

Ashton Wine

Male Mentor



When my senior pastor introduced me to Daybreak a decade ago, little did I know the profound impact it would have on my life. Working in the Richland Two School District, I was eager for ministry opportunities.

Serving as Director of Daybreak's Male Mentor program for four years allowed me to nurture my passion. The wisdom and support of Pastor Perry Bowers and Pastor German Wright were crucial in my growth. Under their guidance, we empowered men to take on fatherly roles, experiencing firsthand God's grace and mercy. The friendships and memories I have kept are a reminder of the love and dedication that defines Daybreak.

My time at Daybreak was a mixed bag of experiences, with both celebratory moments and trying times. Upon departing in October 2021, I felt shattered, bewildered, and disillusioned. Still, the friendships I formed and the memories I have retained remain treasured, and I am grateful for the love and support of the entire staff. Their dedication to the people they served was palpable, and I was the beneficiary of their kindness, which stemmed from their love for God.

This ministry is built on the principle that our actions flow from our salvation, not in pursuit of it. Daybreak's culture of love has profoundly touched my heart, and the staff's capacity to see beyond my past and recognize a new creation in Christ has been a powerful testament. Now, as a volunteer, I am honored to share the grace that has transformed me with fellow fathers.

With five children under my care, I have sole custody of the three oldest and co-parent the younger two, aged between 5-17 years of age. Our unplanned journey has been eventful.



Despite none of us asking for this situation, we trust in God's plan and His providence. We have witnessed firsthand the contrast between facing life's ups and downs without faith and relying on the teachings of Christ. By holding myself accountable, confessing my faults, and turning to Christ, I have found that true unity within my family can only be achieved through Him, Jesus.

It is not the experience that we trust in, but rather God who was present with us throughout those experiences (Emmanuel). The chance afforded by the staff of Daybreak has permitted me to bring men and fathers face to face with this reality. As we traverse the wilderness of life, our trust must be anchored in Christ, the rock that provides unity. The staff and volunteers at Daybreak confront these individuals with the truth, prompting conviction, confession, accountability, acknowledgement, and repentance, which in turn brings about Life, and abundant life.

I have a profound connection with Daybreak, a Ministry of love. Many of the staff have heard my testimony and have witnessed the transformative power of Christ, turning self-righteousness and sin into new life. Daybreak is a beacon of God's love, shining light on mothers and fathers alike. Since 2025, I have been volunteering, speaking to fathers about the grace of God through Christ, a grace that we experience, rely on, and now share with others.

Learn about how you can volunteer at Daybreak:
friendsofdaybreak.org/volunteer-opportunities