



# Graduation Day!!!



**Campfire October 2011**

## DMC MINISTRIES

- ALCOHOL AND DRUG REGENERATION PROGRAM
- DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY TRAINING CENTER
- FAMILY RECOVERY CLASSES
- FREEDOM SEMINARY
- PRISON / JAIL MINISTRY
- AUDIO / VIDEO AND PRINTED TEACHING
- CAMPFIRE PUBLICATIONS
- CHRISTIAN SUPPORT GROUPS
- RETREATS AND SEMINARS

## Camp Activities

- **DMC Sunday Service @ 11:00am**  
**\*\*\*\*Everyone Welcome!\*\*\*\***
- **Freedom Seminary ~ classes meet on Thursday nights @ 7:00pm in the Retreat Center. Check out the Dunklin Website for more info on scheduled classes at**  
**www.dunklin.org**
- **Women's Co-dependency & Boundaries classes**  
**Call Margie Rowland 772-597-0922**

## *Dates to Remember*

- October 2nd ~ Nettles, Haiti Missionaries Service
- October 6th—9th ~ Woman's Emmaus Walk
- October 16th ~ Gideons Celebration Service
- October 23rd ~ Baby Dedication Service
- November 6th, 13th & 20th ~  
Graduation & Baptism
- November 19th ~ One Heart Gospel Singers  
6:30—8:00pm in Tabernacle
- November 25—27th ~ 49th Annual Homecoming  
Call Terrell for a room! Hurray!!
- December 17th ~ Christmas Cantada @ 6:30pm  
In Tabernacle

## How You Can Help

1. Prayer, prayer and more prayer
2. Scholarships for men in Servant Leadership Training
3. Monthly donations
4. Sponsor a Family in SLT
5. Sponsor a man in the Regeneration program
6. Any working vehicles, golf cart, 4 wheeler, etc...
7. Musical Instruments – guitars, banjo, sax, etc...
8. White Bed Sheets ~ double and queen size, flat and fitted.

Any questions or concerns about the Campfire or subscription please call Carol Carter @ 772-597-4440 or email me at [carol@dunklin.org](mailto:carol@dunklin.org)

You can view the Campfire on our Website in full color @ [www.dunklin.org](http://www.dunklin.org)



***Jesus came and told His disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***  
***(Matthew 28: 18-20)***

The fifth level of our Regeneration program is Discipleship. In Discipleship the men are taught the difference between religious knowledge and a relationship with the Lord. They learn that commitment means relinquishing control of their lives to God, and how to identify and develop spiritual gifts.

They study the stewardship principles of the Christian life. Discipleship last 10 weeks, and is the last class in the 10-month program. Here the men are held to the highest standard. They are the leaders in the program and they are expected to live as such. The disciples are given a myriad of leadership opportunities that should encourage a sense of worth. Some of those positions assigned are dorm monitors, jobsite leaders, and probably most importantly, when a new brother comes into the program they are responsible for teaching them how to journal and hear from the Lord.

The lessons that are taught in the classroom are meant to challenge faulty belief systems about God and their own personal relationship with Him. At this phase, the Sociogram is brought back. The Sociogram provides another opportunity for the men to "speak the truth in love" to each other in a "face to face" situation to confront inappropriate behavior and to affirm positive improvements in each others attitudes. This is introduced at the beginning of the program and is used periodically throughout the program. In Discipleship, the level of accountability is even deeper. The men also return to small groups where they help lead and teach the younger brothers how to write and process the forgiveness letters. Again, we are teaching important principles such as giving back and helping others.

Before the men graduate, we talk with them about making accountability connections at the local church in the area they will be living in, whether it is a church they had attended before or a new church. They need strong accountability partners that will help them stay on track. Staying connected to the Lord is the number one principle they must maintain to stop the world from trying to capture them once again.

Many of the men hear the Lord calling them to stay on here at Dunklin for further training. They may make a commitment either to stay for Stage 2, which is another 10 weeks program or Servant Leadership Training, which is a year commitment. Stage 2 gives them the ability to live back in society at our Stage 2 house in Indiantown, Florida with strong accountability, but they are able to have a little more free time. The SLT program is a one year program which will place them on the

teaching side of the program instead of the student side. They begin to go into a deeper relationship with the Lord, depending on Him even more and they learn more about themselves, which in turn continues to mold them to be more like Christ.

After Discipleship, the men graduate the program and begin their new life outside of the bondage of addiction. The road is not paved with gold; there will be challenges and struggles along the way, but they are without excuse, for the Lord has revealed Himself to them and they know Him. This is God's ultimate goal, to mold us all into disciples and for us to become part of the Body of Christ, to help one another and to go out into the world and spread the Good News!

Lots of Love,

***"Our own individual vision of Christ must begin to broaden. God is something far more than we realized. He is waiting to take us by the hand and show us the next dimension beyond our initial salvation."***

(Discipleship workbook, page 13)

### **Charley Dressel**



When the day came that I cried out for help, I was spiritually dead. I had alienated my loved ones and everyone around me. I was swirling down the drain!

When I got to Dunklin, everyone here began to pour their love into me. I was accepted as part of the Body and received Jesus as my Lord and Savior. The transformation began.

As a disciple, I was filled up until my cup began to overflow. Then I began to bear fruits of the Spirit upon the new guys coming in and the ones around me. Now I will go home and continue to bear fruit as I have been taught.

### **Kyle Landers**



Before coming to Dunklin I was a cold hearted selfish child. I cared only about myself and what I could get from others. I had no drive to live a successful life. All I cared about was my drugs. I had pushed my family away to the point they were through with me. I had put myself in a position to where I had nowhere to live except out of my car.

After coming to Camp and being here for a couple months, I could feel that I wasn't the same. I could see how the Lord was working in my life and in my heart just by me doing what was asked

by Him. As time went on and I was about halfway through Inner Healing, I was noticing my attitude towards others, myself and towards God was different. I began to give Him access to areas of my life that I had tried over and over to change but couldn't. He healed the wounds deep within me. He gave me hope, peace, compassion and grew me up as a man.

After graduation and stage 2, I am going to continue my walk with the Lord and His purpose for my life. I plan to work with kids in a sports ministry. The Lord has called me to work with kids and teens. He wants me to share my testimony and sports knowledge to interact with the youth. Now that the Lord is in my life and has changed my heart, I want to bring others into His Kingdom. The Lord has blessed me with love for the younger generation and sports so for the first time in my life I'm going to follow Him!

### **Richard Guthrie**



Before coming to Dunklin, I was a very self-contained, selfish boy whose life was centered around drugs and alcohol. It was the only drive I had in life and I would stop at nothing to obtain it. I had no friends and really no family, due to the fact I shut them out of my life. I conned, manipulated, and stole from any one I could get close enough to. I had no home and no one to turn to. I was hopeless and lost.

After coming to Dunklin and hearing others share that they also were hopeless, I started to change.

I started to see families come back together and thought that maybe my family could be reconciled too. Before long, it started happening in my life. My family would come out and there was just a calmness about it and I could really see the Lord's hand at work. When Inner Healing rolled around, I really let go of the painful areas of my life. The Lord showed me who I was in His eyes and I received the gift of forgiveness as well. It was then I knew I was chosen and had a calling and purpose on my life.

Once the Lord could trust me, He gave me a little brother and by doing so it reminded me where I came from. I didn't limit myself to just one, I made myself available for all the new men that came into the program, so I could share my testimony. It was the Body of Christ that came along beside me and now I am a part of that Body and I want to come alongside the new men coming into the program.

After graduation and Stage 2, I plan on staying on here at Dunklin. The Lord has told me that this is where He wants me to be and simply give back all the love that not only He has shown me but all the people here have. If I can share my testimony with one man and he comes to the Lord, then that gift I got has come full circle. The Lord wants me to help the next man and to share what the Lord can do in someone's life like mine.

### **Brett Kirkland**



After 35 years of drugs and alcohol abuse, I came to Dunklin because I was slowly killing myself

and needed some help. My family and friends were sick with worry and were the main reason for my seeking help. I had reached a point where I didn't really care about myself. I had turned into a bitter, ungrateful person. I had become angry with the world and trusted no one. I was lost.

At first I struggled at Dunklin. I had grown up in a good Christian family, but I had never really established a solid relationship with the Lord. I had doubts and was confused about where I stood with the Lord. I questioned my worthiness after all the things I had done in my past.

Slowly but surely, my faith began to grow. I started feeling as if I was finally connecting with the Lord and began to see Him working in my life and in others around me.

Today, I am confident in my relationship with the Lord and have a peace about me that I have searched for all my life. I have learned the importance of forgiveness and how to trust again. I've found love in my heart and a compassion for others that I thought was gone forever.

Today, I see that the Lord has a purpose for me and I have a new found hope for the future. My journey through Dunklin taught me that I was not the center of the universe, and the importance of being mindful of the needs of others.

It showed me how important humbleness and gratitude are in setting an example for younger brothers. It taught me how important forgiveness is not only for others, but for myself as well. I see today that by keeping God at the forefront of my life I can enjoy the fruits of His love and through my faith, trust and obedience to Him, I can enter into His Kingdom.

As I go back home after graduation, I am open to whatever God has for me. I'm going to do my best to walk a righteous path and to set a good example for others.

### **Shawn Smith**

Jesus was always there watching me. I did not care about myself or my children. I was so selfish that I was going to take my own life and leave my kids out in the storm.

A crisis happened and He had mercy and brought me to Dunklin. I was reborn here. I confessed my sins to the Lord daily and I received forgiveness daily. It took a lot of humility and willingness to ask for help.

He has blessed me with a godly relationship with my children and with Jesus Christ, His Son. He has put it on my heart to share with others what He has done in my life!



### **Matt Whitmire**

Before Camp, I walked in addiction for 14 years. I was spiritually dead my entire life. I went to church when I was younger but never knew who God really was. In my own mind, I was god. I thought this world revolved around me. My pride and ego eventually got me to a point where I had pushed



everyone out of my life, my mom and dad, my brothers and sisters, and even my child and fiancée.

After accepting the Lord Jesus Christ into my heart Oct. 26th, 2010, my eyes were opened. The Lord took my pride from me and He showed me how bad off my perception of reality was. He took my fear of failure and gave me hope for the future. He showed me I was never alone in this, that He has been right beside me throughout my whole life. The Lord showed me what unconditional love is. The Lord gave me a purpose. He showed me that I am one of His chosen ones. My ministry is my fiancée, Mindy, my daughter Taylor and anyone else the Lord puts in my path that is going through what I've been through and needs to hear a message of hope that can only come through my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

### **Michael Mayleben**

Before I came to Dunklin, I was without hope that I would ever change from the resentful, miserable and godless person that I had allowed myself to become. I was in bondage to sin and did not have any hope that I could ever live in freedom from it.

After being here for a while, I received freedom from the bondage I was living in through developing a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I have hope in the future, compassion for others, and a true joy in my heart that I never dreamed was possible before I got here.

As I now leave Dunklin, it is my goal and responsibility to share with the world what the Lord has done in my life and to show others, through my example, how truly great the Lord is.



## **It Will Help You**

**They accepted me in the program and I thought things would be great  
Got introduced to some huge old logs that were two or three times my weight  
Then they put me on a lawn mover and for hours I mowed the lawn  
If the sun was still a shinin' I'd of been there till the dawn.**

**They took me to the dinin' hall, thought I'd get a meal  
Brought bucket after bucket for me to wash and peel  
Then they offered me another job, the dishes must be clean  
I began to get an attitude that these teachers were nothin short of mean.**

**I came here to get dried out but all I've done is sweat  
If someone offers me alcohol I'll refuse it, you can bet  
Forgot to tell you 'bout the classes, said how bad I was and mean  
They made me bring up things I long forgot, they forced me to come clean.**

**I told them that my back was hurt and I had a fever too  
"Exercise will cure it all and we've got jobs for you to do"  
Was told this treatment was good for me and finally I was healed  
Pictured myself as a beautiful orange, no good till it is peeled.**

**Ray Zander**

**7-16-11**

## Jimmy Johnson



Before coming to Dunklin, I was a mean and self-centered person. I blamed my family for all my problems and for the way I was. I rebelled against everything I was ever taught, but worst of all, I rebelled against the Lord. I was completely blind to His love and the love of all my family.

While here, God revealed Himself to me and blessed me with a heart change. He allowed me to see His unconditional love and made me realize His grace and mercy in my life. He touched me in a way that was undeniable, and I am forever grateful for that.

Becoming a disciple has changed my life forever. I am blessed to have had the opportunity to be a big brother and to show others the love that was shown to me. Today I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to tell others about Jesus and to do my part to show the peace and joy of the Lord. I can honestly say that I get true satisfaction and filled with hope and happiness when I share Jesus with others. God has changed me in a way that helping others and being a light for Him has become one of my biggest priorities and I truly enjoy being there for other people. God is real and I am a living testimony of that.

## Paul Sephakis



Before coming to Camp, I was living in pure chaos. I've been in addiction for over 15 years. I had a childhood full of good times, but my perception had become distorted. I always focused on the bad things that were going on around me and became very bitter.

On the inside I was very broken and my heart became numb. The best thing to do in my mind was to medicate with drugs. During that period I almost died several times, and was very close to prison. My family was torn with addiction as well. Through 10 years of rehabs and broken promises, I managed to overcome with stints of sobriety, but truly never was able to face what was going on inside me. My heart condition was hidden, until I couldn't hide anymore.

Through my pain and unforgiveness I pushed all who were close to me away and until now I've been separated from the ones I loved. All along I was taking hostages and being blind to see that I was the one in prison.

At Dunklin I learned to see life for what it was. Being in bondage, and hurting everyone around me, cost me! Personally, I never knew what it was like to truly be a son or a friend.

The people here loved me when I couldn't love myself. I found out that through my life I

carried baggage that I wasn't strong enough to carry. The Lord was the only One that was strong enough to carry my burdens.

The men here were vessels from the Lord. They showed me how to dig deep in my heart to forgive myself and forgive others for what had taken place through my life. Now I've been able to have a change of heart and pour that into other men as well. I have issues still to this day, the only difference is I have a way out, and I'm no longer a prisoner. I've been freed up and the Lord has given me a gift to give back in the same area I've taken from my whole life.

The Lord has called me here to give back to men that suffer from family addiction and sexual abuse. I found that my heart goes out to those with these issues because I'm that same man that had no direction, until now. I was destined to die alone and leave my family with my guilt and shame.

Today, I've dedicated my future to play my part and make sure that men like me have a chance. My calling is to be a disciple to the optimistic side of addiction and to continue to learn how to be a friend, son and a more godly man to my family with the help of the Lord.



Chris George



I come from a 17 year addiction to alcohol and drugs. I also come from a lifetime of hiding from the hurts and pains of a rough childhood. I used any excuse possible not to feel, and to suppress the pain. At the end of my addiction, I hurt the four people I love the most in this world, so much that they were about done with me. My wife, Kristine, and my 3 children were forced to separate themselves from me for their own safety. It was not until I hit the lowest point in my life that I cried out to God and begged Him for His help.

When I first came to Dunklin my goal was to get sober, but that was not why God brought me here. I began to see that His plan was to heal me. I could have never imagined that I could truly hear from Him and I could have the intimate relationship we have today. I am still awe struck by what God has done to change my heart and to teach me how to love.

Well, I wish I could say, "I am going home to my family and living happily ever after", but that is not God's plan for me right now. I believe He has more growing for me to do before He sends me home. God has made a path for me to go to a ministry in Clearwater. I plan to press into the men there and

through what God has done in my life, share with them the love of our Savior Jesus Christ. Through my testimony, I pray it brings hope to other men who may be suffering as I once was.

Josh Phifer



I was a heartless person, I didn't care about anyone or myself. I turned my back on my children and didn't care how the consequences of my actions affected them. I used every person that came in to my path to my advantage and didn't care what happened to them in any way.

At DMC, I first received love from brothers around me. I slowly started letting that love into my heart. I went through the classes and started learning about myself. I began building a relationship with God, and seeing and feeling how God worked in my life. He is still working in my life.

My call is to be a father to my three beautiful daughters and point them to the Lord by the example that I am to set. I'm to be open and obedient to what ever ministry the Lord puts in front of me.

"And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you.

Let them be a living and holy sacrifice – the kind

He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into

a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."

(Romans 12: 1-2)

# Servant Leadership Training Graduation



**Nick DeRigo**



**Josh Broehm**



**Eric Snook**



**Louie & Leona  
Romero**

# "Meditations on Prayer Island"



This past few months at Dunklin, we have experienced many "Graduations to Glory". I would like to share with you a few of them and what they meant to the Camp and myself. As the years keep rolling by, I find myself saying, "See you soon!", to many of my relationships that have meant the world to me.

**Gordon Sparks** was a "Father Figure" in my life for many years and left me a legacy of precious memories. From his love and guidance to his donations to the "City of Refuge", he was a blessing. He assisted in many building projects here at the Camp and we will be eternally grateful. I know he will be waiting at the gates to greet us when we arrive. He will truly be missed.

**Grandmother Mary Brown** left me with memories that dated back to the old fashioned Camp meetings when we met in a "Gospel Tent" to worship the Lord together.

**Warren Goode** left me with a friendship of 50 years that I will cherish until I meet the Creator. I am so looking forward to seeing Him, and seeing all these friends that have "Graduated to Glory". I am always reflecting on what it will be like when we can all sit in Heaven and remember the good ole days and have the largest family reunion ever known with our Lord and Savior.

**Rundle Smith** was a blessed man. We laughed and prayed together for many years here at the Camp. Rundle and his wife, Cinda, have touched so many lives by teaching them the principles of a good godly marriage outside of addiction. We are blessed to still have Cinda here to continue her ministry with the wives that come through the Camp. So many will miss his laughter and his Papa hugs that his family and many of the wives here at the Camp are used to receiving from him. The Lord has blessed me with being able to share our lives together. Save me a place, Rundle, see you when the Lord decides to bring me up yonder!

**Perilie Rucks** reminded me of the power of our Lord. She was miraculously healed when she was a young child.

Last but not least, **Dr. Jim Forbes**, who was my medical doctor for many years and served on our Board of Trustees for many years. He provided guidance, and used his talents to serve the Lord. So many memories have flooded my mind that I will hold close to my heart until we all meet again.

### DUNKLIN MEMORIAL CHURCH

Dunklin Memorial Church was founded by Mickey and Laura Maye Evans in 1962 when 160 acres were purchased in the western part of Martin County for the purpose of building an alcoholic regeneration center to minister to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of addicted persons. Since that time, God has greatly blessed D.M.C. with an expanded ministry and with new additions as needs have arisen. We give thanks and all glory to Jesus Christ our Lord for what He has done and look forward to what He wants to accomplish through our various ministries.

### CAMPFIRE

The campfire is a monthly publication proclaiming what the Lord Jesus Christ can do, and has done, for men in bondage to alcohol and drugs. This publication does not represent any particular denomination, but seeks to encourage all believers "to keep the unity of the Spirit", (Eph. 4:3), not in the letter of the law, but in the spirit of meekness and love. There is no subscription price. The Campfire is maintained by the freewill offerings of those who wish to share in its ministry.

### FINANCING

Our ministry is made possible by love offerings from churches, groups and individuals who share the burden and blessing of helping alcoholics and drug addicts help themselves. We strive through various self help projects to supplement the love offering and donations so as to be greater stewards of what God gives us in our expanding ministry. Because of our religious nature we are exempt from licensing by the state of Florida. However, D.M.C. is registered with the state of Florida as a nonprofit, religious corporation. All gifts are tax deductible.

"Praise God  
"Praise God  
for He is Good!"

<b>Mickey Evans</b> Dunklin	<b>Laura Maye Evans</b> Dunklin	<b>Hugh Murrow</b> Dunklin	<b>Nick Reynolds</b> Dunklin	<b>Todd Haskell</b> Dunklin	<b>Fred Beeson</b> Chairman Okeechobee
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<b>Matt Moody</b> Duette	<b>Chuck Royal</b> Belle Glade	<b>Jesse Jones</b> Okeechobee	<b>Jim Tatem</b> West Palm Beach	<b>Rich Boggs</b> Okeechobee	<b>Scott Bryson</b> Jupiter

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