

*Durham Rescue Mission  
Fall Victory Graduation  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2012*



2012

*Congratulations Victory Graduates!*

*You truly are our joy and crown. Graduating from the Victory Program is a tremendous accomplishment! Over one year of your life has been dedicated to learning biblical principles, educational advancement, job training and placement, and so much more. Gail and I are so proud of you for reaching this incredible milestone.*

*Please remember that although you have completed the Victory Program, true Victory is a life-long journey. What you have learned at the Durham Rescue Mission is only the beginning. Our prayer is that you will continue in this journey and allow Christ to be your guide and companion...*

*II Timothy 3:14 "But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned."*

*Your success is what motivates us each and every day. We are so thankful for all of you.*

*May God continue to bless you,*

*Ernie Mills*

*Dr. Ernie Mills*



*Congratulations*





*Congratulations, Victory Graduates!*

*It has been quite a journey from the moment you came through the gates of the Durham Rescue Mission to your walk down the aisle today. We, the staff, are proud of the way you have "stayed the course" and finished this phase of your race.*

*We pray you understand that the steps you take now will have an impact on the rest of your life and encourage you to consider all of your options prayerfully. The biblical lessons you've learned must be applied to all aspects of your life from this day forward. Whether you choose to continue your education or to go straight to work is a major life decision. You will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers as you embark on the next phase of your life.*

*Sincerely,  
Mrs. Cooper*





## *Sarah Blankenship*

*Before coming to the Durham Rescue Mission I was lost and broken. Since then I am now attending Durham Technical Community College where I am studying business administration and am employed as an apprentice for the Durham Rescue Mission. Thanks to the Mission my son and I now have a future.*



## *Shelia Joyce*

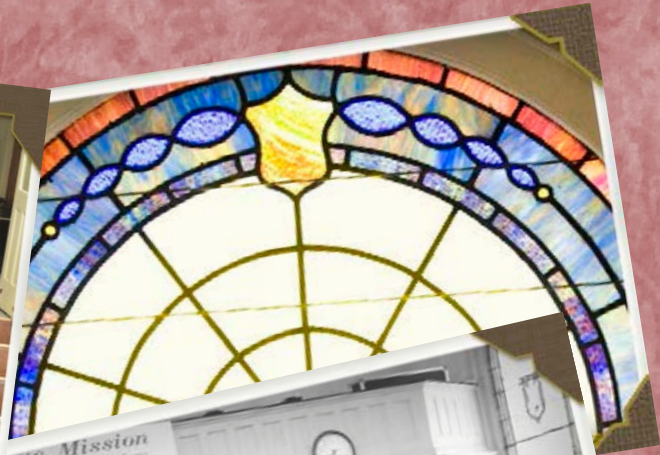
*I came to Good Samaritan Inn because of a problem with alcohol. It was effecting those around me and making me not care about anything. I knew deep down that God would forgive me if I asked but it was easier to convince myself that I was unworthy. I am thankful for a God of second chances and for the Durham Rescue Mission, that "lends a helping hand". I am also thankful for full time employment at the Fire Marshall's Office of Durham. Thank you Dr. and Mrs. Mills for listening to God and opening the Mission.*



## *Vet Deese*

*When I came to the mission in 2009 I envisioned a large room with cots. When I entered the gates and saw the beautiful garden at the Good Samaritan Inn I felt peace for the first time. I gave my life to Christ only a few years before coming to the mission. When I got here I was a guilt filled, carnal Christian. As my time went on at the mission I joined the Victory Program. Yes I excelled in my classes, passed every test and module, still in many ways I continued to live for what "I" wanted, not for God. It took three times for me to leave and come back to the mission to realize "God is trying to show me something." This last time in 2011 I entered the Victory Program once again. I learned what the real you means, putting Jesus first, serving others then yourself last. I wanted nothing more than to have a real relationship with my Lord. God has been pretty amazing in my life. He's blessed me with my husband. He has filled my heart with His love, and allowed me to shower that love on our children as acting Director of Good Samaritan Inn Day care. He has allowed me to graduate (finally) along with brothers and sisters in Christ. I am so grateful to God, the mission, and staff. Their love, support, and encouragement have been such a blessing in my life.*





*Dear Graduates,*

*It is my pleasure to congratulate you on this great accomplishment. It was no simple task to finish this phase of your life. For many of you the amount of studying you have completed was daunting and seemingly insurmountable. But you have completed it. You have finished what you started. You have shown yourselves to be worthy of honor today. It is my prayer for you that you would continue to examine yourselves as you walk in the light of God's truth long after you leave this place (1 John 1:5-9).*

*As you consider your future service to the Lord, remember that God calls every Christian man to 2 purposes in life: 1) Religious purpose and 2) Vocational purpose. Remember that Adam ruined his vocational purpose after he failed in his religious purpose. God has a purpose for your life. Don't neglect the things of the Lord. Build the rest of your life on God's purpose for your existence.*

*Sincerely,  
Rev D. Robert Tart*







## *Tyrone Burris II*

*I came to Durham to look for employment and send money home to my family, but the Lord had a greater purpose for me. God and the Durham Rescue Mission have equipped me now better than ever before. I am prepared to accomplish the task God has set before me: to provide, to protect, to nurture, and to lead my family straight in the way of the Lord.*



## *James Maxwell*

*During my time at the Mission I've learned several things and realized the benefits of having God in my life. I look forward to every day now, instead of dreading getting out of bed. This is the first thing in my forty-seven years of being on earth that I voluntarily started and completed. This is a very proud moment for me.*



## *Reginald Parker*

*My life before I came to the Durham Rescue Mission was ruined; I became a restless chaser of my own lost life in sin. Today I have "Blessed Assurance" that God through his spirit will guide and strengthen me through my journey in life. I thank the Lord for the Durham Rescue Mission and its staff for helping me and providing a place of refuge where an old wretch like me can focus on God and get my life in order. I am a living witness that there is Victory in Jesus!*



## *Benjamin Radford*

*Honorable mention.*



## *John Rush*

*I am without excuse now and pledge to walk in the light and be a good example to the guys that are just getting here and to the ones that are still getting beaten up by the world and have no idea that they are going to come through these gates.*



## *Thomas West*

*Before coming to the Durham Rescue Mission my life was headed for destruction. After finishing the Victory Program my life has been changed and I'm different now. I am an apprentice in the Maintenance department and have received a bronze certificate in my CRC training at Durham Tech.*





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