

Gospel Gazette

Salt Lake City Mission, P.O. Box 142, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0142 - Phone 801-355-6310

July 2011

Full Circle

Joey Thompson



Hi my name is Joey. My life started out pretty rough but I was just a kid and didn't understand. It was all I knew so I figured it was the way it should be. At the age of four, my dad left us. After that, my mom started leaving us alone more and more. It went like that for years while my aunts watch and cared for us.

At the age of five we moved to a new house, closer to my family. We spent about a year there and life started changing quickly. My mom met a guy named Jake and before long we were all living with him in Sandy, UT.

It was about this time that my sister started to act out. She took her anger out on me for the next six years and it changed who I was. I shut down and started to feel hatred towards everyone around me. At the age of fourteen, my mom decided to send me to live with my aunt because of my sister. I felt abandoned and it got worse.

I spent most of my teenage years in and out of detention centers. I moved back in with my mom a year later but we never got along and were always fighting. When I turned seventeen, mom decided that I was too much to handle and kicked me out again.

I spent a year couch jumping and sleeping in parks. I finally made a decision to go to job corp. It started out great, but like most everything in my life up to that point, I quit and moved in with my sister. I spent the next year there watching the kids and working in a group home.

I was at home one day and found a link to the Salt Lake City Mission. As I was looking at the staff page, I discovered my father worked there. I was led to believe he

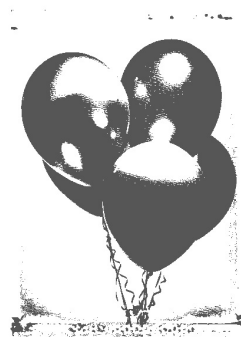
was dead since I was a little kid. I called and we talked for some time about the Mission and other things and I let him back into my life.

About a year later I was kicked out of my sisters home and decided to join the Mission program. It was going good but I quit because I felt trapped. Before long I made a full loop and came back to the Mission. But this time around I was more mature, humbled and ready to grow up. Now I have realized how much God has helped me get here and put me in a peaceful state of mind. Now my past doesn't bother me and I am growing into the man God wants me to be. I feel like things are better than ever because God is real to me and I'm looking forward to my future and all I have to experience and share.

Hallelujah!



Thank You LORD for providing our new spacious location at 1151 South Redwood Road #106. This is the site of our corporate offices, education and learning department, donation processing and distribution center, chapel services, bible studies and much more. Thank you to everyone who supports Salt Lake City Mission Ministries and all the team members who touch so many lives. Together, we can make a difference. A Changed Heart is a Changed Life.



ANNOUNCEMENT

You are cordially invited to our Open House Thursday, July 14 and Friday, July 15 from 11am to 4pm and Saturday, July 16 from 8am to 4pm. We will be serving cake and punch, so please stop by and see our new facility and meet the staff and patrons.

God's Hall of Fame

To have your name inscribed up there is greater yet by far,
Than all the halls of fame down here and every man-made star.

This crowd on earth, they soon forget the heroes of the past,
They cheer like mad until you fall and that's how long you last.

I tell you, friend, I would not trade my name, however small,
If written there beyond the stars in that celestial hall,

For any famous name on earth or glory that they share,
I'd rather be an unknown here and have my name up there.

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift,
You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot help the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer,
You cannot further the brotherhood of man by encouraging class hatred.

You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich,
You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than you earn.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence,
You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.



Abraham Lincoln

4th of July History & Trivia -Did You Know?

The major objection to being ruled by Britain was taxation without representation. The colonists had no say in the decisions of English Parliament.

In May 1776, after nearly a year of trying to resolve their differences with England, the colonies sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. Finally, in June, admitting that their efforts were hopeless; a committee was formed to compose the formal Declaration of Independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee also included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. On June 28, 1776, Thomas Jefferson presented the first draft of the declaration to Congress.

Betsy Ross, according to legend, sewed the first American flag in May or June 1776, as commissioned by the Congressional Committee. Independence Day was first celebrated in Philadelphia on

July 8, 1776.

The Liberty Bell sounded from the tower of Independence Hall on July 8, 1776, summoning citizens to gather for the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence by Colonel John Nixon.

June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress, looking to promote national pride and unity, adopted the national flag.

“Resolved: that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.”

The word patriotism comes from the Latin patria, which means ‘homeland’ or ‘fatherland.’

The first public Fourth of July event at the White House occurred in 1804.

The first Independence Day celebration west of the Mississippi occurred at Independence Creek and was celebrated by Lewis and Clark in 1805.

On June 24, 1826, Thomas Jefferson sent a letter to Roger C. Weightman, declining an invitation to come to Washington, D.C., to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It was the last letter that Jefferson, who was gravely ill, ever wrote.

Both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on Independence Day, July 4, 1826.

The 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence did not sign at the same time, nor did they sign on July 4, 1776. The official event occurred on August 2, 1776, when 50 men signed it.

The names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were withheld from the public for more than six months to protect the signers. If independence had not been achieved, the treasonable act of the signers would have, by law, resulted in their deaths.

Thomas McKean was the last to sign in January 1777.

The origin of Uncle Sam probably began in 1812, when Samuel Wilson was a meat packer who provided meat to the US Army. The meat shipments were stamped with the initials, U.S. Someone joked that the initials stood for “Uncle Sam”. This joke eventually led to the idea of Uncle Sam symbolizing the United States government.

In 1941, Congress declared 4th of July a federal legal holiday. It is one of the few federal holidays that have not been moved to the nearest Friday or Monday.

What could be more fitting than spending the day in a place called “America”? There are five such places in the country, with the most populous being American Fork, Utah, with 21,941 residents.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

-The Declaration of Independence 4 of July, 1776.