



U-Turn For Christ New Jersey



U-Turn For Christ New Jersey Men's Ranch

Ministry Update – February 2016

The ministry lost a great friend in February. He was with us from the beginning. Every man who came through the front door knew him as, "Chaplain Kenny." The men gave him that honorary title because of his big heart towards them.

Early in the ministry, Kenny would drive around in his red pick up truck collecting scrap metal. He would cash it in and use the proceeds to cook a huge feast for the men before our weekly Bible study. I am not talking burgers and dogs (which would have been just fine). I am talking Hawaiian night, Mexican night. We even had our own U-Turn Pig Roasts!

Kenny also played a big part in the restoration process. Although he never had a struggle with drugs or alcohol, he understood the destruction of sin and the power of Christ to redeem anyone who turns to Him. He was drawn to the work of U-Turn by his desire to share the hope he had in Christ with those who were hopeless.

He would always ask me how the "new guy" was doing. He would pray for the men and befriend them. He would counsel them and follow up with them after they graduated. When he heard of a man falling back into addiction, or dying, it broke his heart. Towards the end of his life, Kenny's illness kept him away from the weekly study he loved. But we would occasionally gather the men around the table before dinner and call "Chaplain Kenny" so he could pray over the food.

Kenny was a great example of a man who took whatever he had in his hands and used it for God's glory. As a pastor, it was an encouragement to have such a faithful servant by my side. I will miss his godly example, friendship, and his heart for the guys. And I will always remember him driving down the road with every form of metal hanging out of his little red pick up!

God Bless,
Pastor Kevin



Chaplain Kenny

Pastor's Heart

In Matthew 25:31-40, Jesus used a parable to teach his disciples that ministering to the "least of these" is actually ministering to Him. That is my desire for this ministry. I see every man as an investment in God's kingdom, and I never want to turn anyone away who is genuinely seeking change.

One of the greatest challenges however, is discerning between those who are serious, and those who are only going through the motions to get out of trouble. With limitations on both space and resources, I need to know God's mind for decisions like these, every day. I am grateful for the men God has brought alongside to help run this ministry. Men like Elisha, who oversees the daily operations and is always praying for God's direction, those like Kenny and others, who volunteer both time and resources.

As we share the load together we find God's heart, and as a result lives are being changed.

"Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."
– Matthew 25:40



Pastor Kevin