

AUGUST 2020

# The MISSION AT THE CROSS

PRODUCED & EDITED BY THE MIGHTY MEN OF THE MISSION



08 / 10 / 2019

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(Randy Dossett, Carlos Hidalgo & Mike Shirley)  
House Leader Director

## **Congratulations, Carlos Hidalgo, for completing the One Year Program at Mission At The Cross!**

*During his stay at MATC, Carlos has shown what a humble spirit in Christ can accomplish. For his vo-tech training and now employment, Carlos works at Hellfighters USA at the service counter, where customers can always count on a friendly word and a big smile. Carlos and Jody Blakeney, another MATC graduate, are the editors of the MATC newsletter.*

## **BY TAKING HEED**

*"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?..."* For eighteen years, this was the tormenting question; however, I just didn't realize this was the question I was longing to have answered. I also never even knew there was an answer to this question. How was a drug addicted young man who was so deep into sexual immorality going to cleanse his ways?

No matter who I tried to be, what I did or how I did it, the outcome was always failure and pain. Not only were the experiences of my drug addiction and the consequences of my lifestyle painful for me, but I also always hurt whoever I came into contact with. BUT God had the answer! He stepped in on August 15, 2019 and He brought a hope with Him that would change my life FOREVER!

*"...by taking heed thereto according to Thy word."* There it was, the rest of Psalm 119:9 and the answer my soul desired. When Hellfighter Padre shared this verse in morning devotion at The Mission on March 24, 2020, my understanding of my new Father, my new life and my new hope all started to make sense. Jesus Christ didn't seem far off anymore; I knew that my Heavenly Father had my best interest in mind and that the Holy Spirit would guide me out of darkness and make me into the man whom God Himself truly created me to be.

From then on, I realized I didn't have to be a product of my sin, nor did I have to live according to the past. Jesus Christ is a freedom I never knew existed and it is a freedom I wish for everyone to have. My ways are cleansed and my paths are clear. No more stumbling through the darkness, now I walk in His marvelous light. —Carlos David

## **"I'm So Proud of Carlos"**

*"I waited patiently for the Lord, and He inclined to me, and heard my cry." Psalm 40:1*

I can remember receiving a phone call a little over a year ago from a frightened, heart-broken mother. She said, "Mike, it's Carlos' mom. Carlos is in jail again, this time down in Florida." I thought, "Lord, Lord, it has been a while now since Carlos was home at MATC."

*"He brought me up also out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings!" Psalm 40:2*

The Lord opened the door again for Carlos to come back home to MATC. I watched as the Lord began to bring Carlos out of the pit he had gotten himself into. I watched as Carlos repented of the sins he had committed. He gave himself to the Lord, and as the drugs wore off and he began to eat and put on weight, the transformation started happening right before our eyes, Jesus—the Way Maker, the Promise Keeper! Once again, a miracle!

*"And He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise to our God, many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord." Psalm 40:3*

Carlos recently completed the twelve month program here at MATC, and, Lord, what a Joy it has been to watch as he has been renewed in Christ through the blood that was shed on the cross at Calvary!

Carlos, you go on with Jesus. Let the redeemed say so! —Mike Shirley (MATC Director)

**MATC is a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization - Checks can be made payable to: Mission At The Cross**

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*Thank You!*

*We are very blessed to have so many supporters of Mission At The Cross. For years, Marcia Clark and Cindy Dickerson have faithfully and selflessly contributed to every need of the Mission. They have donated everything from: clothes, hygiene products, food, bedding and cleaning supplies.*



*Thank You!*

*More importantly, they encourage every man that walks through the Mission doors. On behalf of all of us at Mission At The Cross we would like to extend a heartfelt **THANK YOU**, for showing the charity of Christ.*

*Congratulations*



We would like to congratulate Mission alumni TJ Boles (2018), Marc Herrington (2015), and Shane Trahan (2017) (pictured left, from left to right) for receiving their Certificate of Biblical Achievement from the Mississippi Baptist Bible Institute. To attain this certificate the guys must complete four semesters of biblical classes taught by Dr. Joseph Harris (pictured far left). Thank you, Bro. Joey, for your continued support of Mission At The Cross.

**Mission Needs:**

1. Coffee
2. Creamer
3. Men's Under shirts (LG-3X)
4. Men's Body Wash
5. Socks
6. Floss
7. Bleach

Thank you to everyone that met the needs of the Mission last month. The foam cups, deoderant, dryer sheets, three compartment trays, socks, a microwave etc. were truly a blessing to the men.



**Prayer Requests:**

1. Bob Kendrick
2. New to the Mission (Phillip Davis)
3. MATC Leadership
4. Carlos Graduated
5. James P. Graduates (Sep. 11)
6. Pastors
7. Ted Cates