

Contagious!

In the fifth chapter of Mark Jesus healed a man of leprosy. Verse 15 tells us that “so much the more went there a fame abroad of Him, and great multitudes came together to hear and to be healed by Him of their infirmities.” In Matthew chapter 9 after two blind men were healed by Jesus touch “they went out and spread abroad His fame in all that land.” Good news is contagious, and undeniable evidence makes it spread like crazy. The leper didn’t have to tell everyone he was healed...it was obvious! The blind guys didn’t have much trouble convincing folks that they weren’t the same...it was easy to see! One of my favorite things to see is when a man graduates from Straight Street Restoration Center and his changed life becomes contagious. When the evidence is undeniable, people want to know more. Just today I watched as one of our graduates (for the third time) brought in a new resident who watched his life long enough to say, “I want what you’ve got!” It’s not Straight Street that’s healing these guys.... it’s Jesus, but we sure are thankful that He has chosen to prepare and use this place to bring hope and deliverance. Our focus is not on advertising, our focus is on pouring into the lives God sends us so they become the billboards! What better way to advertise could there possibly be than changed lives?! We have watched over the last several years multiple “generations” of healing through the ministry here at Damascus Home as Jesus uses one changed life to draw another broken life in. Praise God!! At the time of this writing our entire planet is responding to the fear of the possible spread of the Corona virus “COVID-19.” I have noted in the last few days that the biggest recommendation to help contain the spread of this virus is to avoid exposure to those affected. Our goal is to do the exact opposite with the Good News we have been given about the freedom and deliverance available through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit has diagnosed you as “Delivered.” That makes you a carrier, so.... GO TOUCH EVERYONE YOU CAN....in Jesus Name, Pastor Todd.



Damascus Home Resale Store

2604 New Boston Road

Texarkana, Texas

903-794-7875

Find the Resale Store on
Facebook:

@DamascusHomeResaleStore

Ways to Donate to Damascus Home Ministries

Did you know that there are many ways to support Damascus Home of Redwater? Maybe you don’t have time to take a clothing donation to our thrift store, or live out of town, or no longer utilize paper checks but would gladly support them through your shopping or credit card use. If so, this article is for you!

Scheduled Monthly Support - The best and easiest way to give: Like most non-profits, Damascus Home can only budget on support they receive on a regular basis. Whether it is \$10 monthly or \$1000 monthly, regular support tells us what support we can count on (and therefore budget from).

To set up monthly support: Damascus Ministry utilizes Network153.net to facilitate on-line giving. Network153 is a ministry support clearinghouse. Use this link <https://network153.net/product/usa-damascus-home-of-redwater-usa013/> to go directly to our support window. Scroll to the bottom and choose your donation amount and your donation frequency (choose monthly) and select “Add to cart”. Then click the “PayPal” button. **NOTE: You do not need a PayPal account to set up your transaction.** All you need is a credit or debit card. Ignore the Login information and scroll down to the “Pay with Credit Card” button. You will then be directed to a secure site where you provide your card information just like you would any online transaction. It will draft from your account on or about the 4th of every month.

Quarterly Support – Newsletter: Every newsletter you receive contains an envelope stamped with our return address. Send it back with a check enclosed. Newsletters are distributed quarterly. If you return a check at each distribution, you are a quarterly supporter!

One Time Donation – We appreciate every dollar: You may also donate to our ministry through our website www.damascushome.org. Click the “Donate” button and you will be directed to PayPal for a one-time donation. The PayPal instructions above apply. Visit us often and donate “early and often.”

Amazon.com/Smile – Put your Amazon dollars to work: AmazonSmile Program is a simple way for you to support Damascus Home of Redwater every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. To date, over \$169,850,767 have been donated to registered organizations. In addition to DHR, there are over one million organizations from which to choose.

To shop at *AmazonSmile* simply go to www.smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to www.smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at *AmazonSmile*. Tens of millions of products on *AmazonSmile* are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages. Recurring Subscribe-and-Save purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible. Use your existing Amazon.com account on *Amazon.com* and *AmazonSmile*. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

On your first visit to www.smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. *AmazonSmile* will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at www.smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. *AmazonSmile* will occasionally contact you about donation amounts disbursed to your chosen charity or about the program.

BuyGive.com: Purchase Items you normally use – ALL profits go to Damascus Home of Redwater: BuyGive.com is AmazonSmile on steroids! When you purchase products on BuyGive, 100% of the profits are given to the ministry campaign of your choice. Shipping is free for orders over \$35. All other orders receive the standard \$9.95 shipping cost. You pay through PayPal (no PayPal account required) with a credit or debit card.

To shop at BuyGive, type www.buygive.com in your web browser search bar and click on the “Buy” tab at the top of the page. Locate your items and add to shopping cart. In your shopping cart, your order summary will be displayed. Under the order summary is where you type in your “Give” campaign code. Damascus Home of Redwater Campaign Code is **USA013**.

After you have completed your shopping and verified items in your cart, click “Proceed to Checkout.” At Checkout, provide Billing Address, Shipping Address (if different) and login information (if you choose to create an account). Your order summary will be displayed at the bottom with an opportunity to edit purchases. Then click “Place Order” at the bottom of the page. You will be directed to PayPal to finalize purchase (no PayPal account needed).

Find a means of support that works for you and make it a habit to support Damascus Home of Redwater/Straight Street/Damascus Thrift Store.

A Journey down “The Street!”

Jesus taught this simple but complex statement, “... Deny self...!” With this command in mind, you may have found yourself in a situation where you almost felt like giving up. You attempted everything in your ability to improve the situation, but no matter how hard you tried, it only seemed to get worse. You felt like you were at “the end of your rope.” Below are some encouraging words I was taught from a prominent Christian Counselor, Bob George.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.
2 Cor. 4:7 (NKJ)

I've heard people tell me many times during counseling, "I'm almost at the end of my rope!" My response is, "Put some grease on that thing so you can get to the end of it!"

Often, we find ourselves in troublesome relationships with other people. It may be a boss who's not a Christian, an overbearing in-law, or a child who's a bit too active. Whatever the circumstance, our patience runs thin and we begin to get angry and bitter. We usually respond with, "Lord, just give me the strength to endure this!" What we need to understand is that God doesn't want to help us with our patience or ability. He sent His Son so we could die to ourselves and trust His ability.

You can hold on to your own intellectual understanding or willpower. Sooner or later, given the right circumstances, these things are going to give out. You can either "let go of your rope" and trust Christ to work in and through you in the midst of the situation or continue to hold on to your own resources, therefore, truly never experiencing true joy and freedom found in Jesus.

Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 12:10: "I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong." In the midst of our day-to-day hardships and struggles, we can experience the peace and the strength that can come only from Christ.

Are you still hanging on to your rope? Are you still clinging to your own understanding and ability? If so, let go and allow the Lord to take control of your circumstances. That's why He sent His Son, who was without sin, to die in our place. Christ took the penalty for our sin, was raised from the dead, and sent the Holy Spirit to live His life through us. He's the only one who can live the Christian life.

The Lord longs for us is to trust Him, surrender and let go and let Him guide and direct us. At **Straight Street**, many a man has found the serenity to humble themselves and find this security and trust in Jesus.

Sharing His love, one to another,

~Lee Woods

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

Graduate Testimony-Daisa Lehrman McWilliams

My life verse is Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

It has been a long, long, long road. I have shut my family out for years. I have burned through relationships. My addiction started when I was eight years old. I started doing hard drugs when I was 14 and I pushed everybody that loved me away. Every time someone gave me a chance or wanted to, I blew the opportunity. In November of 2013 my 1yr old son was taken from me by his father and he and my son disappeared. On November 24th. I attempted suicide, but the Lord saved me from that. I was angry, I was sad, I was broken, I didn't think there was any way out. I had given up on the Lord and I thought He had given up on me. I was surprised when I woke up in a hospital bed. I said to myself, "Well I am still here. Now what?" They offered me help at the hospital and that is how I came to the Damascus Women's Center. One night at the church alter I asked the Lord to please show me why I was still here. I had strayed away from my family; I didn't know my purpose and I didn't understand why I didn't die.

The next day a volunteer (Mrs. Jill), approached me and she said, "Daisa, I have something to tell you. I have known this for a couple of weeks, but I didn't feel like the time was right until now, to tell you." Mrs. Jill knew nothing about my past. She didn't know anything about my suicide attempt or anything I was thinking. She said, "I know who saved your life." I had prayed about "that day." I didn't know what transpired the day I survived my suicide attempt. It was a constant prayer before God. Now she was standing there referring to “that day.”

I thought I had planned it out perfectly. I had posted on Facebook, "You know I wish things could have turned out differently." I didn't think that comment was going to send up any red flags to anybody. I was supposed to be at work. Everyone at home thought I was at work and everyone at work thought I was at home. I was working a split shift that day and I thought it was the perfect plan. But someone *did* notice. Emily is a girl I went to high school with and she saw that post. I hadn't seen Emily for a few years. I sincerely believe the Lord let her know something was wrong with me. He *urged* Emily to help me.

She started calling. Emily didn't give up. She called my work. She called mutual friends that we had. She called anybody and everybody she could think of. Everyone Emily spoke to responded something like, ‘She will be OK or ‘She will be fine.’ Emily wasn't convinced. She was very persistent and wouldn't give up until someone actually went to my apartment. Because she didn't live in my town, she finally convinced the police to make a concerned welfare call at my apartment.

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I had locked all my doors and windows. I didn't want anybody to find me. I was done. I was miserable. I was done with life. Because of Emily, they found me. When they reached me I was dying. They had to resuscitate me, and I was taken by ambulance to the hospital.

So, while I was a resident of Damascus Women's Center, I was baptized. The volunteer Mrs. Jill took a picture of my baptism and put my first name under the photo. She was sharing at work, showing what God had done in "this resident Daisa." Another co-worker recognized the name. She said, "I know that name!" The co-worker asked if she could borrow the picture for a moment because she wanted to show it to another co-worker. That co-worker happened to be my "Emily." The last thing Emily heard about me was that I was on my way to the hospital and they didn't know if I would be okay.

Over two months later, she is handed a photo of me being baptized. When I later spoke to Emily, she said, I broke down and praised God right there in the office." Emily has burdens of her own she is facing and struggling with. I ask that everybody pray for her. I feel like the Lord has laid it upon me to help Emily. I asked for a purpose and I have received a purpose. I firmly believe that I am going to help other people in their struggles, in their loss and in their darkness, as God allows. I'm going to get there, and I am so excited. I have never been this happy in my life, ever.

Update: An exit plan was set up with Daisa's father and stepmother upon leaving the Damascus Women's Center. She would live with them and start a new life. Within a few weeks, Daisa was able to take possession of her baby boy. She and her son lived in a safe environment in her parent's home and church. Also, shortly after Daisa completed her rehabilitation at the Damascus Women's Center she was able to reach out to Emily and help her. They are both beautiful examples of the love of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. All glory and honor go to the precious Lamb of God. Daisa is now married, over six years clean and sober, and she and her husband have a second child, a little girl, and they have just purchased their first home. They continue to serve and love the Lord and to help others. Daisa Lehrman McWilliams continues to remark how wonderful her life is and gives God the glory.



Daisa Lehrman
McWilliams

Mark your calendar:

Damascus Homecoming April 19, 2020

Help Needed:

Damascus Home Resale Store is seeking a qualified
Online Sales & Marketing Manager.

Apply in person at 2604 New Boston Road, Texarkana, Texas

Damascus Home of Redwater

P.O. Box 583

Redwater, Texas 75573



Damascus Home of Redwater
Campaign Code USA013



DAMASCUS HOME
DISCOVERING HOPE AND A PURPOSE

YOU HAVE A
Purpose

January/February/March 2020

ABOUT US

We provide quality care and services for men, women, and their families suffering from the crippling effects of addiction. As a non-medical treatment and recovery program, our vision is to empower men and women through a faith-based, 12 step recovery program. We provide extensive spiritual application and life skills to help them discover hope and God's purpose for their lives. Over two decades ago and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the organization of Damascus Home of Redwater, Inc. was established. Damascus Home Rehabilitation Center is a non-profit organization in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. This ministry for recovering adults has maintained uninterrupted status with the Texas Department of State Health Services as a "Faith-based Chemical Dependency Treatment Facility" (FB3152).

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THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF CHRIST: THE
IMPACT ONE SURRENDERED LIFE
CAN MAKE...

THE HOMECOMING HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO A
LATER DATE. LOOK FOR UPDATES ON FACEBOOK!

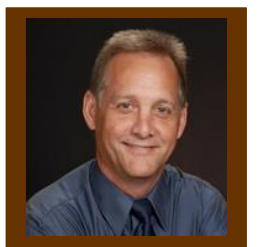
Please join us April 19, 2020 for the Damascus Home Ministries 8th Annual Homecoming. The Damascus Home ministry's event of the year is just right around the corner! We are celebrating 22 years of ministry and Jim Cooley's 25th year of salvation. Please save the date and plan to join us at FBC Redwater on April 19th. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and come and visit and mingle before the service begins. Sunday school will be at 9:30 a.m. and the service will begin at 10:45 a.m. Register for anniversary quilt, gun drawing and plan to stay for our fundraiser lunch right after the service.

This year's keynote speaker will be Steve Rice. Brother Rice was the Pastor at First Baptist Redwater prior to being called to FBC Sherman. We are excited to have him join us for this event!

Expect to enjoy a morning of worship, thanksgiving, and encouragement. Plan to sign up for our annual quilt drawing, buy tickets to our gun drawing later this year, take advantage of our photo ops, see some familiar faces and more. FBC Redwater will be preparing the lunch.

Decide today to attend and help us get the word out about the event. Stay tuned to our Facebook page for updates @DamascusHome StraightStreet.

You are loved and you are welcomed at FBC Redwater. Jesus is why and who we celebrate. Without you and your support, the Damascus Home of Redwater would not be here!



Brother Steve Rice

THE WORDS OF THE LORD ARE PURE WORDS,
LIKE SILVER TRIED IN A FURNACE OF EARTH,
PURIFIED SEVEN TIMES. PSALM 12:6