

Mission Statement

The purpose of my ministry is to illustrate to believers that it's biblical and necessary to look at the past, and only through recognizing it's relevancy can we be released to confess, grieve, and forgive, allowing Christ to bring about reconciliation, freedom and healing.

"THE PURPOSE"

Purpose is the course of action set forth in heart and mind. It's the determination and resolution to reach a goal or an end.

I've been an active participant for many years in Music Ministry. I've spent time performing in Churches, in Prisons, and on the Streets. I was exhausted and disillusioned as to the purpose for my ministry. I was spiritually and physically committed to accomplishing God's will, and I was more than willing to give my talents and gifts to Him. Through prayer and a little searching, the Lord has lead me to the Incubator Artist Development Company, and Artistic Creative Group. With their guidance and support, my purpose has become more defined. I'm now determined to reach my goals while giving my heart and mind to God.

With Incubators training, coaching, and support, my course of action has become clearer. I have become ever aware of the fact that there is more to a performance than a few words or some music.

"OF MY MINISTRY"

Ministry is the act of serving others in responsible partnership with God, partaking in the works He wishes to accomplish.

I had come to a point in my Music Ministry where I was uncertain of the future, and I was in need of some guidance. I didn't know what it was going to take to get to the next level, or to find a direction. With prayers, study, and Incubator's focus, I found direction and purpose for my ministry. A shocking, heart felt look at my past made me aware of the adverse effects the eternal past has had on me. Through grieving and dealing with the past, I have become free and open to growth. My testimony and musical ministry now have a direction, and I now feel confident that my ministry will serve others.

Owning up to my past has opened new doors for growth and healing. I want to share this with my audience, and encourage them to deal with their past issues so they can find freedom to growth through God's healing.

"TO ILLUSTRATE"

Illustrate means to illuminate, clarify, or to explain by means of visual art.

Christ often enlightened his audience minds with mental images. He used parables and simple stories

to teach religious lessons and values to his listeners. I'm confident that in sharing the events of my past, the way I found healing, and the Grace that was waiting, others will see the healing process available to them. I will shed light on the feelings we share about the past, and illuminate a new perspective for dealing with the past. God wants us to bring our past into the light, and be freed to love and to grow.

I will use my listeners minds eye to show them how past events affect them. I will make it clear that Grace is waiting, and there is no reason for caution. Through word and song I will give a new perspective to their hearts and minds.

"BELIEVERS"

A believer has faith, confidence, and trust in the works of Jesus Christ for salvation.

I believe in God, the creator of all things. I believe that God so loved the world, that He sent his Son to redeem us from our sins, and reconcile us to Himself. I believe that Christ was born of the Virgin Mary. I believe He lead a blameless life, and performed many miracles. I believe at age 33 He was captured though innocent, He was crucified for our sins, and in 3 days rose from the dead. Before going to sit at the right hand of God, He revealed Himself to the 500 people; I believe he shed His blood as atonement for our sins. I'm confident Christ will return again.

I will bring a new perspective and freshness to the message of forgiveness. I will bring confidence to my audience that Christ's atonement applies to our past. Christ died for all parts of us.

"IT'S BIBLICAL AND NECESSARY"

Necessary is defined as needed to exist, can't live without. My existence demands that I deal with the past, and it's effects on my feelings today.

I was sitting in my work truck on a drizzly, cloudy Wednesday afternoon. As I read through the book "12 Crazy Christian Beliefs", which Incubator suggested I read, something moved me. I felt anxious there was an old sadness inside me. The words triggered emotions like an old familiar smell. My past is part of my eternal, and I haven't dealt with it at all. All I had done was look

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at the childhood abuse and neglect, and say "Oh well", and shelve it. As I read on, I realized God wanted more from me. He wanted me to bring the past into the light, share it with Him and His church, and begin the healing process.

It's now my calling to show this truth to my audience, and all who's past still haunts them in the present. We must be freed from the past, and replace those feelings with Love through Grace.

"TO LOOK AT THE PAST"

To "Look At" means to turn ones attention too.

It was a beautiful cloudy day, and as so many days before, I was using my break time to do some reading. Sitting in my work truck under a large pine tree, I read through the book "Hiding from Love", it was suggested reading by Incubator Creative Group. Overwhelmed, I read on, the words seemed to speak to me. The light was now on. I was seeking love from people by overachieving in sports, education, music, trying to validate my existence. Instead of looking at the abuse, I pushed aside the past, and sought approval. Unfortunately this approach lacked intimacy and love. Not being loved for me, but for what I did. It wasn't until I looked at my past and dealt with it, did the healing process begin. I needed to eliminate the dark parts of my heart to make room for love and healing.

I'm convinced that Christ wishes to help all of us to love more openly and freely. I will help my audience to look at the past, and deal with it so that growth and healing can occur.

"ONLY THROUGH RECOGNIZING"

Recognizing is to know or identify from the past.

God doesn't see our lives in the past, present or future. He sees us as eternal beings. He sees how the past affects us today. We must look at and deal with our eternal past because it affects the present and hinders the healing process. A process available through God and His people. Because of a childhood full of neglect and abuse, I build strong walls around me to protect me from others getting to close or getting to know me. If people stayed at a distance, I wouldn't get hurt. There would be no intimacy, and friends that could hurt me, I felt safe. But my safety had a price, that price was loneliness and depression. I recognized I had a need. I needed to tear down my walls, and begin the healing process. I needed to become available to God, His love, and His grace.

I want to share with others the necessity to recognize and deal with the past. A past that can keep them from love, a past that can have a severe affect upon their lives today.

"IT'S RELEVANCY"

Relevancy means to be in relation to the matter at hand. The matter at hand is our present condition.

The relevancy of my past and the dealing with it has come home to me recently. For many years my wife has always dealt with our financial situation. She's

done a great job with our finances, bill paying, and budgeting. I was confused as to why I was always standoffish, or frightened by the thought of handling it myself. Through the many books and studying Incubator has suggested I do, it became clear to me, it was my past. I had conveniently, or purposely forgotten about the times my mother had used me to beg for money or had me go in and pay her overdue bills. As a child, this was overwhelming and frightening to me. Now aware of, and dealing with this issue, I feel a burden lifted off, and a new freedom to pursue healing and forgiveness.

Through my testimony and music, I will show the relevancy of dealing with the past. I will share how not dealing with past issues does affect the way we feel today, and the freedom that is available, a freedom to heal and love more fully.

"CAN BE RELEASED"

To be released is to be set free, or let go of.

I remember many nights I spent watching through my bedroom window for someone to come home. Every car that went by took my hopes with it. As I lay there watching the street lights, I felt foolish, alone, and angry. It felt like no one cared or worried about me, or how I was doing. It wasn't until I lifted my anger to God and His family that things began to change. The child in me still grieved and mourned over my past as I began to heal. Anger's hold began to loosen it's grip on me. It was only through owning up to my past, and dealing with it that I was able to build a new tomorrow. Letting go of my past anger gave me the freedom to live a life with more joy and acceptance, and set me free to heal.

I will convey to my audience the need to release issues of their past, and find freedom. A freedom that is attainable, and available through Christ. We must break the chains of the past to move forward to grace, joy, and healing that God wants to provide for all of us.

"TO CONFESS"

Confess is to make known ones sins. Confession or bringing sins into the light opens us up to the process of transformation.

It was a Monday, and I sat on a long couch in the hospice center with my sister. We were waiting for mother to pass. As I sat I became overwhelmed with guilt. My mother was dieing, and I was still angry towards her inside. There was childhood anger stored, but not forgotten. Feelings of shame overcame me as I confessed my thoughts to my sister. She said softly "I feel the same way too". There was a healing in the sharing, praying, and crying that day. The good news was I was happy the last few hours I spent with my mother before she passed. I was singing praise songs by her bedside prior to her passing. I was sad yet my

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guilt had lessened, and my heart was grateful thank God.

I will share the healing available through confession to my audience. I will convey the need to deal with the past in our lives today. We must bring the past into the light, out of the darkness, and transform it through confession.

"GRIEVE AND"

To grieve is to be sorrowful or to mourn. Through grieving we let go of things we are attached to.

I was tired and it had been a long night. Sometimes being a medic was very rewarding, but not this night. As I was driving my ambulance I received a call that my father had committed suicide. I was confused and overwhelmed. As a child growing up, we had a very limited relationship; we had just recently begun to work on our friendship. I felt like he had bailed on me again, like so many other times in my life. I felt abandoned. Slowly a depression came over me. I broke down and wept over the loss of a father figure, I mourned over a life never spent together. The irony was that out of my sadness and mourning, I began the healing process. Grieving opened up my heart, allowing love to come in. I could sense God's mercy upon me as I mourned and He comforted me. I was able to let go of the past through my grieving.

I will express the importance of releasing ones self from frozen grief. Mourning redeems us from the past, and opens us up for new tomorrows. Allowing us to grieve and be comforted.

"FORGIVE ALLOWING CHRIST"

To forgive is to excuse for fault or to pardon. Christ has given us a full pardon without resentment.

Recently I read the book "Safe People". It was a suggested reading by Incubator. While reading it, I realized for a long time that I was an unsafe person. I had been self indulgent, angry, and frustrated in my search for why I felt the way I did. A feeling of guilt overcame me as I realized what an unsafe person I had been to my wife. I was compelled to call her. I expressed how sorry I was for the times I had been hurtful or unavailable for her. She seemed surprised, and her voice sounded as though she was smiling on the other end of the line. She said that she had forgiven me years ago and forgot about it. She had forgiven and forgotten, as Christ wants to do for us. When I hung up the phone, I prayed for the Lord to forgive my past attitudes and anger. With God's forgiveness, I was pardoned, and allowed to heal. I had been forgiven with no resentment through Christ.

We are called to reconciliation. Christ longs for us to forgive and be forgiven. I will bring this message to my listeners, and show them the necessity of accepting God's pardon, and doing the same to others.

"TO BRING ABOUT RECONCILIATION"

Reconciliation is the act of restoring relationships.

It was a warm fall night in 1973, and as I sat in the

front room of the two story Victorian style home I lived in with my best friend Jim, and my foster brother John. I confided in Jim about the concern I had over my brother John's drug usage. He was using stronger, more dangerous drugs as of late. Well, when I came home later that day, my brother was hysterical and enraged. "Why did you talk to Jim" he asked. He was so angry that he wanted to punch me out. It must have been the heroin he used that day that fueled the fire. I turned and walked away shaking my head. The next morning while sitting in my wife's parents kitchen, I received a call advising me that John had passed away that night of an overdose. I was devastated! I would never get an opportunity to restore our relationship, no resolving, no healing, no reconciliation. It wasn't until I realized that through Christ there is reconciliation. Reconciliation for the past, present, and in the future. I had found peace and healing towards my brother through Jesus Christ.

I want to share this message with my listeners We are now justified and reconciled through the blood of Christ, and in turn we too should reconcile ourselves to others.

"FREEDOM AND HEALING"

Freedom is the liberty from oppression or sin. Healing is to be set right and become whole. Freedom and healing are available through the Blood of Christ.

I had been working for two weeks at night at the local church. At the same time, I was playing in a rock and roll band, and was joyfully enjoying the fringe benefits that came with it. In spite of all this, I was not happy. I was dealing with depression, anger and isolation. After the second week of work, I began spending my break times in the sanctuary. I seemed to be drawn there. I began reading the bibles there and praying. I felt like it was time for a change. I'll always remember being on my knees one day in the sanctuary, and asking for forgiveness. I could feel the blood of love flowing over me. I was set free, free to embark on the healing process. Today with Incubators help. God has given me insights into the healing that is attainable once we are free from our past. For we are called to bring our sins and damaged parts to God's light for healing and grace.

I will bring this good news of Christ's healing and the freedom it brings. God wants to heal all of us from our past, present, and future. Christ has taken upon himself our sins, to free us from the bondage and allow us to be healed.

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