

January 2018

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Are We Really Making a Difference?

By Cecil Green



Project Rescue graduate Zach Barrett preached at Priceville Sunday. If you haven't heard, he did an awesome job. I enjoyed it very much. Several past Project Rescue (PR) members and graduates attended to support Zach.

After worship, PR graduates Jason Cagle, Christopher Ryan, Jay James, and Zach Barrett joined Patsy and me for lunch. Zach's wife and Christopher's family were also with us. We had a great time and then I got to thinking about these men and what they have overcome. I also thought about the question we often ask, "**Are we really making a difference?**"

Jason: He is around 8 years clean and a very key member of the staff at PR. He will issue discipline at the drop of a hat, but has also developed into a great minister, and one who the men turn to when they are facing a personal crisis.

Jay: A graduate of the program, pillar of the Flint Church of Christ, very active in both Thursday evening off site and Friday evening on site classes. He recently got his license back after many years, and re-established a relationship with his family, precious daughter, etc.

Zach: A graduate who came back to minister at PR. He has been giving back for several years, and going to Heritage Christian University to be a minister in the Lords Church! He is "all in" for the Lord and helping others, especially addicts.

Christopher has come a long way, was at PR over a year, stumbled, then he picked himself up and has been running his own business for 2 years. He also is participating in the Thursday and Friday classes, and is a trusted employer for "in house" work for new PR members.

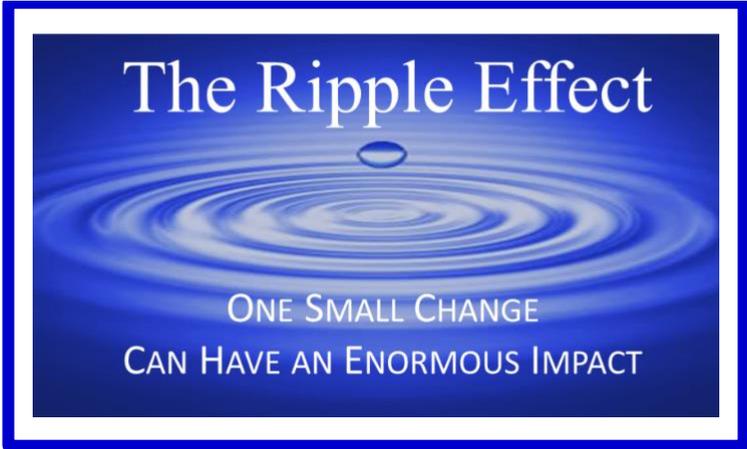
Even though **Clint Patterson** wasn't there today, he comes to mind for several reasons. He graduated from PR and is doing well being back with his family. Clint is somewhat of a common denominator with all the above men: He baptized Christopher in his bathtub at PR, he was a roommate with Zach when they were both in the ministering stage at PR, served on staff alongside Jason, and he had a close relationship with Jay.

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Many times I find myself wondering if it (frustration, stress, disappointments, expense, commitment, time, etc.) is worth it, and are we really making a difference? Well folks, **WE ARE!!** And my hat's off to all these men mentioned above!

"And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of ..." Beau, Roger, Phillip, Jim, Brian, Bobby, Robby, Bryan, David, Sam, and about 80 others who have overcome and continue to fight the good fight every day! They are my heroes, and they are the ones making a difference now. They have lifted me up beyond measure!



We are hoping your new year is off to a great start. Typically following the holidays, we have a flood of calls seeking help for men struggling in addiction. This year has been no exception. Please pray for us and with us that we can exhibit the patience and wisdom required to set them on the path back to God.

Our deepest thanks to you who have answered the call to help us finance this monumental effort. We consider you our co-workers in this work. Hopefully you can come and visit us at Project Rescue so you can see first-hand this work for His cause. Until then, we pray God's blessings on you all.



Ronnie & Jeanie Crocker (along with hundreds of other Christians) plan to be at Freed-Hardeman University next week for the annual lectureship. If you will be among those attending, please stop by our Project Rescue booth and say hello. We would love to see you.