



"For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace..."

ROMANS 8:6 NAS

Brad B. was in rehab and about 30 days sober when he attended his first I Care Outreach class.

"I was really depressed when I walked into that room," he recalls. I didn't want to be there and I wasn't too receptive." Until Pastor Rob got his attention.

"He explained that we were all in that class for a reason, that God was looking out for us and He wants us to succeed."

That day, Brad did a mock interview with an ICO volunteer who works at a major technology company. Quashing his initial anxiety, Brad rose to the challenge.

"The questions were in-depth and made you think," he says. In subsequent classes, he polished his resume and enjoyed presentations by bankers and other businesspeople.

"They handed out their business cards and said we could reach out to them. I gained a lot of knowledge about finances. It was really good."

Above all, Brad gained a more spiritual perspective in ICO classes.

"Pastor Rob opened each class with a Bible verse. One of his favorites is Romans 8:6 (see above). I learned that to experience that kind of peace and wholeness, you need to love God – it's not just about being sober," he explains. Today, Brad has a lot to celebrate.

"I can't believe how God is working all things new in my life, including my money and relationships," he says joyfully. "I'm tithing and trying to restore my relationship with Christ and I got my job back. I was able to hang onto my vehicle and my adult kids are slowly coming back into my life. I told them I was in rehab, going to meetings, joining a church and staying connected with sober people so they're giving me another chance.

"God is amazing and I'm so grateful for I Care Outreach!"





GOD AT WORK!

- In March, 25 men graduated from our winter ICO Life Practices classes held in Bridgeport and New Haven. This nine-week interactive learning class helps participants identify healthy relationship borders, understand responsibility, and develop skills in communication and conflict resolution.
- This month, ICO is offering a 12-week job readiness courses in Bridgeport and New Haven.
- In late Summer and early Fall we are offering in Bridgeport a daytime life practice class and an 11-week financial course for women.



Exciting News!

MORE SPACE – MORE MINISTRY!

In March, we signed the lease that will allow us to expand the size and functionality of our Bridgeport training facility! Renovations and painting are underway, and we will have access next month. The additional space, along with updated equipment and technology, will help us meet the growing demand for simultaneous classes. In addition, smaller rooms will allow for more classroom interaction and privacy, and we will have space to accommodate parents with small children – so important as we strive to serve more women participants.

We are overjoyed to see God fulfilling the vision for ICO ministry expansion that He gave us several years ago! Now we must trust Him to provide the additional funds that will be needed to cover the day-to-day expenses of this increased ministry. Please prayerfully consider whether you can make a special gift or increase your monthly giving to help us go forward.

I thank God for the generous grant that is paying for the expansion – and for faithful friends like you who help make ICO a reality. Through your financial and prayer support, God is transforming the lives of men and women in need and bringing hope in their communities. May the Lord bless you with joy and peace as you serve Him in this way!

Pastor Robert M. Turner

President and Educator



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