



Appalachian Teen Challenge

Restoring the Broken Lives of Teens and Adults



“No longer wandering, I now have a purpose!”

My name is Aja. As a little girl I remember feeling that God had a calling on my life. I had a desire to follow Him, but I dealt with fear and shame and would always end up running from God. Fear seemed to have a hold on me, and most of my life was filled with oppression and torment. I remember as a child, feeling that my parents were going to die every time they would leave me. Between the ages of four and eleven, I was molested repeatedly by two older girls. This shattered my self-esteem and greatly affected my relationships.

The feeling of abandonment was one I felt often. I felt isolated from my parents, even though they loved me unconditionally. I was unsure of who I really was, and for years I tried to piece together my identity. I searched for it through sports, and becoming a gymnast helped me learn structure and discipline. I thought that I had finally found the purpose for my life, but when my family moved across the country I became lost again. I quit gymnastics, and from then on I never finished anything. I tried to find acceptance in church, but I discovered a lot of people who offered hollow words and condemnation. I believed that God was angry at me and that I was unworthy of His love.

Rage began to fill my life because I felt hopeless. I began stealing, cutting myself until I passed out, beating my head against walls, lying, and doing everything I could to destroy myself and those around me. At night I was paralyzed by fear, and I often felt darkness all around me. It followed me everywhere I went, mocking and tormenting me. I was terrified of women and I felt like a freak. Inside I was screaming out for help, but to others I couldn't communicate what was happening to me.

At age eighteen, I started using drugs and alcohol. They helped me drown out my feelings for a while, giving me a false sense of security and belonging. My parents told me about Teen Challenge and pleaded with me to get help. For three years I ran from that help. I wandered around trying to adapt to my surroundings. I was hurting so badly and wanted to be loved. My addiction led to prostitution, drug dealing, and abuse. I continued to run!

Before I came to the Training Center my body was dying and hopelessness consumed me. I had gone so far that I really didn't know if I could change. I did however know that I was ready to stop running. The day I arrived at Teen Challenge I felt freedom for the first time. I experienced God's power and fear no longer has a hold on me. He has taken this broken, wandering girl and has transformed her into a young lady who now has hope for the future. The love of God is in my heart and I have true peace. The relationship with Him that I found at Teen Challenge has given me life. No longer wandering, I now have a purpose!



Pornography, however had too strong of a hold on my life.”

I'm Cory and I grew up in a good home with parents who provided for me and showed me love and support. I never wanted for anything and was given far more than I deserved. My parents worked hard to send me to private school and they always took me to church. I had the perfect childhood, until the age of twelve when I was introduced to pornography while visiting a friend's house. This created an interest within me and a need to see more.

By early high school, I was finding any way I could to view pornography. I became sexually active when I was fifteen. I continued going to church and Christian school and became a youth group leader. I learned how to live two lives at a young age. I justified my actions as “it’s just what boys do.” As I grew, the pornography addiction did as well and I lost the ability to live two different lives. I married a beautiful, young, godly girl as soon as I finished college. I thought marriage, especially to a godly girl, would help me quit my “boyhood addiction.” Pornography, however had too strong of a hold on my life.

The more I viewed, the stronger the hold, and I ended up having an affair. This “private”, “harmless” addiction had now lead to physical actions and was destroying my life. One affair eventually led to another. Although my wife knew nothing of the pornography or affairs, she knew that I had slipped away from God. She prayed for God to help me, and it wasn’t long after that my affairs were exposed. I confessed everything to her, past and present. She chose to love me and stick by me through it all.

Appalachian Teen Challenge was suggested to us by a friend while we were seeking counseling and I eagerly enrolled into the program. I wanted more than anything to find freedom from pornography and to have a restored relationship with my wife. I had many years of head knowledge about God, but at Teen Challenge that knowledge became implanted in my heart. I have finally found freedom from pornography and my marriage is better than it has ever been. I am so thankful that where sin abound, grace did much more abound!

Data Entry Clerk Position Available

Appalachian Teen Challenge is seeking applicants to fill a part-time Data Entry Clerk position.

Applicant must be a high school graduate and display proficient computer and typing skills.



Must also have good public communication skills.

Resumes may be submitted to:

1651 Unity Road
Princeton, WV 24739

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Appalachian Teen Challenge is here to help with addiction!

