would not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not loose heart."
— Galatians 6:9**

Please also pray for the men in the discipleship program to finish strong so they will be prepared to go back into the world with a testimony of all that HE has done in their lives.

Pray for the gospel to continue going forth in our area. We have been blessed to come alongside many solid local churches whose pastors and leaders have taken the time to pour into the men. We are so grateful for them. Please pray the Lord continues to use these men and grow their fellowships.

Pray also for those in need of help and please let us know if we can help a family member or friend who is struggling. That is why we are here!

www.uturn4christnj.com



Pastor Kevin

EJ Smith - Testimony



As a young boy growing up on Long Island, baseball was my god. My love for the game opened many doors for me including a baseball scholarship to Virginia Tech. While at Virginia Tech, I started drinking and getting into trouble. I wound up transferring to another school, and eventually transferred to four different colleges. But, I blew every chance I had to make a fresh start.

A back injury got me sidelined from baseball for six months. It is during that time that I developed an addiction to painkillers and entered my first rehab. I spent the next two to three years in and out of different rehabs, nothing worked for very long.

Finally, I managed to stay clean for almost two years, but I was still totally out of control. Even though drugs were not an issue during that time, I was involved in every other kind of sin imaginable. And of course, I eventually began doing drugs again. Everything I tried ended in destruction. That is when I came into U-Turn for Christ NJ.

When I came into U-Turn in October 2014, I was not a believer and my plan was to stay for six days—just long enough to get my next check. But during that first week my life changed. I heard the gospel and asked the Lord to come into my life, and I never left!

I have since completed first and second phase and stayed for an additional six months of leadership training. I began serving around the house and at Cornerstone Calvary Chapel. I took a few classes at Northeast Biblical Institute and this year I completed the four-month Patmos Reality Discipleship program in California. When I returned, I came back to the U-Turn discipleship home and am serving as a second phase leader. I feel the Lord has placed a call on my heart for ministry and given me a love to study and teach His Word.

As I look back over the course of my life, I can't express how thankful I am for this program. Everything else I tried failed, but coming here made all the difference. It allowed me to make a U-Turn for Christ!

In a world filled with hopelessness, I thank God for a place where addicts can hear about the hope that is available in Jesus, and be encouraged to let Him begin a work of restoration in their lives.

"He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it"
— 1 Thessalonians 5:24

Ways U Can Get Involved

If you would like to come alongside this ministry there are three important ways you can help.

First and foremost we ask that you would **pray** for the lives of the men we are ministering to, and for their families. PRAYER CHANGES THINGS!

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you" - John 7:7

Another way you can help is through **financial support**. U-Turn for Christ is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. We receive no outside funding and rely totally on donations. If you'd like to support us financially, you can donate safely online at www.uturn4ChristNJ.com or send a check to: U-Turn for Christ NJ, PO Box 286, Allenhurst, NJ 07711.

"The generous soul will be made rich" - Proverbs 11:25

Finally, **let us help you!** If we can come alongside you or someone you love who is struggling with addiction, **please call us**. We are here to offer the help and hope that is found in Jesus Christ. That is what we do!

"Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted" - Galatians 6:1

Praise & Prayer

Praise Reports

- JC restored to wife and child, new fresh start based on Jesus.
- Abundant food donations, men used extras to minister to a Haitian community.
- New air conditioning unit.
- ALL who have recently graduated and are working.
- Provisions for July's bills.

Prayer Requests

- Judge finds favor with JC's restitution
- J's recovery from surgery
- Healthy pregnancy for S's wife
- Comfort for EJ with loss of grandmother & health for his mom.
- Van for the ministry
- Provisions for this month's bills

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