

MOMENTS OF VICTORY



COFFEE THAT
EMPOWERS
WOMEN
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***"Selling Drugs and
Robbing People"***

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PAUL'S STORY



After experimenting with drugs in high school, Paul spent over 20 years living in addiction to marijuana, meth, and heroin. After years of prison, his story looks different now...

What was your attitude towards a "normal" 9-to-5 job for most of your life?

Paul: "I had no drive. No ambition. My last full-time job was at a pizza place in Chicago in 2007. I liked the mindset of quick money... the women... the adrenaline... that's it."

You still needed a place to live, to eat, and to pay bills... What was your source of income?

Paul: "Anything illegal. Selling drugs and robbing people. But the hard thing was, my money was never mine. I could make upwards of \$3,000 or \$4,000 in a day, but I always had to put it into drugs, save it for bail, or pay off a debt to a dealer."



All of your money was illegitimate?

Paul: "At the end of the day, I had nothing to show for it. I could never put a car in my name. I never had a bank account. I never had any of it. I would spend it all."

I had material things, but then when I went to prison, all of my money would be gone.

My ill-gotten gains never benefited me."

(continued on next page)

DID YOU KNOW?

VICTORY OPERATES SMALL BUSINESSES LIKE MATTRESS RECYCLING AND EQUIP COFFEE. THESE FUND 100% OF OUR DAILY OPERATIONS, SO EVERY DONATION CAN GO TO PROGRAMS THAT HELP MEN AND WOMEN JUST LIKE PAUL.

Fast-forward to now. You just graduated from the Restoration program. What does your perspective on work and money look like today?

Paul: As soon as I get my paycheck, I actually know what to do with it.

I have money set aside for bills, for savings, for tithing... and it's mine. It's my money. Now, nobody can take it from me.

I don't do my work just to make money, but I learned how to be obedient with what God has blessed me with."

Now you work full-time at Victory Mission. What is it like to be on the other side where you're now employed and working with men in the program?

Paul: "I remember the first time somebody asked me to speak to volunteers.

I thought, 'Why would kids want to hear from a guy with face tattoos?' But I told them their work was breaking cycles of poverty for people like me.

That hit me—every job I did at Victory was helping me break my own cycle.

Now, I get to walk with other guys in the program doing the same."



FOUR WAYS TO TEACH YOUR FAMILY ABOUT SERVING OTHERS

Reach out to volunteer@victorymission.com to get started or learn more.

- 1 Monday Serve Nights!**
Every Week at 6:00 PM
- 2 Tackle a Closet Clean Out!**
Tidy Your Space and Give Back!
- 3 Help in our Garden!**
Grow Food for Shelter Meals!
- 4 Hold a Family Fundraiser!**
Teach Your Kids About Generosity!



THIS
COFFEE
HELPS
WOMEN
LEAVE
POVERTY
BEHIND.

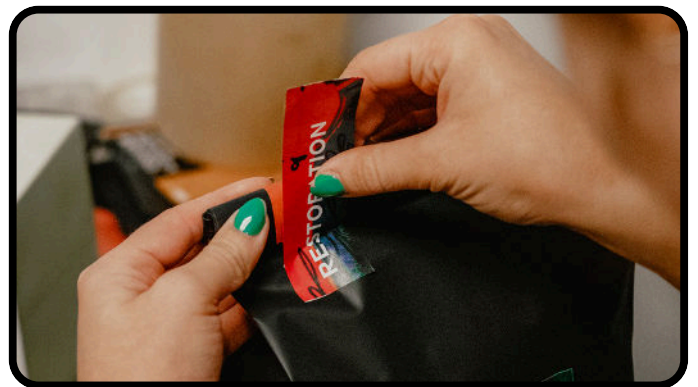
We source ethically grown, single-origin beans from a local roaster.

Every batch is carefully crafted to bring the quality that serious coffee connoisseurs appreciate.



For women overcoming addiction, prison, and homelessness, Equip is more than a job—it's a fresh start.

Every bag of coffee you buy helps empower them for a brighter future.



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