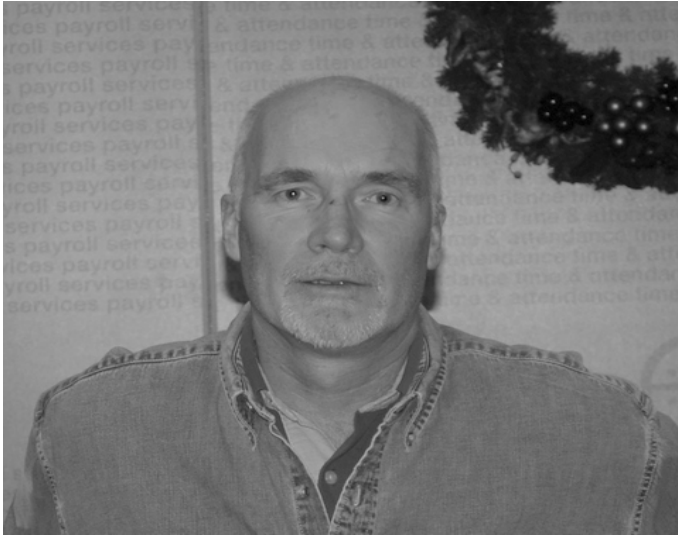


# Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission, P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110 - Phone 801-355-6310

December 8, 2008

## Finding a Firm Foundation



**LARRY ANDERSON**

After graduating from the U of U, things seemed to be going good. I was doing what I had wanted to do for many years. Teaching college, working in the Patent Office and creating database software. But even with all the success, the money, the status, etc., I felt empty inside, like I was missing something. I would go out with colleagues and friends to relax and try to enjoy myself, have a few drinks, blow off some steam and live it up a bit. The relief only lasting a little while, then I needed something else.

The cycle of coping with life's pressures by drinking alcohol began to spin out of control and it wasn't long before I was looking for something stronger and quicker to numb me. Just a little bit of cocaine to get me going wouldn't seem to hurt, but there was never enough. Finally I turned to heroin to escape my misery, to feel nothing at all. I was in a downward spiral, fed by my addictions, which lead to poor performance at work, ending in deeper and deeper depression. After 30 years of the "slow fade" my colleagues seen me as a empty shell of a man who was no longer valuable to anybody. I was rightfully let go.

I heard of the Salt Lake City Mission's Second Chance Ranch and Christian Recovery Program. I now had to face facts. After two failed marriages, overdosing four times, four strokes and going through seven rehab. centers, I was destitute then. Now, I was willing to do whatever it took to change. I joined the program and soon felt like I was with family. A family that helps and encourages each other, one that loves everyone unconditionally. I began to feel free to share that I was abused as a child and felt ashamed of it. I listened to the words of Jesus, the Bible, godly teachers and counseling, then reality set in. There was real hope and freedom. My way of thinking was

changing into confidence in One who never changes, always keeps His word, and best yet, loves me just the way I am.

God was showing me His grace by giving His own Son to die for my sin. After receiving Jesus into my heart I was no longer concerned with keeping up with the world's idea of success. It set me free to accept myself and others just the way they are. I learned how to surrender it all to the living God and learned real forgiveness, patience, perseverance, and to how to put off the shame of what had been done to me and what I had done. I was a new creation with purpose, joy and confidence in my God.

Since completing the Second Chance Ranch, I've stayed in contact with those who know the Lord and taught me truth. I began attending a Bible teaching church, serving in the fellowship and leading a recovery group as time went on. It's been three years since I was at the ranch, but I thank God for it everyday. Today I'm working with the same software designers I had before. Times still get tough, stress still comes, but now I have someone real to turn to and friends who speak the truth, even when it hurts. I now know why I'm on this Earth. To serve the one true God by serving others.

**Praise God!** – Larry Anderson

**W**e are still in dire need of your help to continue holding our feeding events for the homeless and to continue to help and serve the homeless throughout the rest of the year!

*Again here is some simple ways you can help us today!*

## Easy Ways to Help Us Raise Much Needed Funds

1. Donate \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more yourself and ask all your friends to match your donation.

2. Ask 20 friends to donate \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more and encourage them to help raise funds by asking all there friends to match their donation.

3. Ask 10 friends to donate \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more each and encourage them to hold a food, clothing, coat, sock, underwear, blanket, hygiene kit, toy... drive explaining why you are donating to help feed and clothe the homeless.

4. Pick up our self mailers from our Corporate offices and send them in letters to family and friends, explaining why you are donating and encouraging them to match your donation.

5. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate offices and take a walk around your neighborhood. Visit all your neighbors and ask them for their support

encouraging them to match your donation.

6. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate offices and take them to your work or business explain to your fellow workers why you donated to help feed the homeless and encourage your fellow workers' match your donation. Also if your work has a matching donation program encourage all your fellow workers to use it with their donations.

7. Arrange a dress-down day at work. Anyone dressing down will have to pay. Be sure you have a sign that says, "Please excuse our appearance today, we are dressing down to feed the homeless through Salt Lake City Mission . You could request donation of \$25 to \$50 or more per person to dress down. You could arrange these on a weekly or monthly basis.

8. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate offices and take them to your Church, Club, School or any social group and explain to them why you are donating to help feed the homeless and encourage them to match your donation.

9. Pick up our self mailers and information from our Corporate Offices and hold a food, clothing, coat, sock, underwear, blanket, hygiene kit or toy drive. Be creative - Have fun with it - Whichever you choose you'll be a blessing to many and be blessed in turn.

## Christ's Birth

From The Holy Bible. Luke chapter 2

"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. All went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David), to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being with child. So it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord come upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord...Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

**TODAY THE PROMISE STILL STANDS. DO NOT FEAR BECAUSE THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD HAS COME AND GIVES PEACE TO ALL WHO RECEIVE HIM!**

# Merry Christmas!!!

## The Gift of Real Estate

A vacant lot. A vacation home. A few acres of raw land. Many friends of the Salt Lake City Mission have real estate like this. They have property and they don't quite know what to do with it.

One possibility is to donate all or a portion of the property to the Salt Lake City Mission, either as an outright gift or in exchange for a lifetime of income.

Consider Mr. and Mrs. Rideout. They had two parcels of raw land that appraised at \$200,000. They purchased it years ago, thinking they might farm and build a house on it someday. That plan never materialized, but they continue to hold the land.

They thought of selling it more than once, but the idea of paying capital gains tax on the sale slowed them down. Also, they are overwhelmed just thinking about all the time and trouble it would take to market and sell the property. And so they just let it sit there.

Then they learned that the Salt Lake City Mission was willing to receive the land and use it or sell it to help the homeless. They were also pleased to discover that they would receive a \$200,000 income tax deduction for the gift.

Another person Mr. Hagga, discovered that the vacant lot he owned. Could be donated to the Salt Lake City Mission, sold and the proceeds used to help the homeless. He was equally surprised by the large tax deduction that he received.

Another couple, the Blues, gave a vacation home to a Charity in trust, and made arrangements to receive income from the trust for the rest of their lives. Like the Rideouts, they avoided capital gains tax and obtained an immediate income tax charitable deduction.

To learn more about giving gifts of real estate, contact Philip at 801-388-1968, Brad at 801-637-2622, or Wayne at 801-355-6310.

