

MOMENTS OF
VICTORY

CHRISTMAS 2019



**You Gave a Dad
Back to His Sons
for Christmas!**



Thank you
for giving us
our DAD back....



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A NOTE FROM
**Jason
Hynson**



“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

— Romans 15:13



WHAT IF DECEMBER HAD NO CHRISTMAS?

Dear Friend,

Just think of it. No special get-togethers. No Christmas cards or presents. No celebration meals around the table with family and friends. December 25th would be just one more empty day.

No comfort. No love. Even worse ... no God. No hope for a better life. A life without Jesus Christ.

This is what it is like for homeless people on the street at Christmas.

They are alone, going nowhere good. And getting worse.

But December does have Christmas. And those who are homeless have Victory Mission. A place to rest, recover and know they are loved and cared for by God. Thanks to friends like you who keep our doors open, they have a reason to celebrate this Christmas.

Because of you, the beautiful love of Christmas is shared with thousands. The poor, hungry and homeless are welcome, just as the shepherds were welcome to witness the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

You bless many. Thank you and Merry Christmas to you and yours from us all!

Sincerely,

Jason Hynson
Executive Director
Victory Mission

YOU MAKE THE SEASON BRIGHT AT VICTORY MISSION!

Christmas at Victory isn't that much different from the celebration in your home. There are plenty of smiles around our tables and lots of joy on Christmas morning. But we do have a lot more people to serve! Here's how you can help make the season bright for our neighbors in need:



Community Meals

Victory Mission partners with local churches to host free Christmas meals. We provide and prepare the food — turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, salad and rolls. The churches pick up the delicious holiday meals, and together, we serve hungry people in our community.

On both Christmas Eve and Christmas day, we will host a meal at 5 p.m. All are welcome! We can always use more help ... your service will be a beautiful gift.



Holiday Food Baskets

In the days before Christmas, volunteers and Springfield MO Fire Dept. drivers deliver holiday food baskets to needy families.

Each basket is lovingly hand-packed with everything needed to make a wonderful Christmas dinner. Last Christmas, we



filled and distributed more than 300 food baskets with help from 100 volunteers. This year, we will deliver Christmas baskets on Saturday, December 14.

Would you like to join us?

You can also drop off food donations at our warehouse, 700 W. Chase St., Springfield, MO 65803.



Nightly Meals

We like to keep our guests merry throughout the Christmas season. You can help by serving at our nightly meals and offering your compassion and encouragement. We will also be open on Christmas Day for a special meal, mentioned above.



Restoration Program

Be a part of the volunteer community group that hosts a holiday meal for the men in our Restoration Program. Let them know you care and you support them at this joyous time of year.



Gifts for Kids

Christmas can be a tough time for kids whose parents are in our Restoration Program. It's hard for the moms and dads too. We give our residents cards on which to write some loving words to their children. Then we deliver the cards — along with gifts — to their children. You can help by holding a Toy Drive, wrapping gifts or delivering holiday joy to the kids.

Thank you for all you do at the holidays and all year long!



*A homeless shelter was the last place James wanted to spend his birthday!
He told his mother he was coming home with her.*

FROM THIEF TO TREASURED SON

James was eight when his parents divorced. His mom worked every day to provide for him and his sister, coming home exhausted many nights. James scorned and criticized her. Now the father of two boys, James understands what his mom sacrificed, but that understanding did not come easy.

Going his own way led James to meth addiction. He broke into homes for drug money, got caught and faced a six-year prison sentence. While waiting for his trial, James begged God for help. Soon, some Christians came to the jail to lead a worship service. One said, “Before we begin, I feel there is someone here who wants to come to Christ and live a better life, but he doesn’t know how.”

Right then, he received Jesus Christ as his Lord.

At his trial, James admitted his guilt. The judge saw his changed heart and gave him a shorter sentence filled with training. After sixteen months, James was released and came to Victory Mission the day before his birthday.

A homeless shelter was the last place James wanted to spend his birthday! He told his mother he was coming home with her.

James’s mother had endured years of heartbreak, watching her son fall so far short of his potential. She knew he wasn’t ready to live responsibly. She told him firmly that he was staying at Victory Mission or going back to prison. James respected her tough love and stayed.

The next day, Red Lobster made a donation to Victory of crab legs, lobster tails, coconut shrimp and salmon steaks. James couldn’t believe it. He had never had such a feast before, and on his birthday! He clearly saw God’s hand in this gift and decided to put his heart into all Victory Mission had for him.

Today, James works full-time and lives in Victory’s transitional housing to save money for a place of his own. His sons, now 8 and 10, look up to him with pride. James has the wisdom of a man who humbles himself before God. He now makes his mother proud.