



August 1, 2012

Dear Friends,

Two months ago a young lady named Sarah arrived on Our Father's Farm. She was so thin that I was afraid to hug her lest I break something. It was obvious she had not taken good care of herself and yet there was something in her big blue eyes that drew me. She genuinely smiled at everyone she met and was very kind to all. But when she thought no one was looking she would withdraw into another place, a place we couldn't go and couldn't fully understand.

About a week after her arrival, Sarah shared parts of her story with us. For the past 5½ years she had used heroin to escape reality by disappearing into the world of drugs. Approximately 3 months ago, she looked into the eyes of her father, mother and sister and saw the depth of the pain her addiction had caused them. She weakly asked for help. Her sister suggested she come to Harvest Home. Three days later she was on a plane. The evening she arrived, the Lord supernaturally visited Sarah as she lay in her bed. He breathed His breath into her lungs and miraculously delivered her from her heroin addiction!!! From that moment, she did not have one symptom of withdrawal. She told me that one of the main reasons heroin addicts don't even try to quit is because they all know about the horrors of withdrawal and that was something she never wanted to experience. And thanks to the power of our risen Lord who overcame sin and its effects, Sarah didn't have to go through the withdrawal!

Sarah enrolled in our July healing intensive (our 30 day intense immersion into the heart of God). In the first week, she had another personal encounter with Yeshua (Jesus) and then surrendered her life to Him. It was truly beautiful to watch her "new birth". This is month three of Sarah's new life and she continues to grow more in love with the One who saved, delivered and is restoring her. She has remained on the farm to receive deeper healing and mentoring. She astonishes us with her amazing gift with words/writing and her beautiful heart for God and for people. Sarah has great compassion for others like she was and has a desire to one day go back on the streets and share the good news that Yeshua is alive and is able to save anyone who will give Him a chance.

Sarah would like to share with you a bit of her journey in her own words:

I was in a constant state of being partially filled. One foot in and one foot out. Never really reflecting and never really receiving the beginning or the end of my life's story. Always reminiscing the in-between perception of this life, never allowing myself feel truly empty or thoroughly full.

Since the age of fourteen, I voided the past and masked the future, keeping myself in the present moment with drugs. When I turned eighteen I thought I had found the cure to my infectious persecuted path. I hit the main vein to my soul with a false sunshine, a false filter, a false potion of love called heroin.

For five and a half years this battle raged within and I found myself standing at the forefront of dead man's land. It was at this moment that I saw in my father's eyes, my mother's eyes and my sister's eyes a pain I had never truly seen before—a look of profound desperation to save a soul-less, ninety-one pound, twenty-three year old girl from death. I never understood a pain greater than death until I saw it through my family's eyes, the people I call home. It was at this moment I became dissipated, bleached out and sun-dried, the revealing of my true reflection and the suffering I put upon myself and others.

My sister, who I can now honor as my best friend, sat next to me and offering me hope. She said, "What about Harvest Home?" Her eyes were desperate and yet so consumed with love that they pierced my soul.

I replied, covered in a shield of defense, "Sure. Send me away to a farm in the middle of nowhere to be on lockdown with those people! It's not like I can jump on a horse, like John Wayne and

pony on out of there anyway." And then there was silence. It was so silent that for the first time I could hear the whisper of my heart saying, "It's your time, Sarah. Break the word 'no-where' into two parts and what do you get? NOW-HERE."

Something inside me got stirred up. It was that word, 'no where' that had sucked me into my all too familiar ways of staying in the present moment. I was now in the dark, completely emptied and out of fuel, battered and bruised and drained from my years of self-destruction. On my knees and crying out to no one because all was lost, all was dead and all was numb. I had nothing left. Not even enough to feed me false hope, the promise of getting clean, the promise that sold out to pride so many times before, securing itself to the tip of my tongue and within the midst of this moment I found myself murmuring, "Yes".

Next thing I knew I was on a plane to Missouri, anxiety and fear pulling at my heartstrings, realizing my only exit was to land. A beautiful woman escorted me from the airport to the farm because we all knew I would have run if given the opportunity.

Stepping onto the farm in a staggering motion, face aged by misery and shoulders hunched over by the weight of humility, I met Danny and Rhonda. They were two of the most full of love and full of life people I have ever met in my life, a fullness that I so desperately craved and cried out for. It was through them and the invisible godly overflow of the Spirit-stream that lured me in, that soaked me, clothed me and kept me safe. A stream of fullness that I had never felt before until that day here on the farm. It was the needle of faith and love that sewed in and intertwined the patchwork of the heart, God's heart, a heart that was all too consuming and magnetic, stemming from the community here. It had taken its place and rooted, molded, grew and transformed everyone at Harvest Home and now it was given to me. I was given the eternal gift. The gift of a tree called Life. And I said, "Yes".

*Yours Truly,
Sarah*

A few days ago, Sarah shared her story with a group of people. She told them that she had finally found what she had been searching for. She said, "I've tried every drug known to man trying to find something that I thought was the next highest high. I finally found it. What I didn't know was that I was searching for God." Sarah ended her testimony by smiling broadly, her eyes filled with light and saying, "Now I can proudly say that I'm in love with Yeshua!"

Oh happy day!

Danny and I thank you for helping to make it possible for girls and women like Sarah to find the help they so desperately need. There is no greater gift than the gift of life and love. Faith, hope and love but the greatest of these is love! May the Lord bless you and cause His face to shine upon you and give you peace.

For His Glory,
Danny and Rhonda

If you or someone you know is interested in learning how to help others know God in a deep, personal way that brings healing and lasting joy, please join us for the next Encountering God training seminars on Our Father's Farm. To register visit our website: www.harvesthome.org This is our last training for the year. Register early because we close registration at 65. (for more information contact Bev at: bev@harvesthome.org)

SEPT Encountering God Training:

PART 1 ENCOUNTERING GOD.....Fri and Sat, Sept 14 & 15...9AM TO 5 PM

PART 2: TREE OF LIFE.....Fri and Sat, Sept 21 & 22... 9 AM TO 5 PM

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