



“The real breakthrough came when I realized I didn’t care if I lived or died.”

“I seemed to just get into a routine in the beginning. I would work hard throughout the week, and then I would play even harder on the weekends. I never really drank too much at home in the beginning. I was more of a social drinker. I would go to the bar. I loved being in a space with a bunch of other people while we drank together.”

Chuck didn’t realize it at the time, but everything that he did somehow revolved around drinking. “I would go hang out with friends and drink. Go to the bar and drink. Go watch the game and celebrate and drink. I was a part of a softball team and much of it would be focused on drinking. I always found an excuse to drink in an acceptable way. Life went on like this for years.”

“I had known about God, but this program helped me find hope.”

Chuck had tried other rehab programs, but “they never lasted.” “I think the real thing that caused the breakthrough was the fact that I got to the point that I didn’t care if I lived or died. That realization woke me up. My brother Bill introduced me to the Open Door’s Christian Life Recovery Program, and it was completely different from anything that I had gone through before. I didn’t realize how much having a belief in something would change me and my determination to succeed.”

“Don’t give up. Give life a chance!”

“It’s hard to completely start over, but now I have a support system in place for my recovery and my life. If there is any advice that I can give, it would be: don’t give up. Give life a chance, because it is giving you a chance.”

“Last year I came into the program just before Christmas, and it was a hard holiday because I didn’t know anyone and I was working on my addiction. This year I get to have a sober celebration of family. I get to celebrate in a new way.”