

BIC Overcomers

*"CHRIST, THE UNIQUE OVERCOMER,
DWELLS WITHIN TO MAKE US MORE THAN OVERCOMERS"*

Greetings from the high desert.

We have come to the end of another session here at the Overcomers. We began this session with six men but this term has been more challenging than most. An illness ran through the group the first three weeks that slowed us all down and then our refrigerator went down and we had to make due for several weeks with borrowed refrigerators until we could get it fixed, thanks to the generous donations from the Martinsburg BIC Church. It has become to be known as the great water crisis of 2017 when the well pump went out and it took nearly 4 weeks before it was back and running. Also about midway through Ken and Anita were called to Morrison Ill. to minister to friends who had to bury their child who had struggled with his own addiction.

The enemy worked hard at trying to derail us and



the men that God had brought us, but by His power and grace we have come through this. We want to celebrate the three

men who came through to the end, Christopher, Armando, and Heath. We ask that you keep not only these three men but also the three men Erikson, Andrew, and Fredrick who chose to travel a different path.



We were blessed this session with two different groups of men

that came to spend a short time with the men. Three men, John, Carl and Mark came from the Pleasant Hill BIC Church and

spent about a 1 1/2 weeks with us and the men building relationships and doing odd jobs. The other group of men, Dave, Matt, and Donald



came to us from the Martinsburg BIC Church to enjoy our annual

camping trip. We cannot express enough our thanks and what it means to our clients when others come out to just spend time with them and build relationships.

This program brought to the forefront that the battle is far from over and there is more that needs to be done. It has brought to mind the passage in **Jude 1 : 23** *Rescue others by snatching them from the flames of judgment. There are still others to whom you need to show mercy*, We can pull them from the flames but we cannot stop them from jumping back in if they choose.

Thank you and God Bless to everyone for your support and prayers as we continue to fight the good fight.



The BIC Overcomers Staff



Poder Family News

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and great commandment. This has been a very challenging session for Ralph and I, but we continued to see the hand of our Creator at work in so many areas of our lives, the program, staff, and clients despite the bumps along the way. Learning to rely more and more on Him, allowing Him to mature and grow us as we follow Him is always a good thing. We never want to allow the trials of life to overshadow our lives in Him, allowing His light to shine brightly through us. Always a highlight and day brightener for me is to get a video call from little Paul. OK, technically Josh places the call :D I just love seeing his little face, his smile, and hearing his laughter. We will be able to travel to WA to spend some time with Josh, Abby & Paul before we all attend Wiconi Family Camp together. We are so blessed to be able to see Ashli, Frank, Joey, and Kayla in December—then Josh, Abby, & Paul in July. Family is so very important and we love spending time with them. Our grandchildren are growing up so quickly, I want to treasure each moment with them. Joey is 2 and learning his shapes along with so many other things. I love the video's Ashli sends along with pictures of him. Paul is learning new words, still working on walking, and just enjoying exploring his world. Having Joan here with us on staff has been such a blessing to the ministry, but I enjoy having another member of my family this close. We are looking forward to a Mission team from our home church in Nappanee coming out for a week of work and ministry. They will be replacing flooring in the OC building all purpose room as well as working with Broken Walls Fellowship on a sports camp outreach in the Kirtland community. We are so very blessed by all of you who support us in prayer and with finances.

Prayer Requests and Praises

Praises- The awesome staff (both full time and volunteer) that God continues to bring to us. We could not function well without them.

We continue to see growth, despite set-backs, of the men just graduated as well as men who have been out of our Program for a while.

We are so very excited for the vision and path opening up before us for the future of the Overcomers. The vision is large and at times seems overwhelming, but we have a God who is bigger than we can imagine.

The group—Convicted by Christ— an accountability group that has become a part of our program and a place for the men to stay connected to after they leave here.

Knowing, feeling and seeing the presence of God every day in our lives as well as the lives of the men who are here as clients.

God's continued provision for all of our needs for the Overcomers through many different avenues. He is so creative and gracious in His provisions.

Prayer requests- We are always looking ahead for couples willing to come see lives changed. We have no one committed for the fall session, and are asking for couples for our 2018 sessions.

Pray for Chris, Armando, and Heath as they move forward into their lives of freedom. Pray that they stay connected with a good support system.

Keep Erik, Drew, and Fred in prayer that although they opted to leave they would allow God to work in their lives.

That financial avenues will open up for the Program in the future as we walk forward into the vision opening up before us.

We are in need of a grant writer to begin looking into possible grants with a heart to write and promote grants for us.

We continue to have a strong prayer warrior support for all that happens here with the men, staff and program.

Continued continuity and cohesiveness of our staff during programs as well as in-between programs.

Keep us in prayer as we continue to seek His direction as we move forward into the vision being opened up.

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