



The Lazarus Project, Inc.

“Providing biblical and life skill training for individuals to be restored by the power of Christ into contributing citizens.”

What is the Lazarus Project?

by Pastor Fred Butcher

“Hello Pastor. My name is Mary Ingrid and I need \$250 by tomorrow or I will be evicted out of my apartment.”

“Tell me a little about yourself Mary.”

“Well, I am 22 years old and have two children. Artesian is four and Zoe is two and we have nowhere to go if we lose our apartment.”

“Mary, do you have family in the area?”

“Well, my mom lives here, but I can’t stay with her because her boy friend is a convicted child molester.”

“Can your mom help you with your rent?”

“No, we haven’t spoken since she kicked me out the last time I tried to live with her.”



Mary, Artesian, and Zoe are fictitious characters, but their story is real. Every week my staff and I receive these kinds of calls and agonize not only over the loss and pain experienced by these struggling people, but also over our loss as to how to help them.

As I began to evaluate this problem my thoughts immediately moved to the need for a home for single mothers and their children. But I realized that would not address the real issue and soon such a home would be full and we would still be receiving more phone calls from more Marys.

The core issue is irresponsible men and boys fathering children, men and boys who have never known who they were created to be. These young men don’t realize real men were created to be mighty warriors who protect and provide and would never take advantage of a woman in order to satisfy their own lusts. They were denied the training that instills the honor that would cause a man to lay down his life to protect the virtues and reputation of a young woman.

We live in a society where the core values of what it means to be a real man are all but lost. Our jail is filled with men who have been filled with hedonism and drained of honor and self respect.

Out of that need the Lazarus Project was born. It is our dream to develop a place where broken men can be resurrected to a new life, of honor and dignity. We want to teach and mentor men so they can find what God created them to be. Instead of robbing society of its value these men will become guardians of virtue and honor.

We are looking for others who share this vision and will partner with us so that the **Lazarus Discipleship House**, can become a reality.

As a part of their sentencing, two men performed a community service project by restoring this building for a widow through the Lazarus Project.

Testimony Of A Desperate Parent:

“Honestly, words cannot express my family’s sincere gratitude to The Lazarus Project. When my son’s father took his own life in July of 2005, my son just seemed to give up. He quickly began mixing with the wrong crowd, he got into drugs, and eventually ended up committing a crime and going to jail. He was 17 at the time. His crime fell under Measure 11 which means mandatory sentencing.

He posted bail and was released to await trial. It was during the three month period that followed, that the people from The Lazarus Project took him under their wing. If I could put in a nutshell the direction my son had been heading, and having tried everything a parent could think of to help him get turned back around, it appeared nothing could impact him. His grandmother and I turned him over to God in prayer asking that He would do whatever it took to bring my son back around.

When “whatever it took” became one of the biggest trials of a mother’s life, The Lazarus Project stepped into this boy’s life and began showing him his self-worth. They counseled with him, they wrote letters and communicated with the legal system on his behalf. They went to court hearings with him. And during this time they provided him with a job, taught him carpentry skills and how to use various carpentry tools.

In the end, my son took me to the place where he had been working on a building project: Al, Rodney, Janice - you will forever hold a place very deep in our hearts for the incredible change you all helped to bring about in my son’s life. For the first time in far too long, we began

hearing him excitedly talk about the skills he was learning thru Lazarus Project; about tools and techniques, about his boss’s ongoing encouragement, lessons and humor throughout their workday. He was tired at the end of the day but his sense of accomplishment and self-worth is something he continues to express to this day.

It would take pages and pages to describe how The Lazarus Project continues to pay forward in my son’s attitude, choices and outlook on life and I



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know it will be one of those mile markers a human being looks back on, as the years go by, as one of those major turning points where life began to make sense.

I wish every community could be fortunate enough to have access to The Lazarus Project. On behalf of my son and all of our family, thank you.”

Discipleship Home For Lazarus Project PRAY FOR THE SAKE OF EIGHT

Abraham prayed and God promised to spare Sodom and Gomorrah **for the sake of ten**. If He would save two cities for the sake of ten would he not provide a house for **the sake of eight**? Therefore we are asking Him for the resources to established The Lazarus Project Discipleship House **“For the sake of Eight”** by February 1, 2010.

PLEASE join us and..

“Pray for the Sake of Eight”

1. The Eight Men

Most men being disciplined in jail do fine, but are not prepared to deal with the forces of freedom, temptation, or peer pressure once released. It is our vision to: *provide biblical and life skill training for individuals to be restored by the power of Christ into contributing citizens*. Please pray that God would begin to work in the lives of eight men transitioning out of jail who will be the first to be housed in The Discipleship House.

2. A House For The Eight Pray for a house that would provide adequate space to house and train eight men.

3. Curriculum For The Eight

Please pray for our team as we sift through a plethora of curriculum in an attempt to choose the curriculum that God wants these men to use.

4. Board Direction/Leadership

The Board of Directors earnestly seeks your prayers as we seek God’s wisdom. We are also looking for those whom the Lord has called to fill vacancies on our board.

5. Staff For The Eight

Please pray with us for those who called to this ministry.

6. Partners in Ministry For The Eight

We are looking for those who share our vision and feel called to get involved in this ministry with us.

7. Furnishings For The Eight

Please pray for the furnishing a normal house with eight occupants needs to function.

8. Finances For The Eight

We are looking for the provisions necessary to see the Lazarus Project Discipleship House become a reality. We believe this is God’s vision for our community and if it is His vision then it is His provisions we are waiting on. If it is God’s will – it is God’s bill. The Lazarus Project will never ask you for money. God is our provider. We will share our vision and if God calls you to champion this cause we will work together with you to fulfill His calling.

“FOR THE SAKE OF EIGHT”

Goals and Needs of the Lazarus Project

The Lazarus Project was organized to help families who are struggling with life issues, whether they be caused by addiction, abuse, or other things. Unfortunately many of these problems lead to crime. Therefore, our first goal is to give men housing after being released from jail.

These men have a strong desire to return to families they have left behind. We as The Lazarus Project believe we can help these men become the men God intended them to be. That is to be spiritual leaders in their families, to have successful relationships in all areas of their lives, and to have gainful employment. In other words to be productive citizens in our community. By providing housing for these men we will have an environment in which these men will be taught spiritual truths and be mentored in basic life skills.

We have prayerfully asked the Lord how to accomplish the goal. He has made it clear that He has spoken to others who share our burden. This is an invitation for those to whom the Lord is speaking, to be involved in this ministry.

Prayer, Prayer, Prayer for every aspect of the project.

How can we join together in this ministry?

- ◆ **Clients:** health and safety, teach-ability and spiritual protection
- ◆ **House:** location, finances, and favor in the community
- ◆ **Director:** a heart for Jesus and these men
- ◆ **Partners in ministry**
- ◆ **God's Resources**
- ◆ **The Lazarus Project Board:** to seek Jesus as we fulfill the dream He has given us

Yes! I want to partner with *The Lazarus Project!*

- I want to partner with the *Lazarus Project* by praying for "The Sake of Eight".
- I am interested in attending a board meeting.
- Please send me information on how I can be involved.
- I want to impact lives through the *Lazarus Project* with a one time gift of \$_____.
- I want to partner with the *Lazarus Project* by giving \$_____ each month.
(A tax-deductible receipt will be given for your gift.)

Name: _____

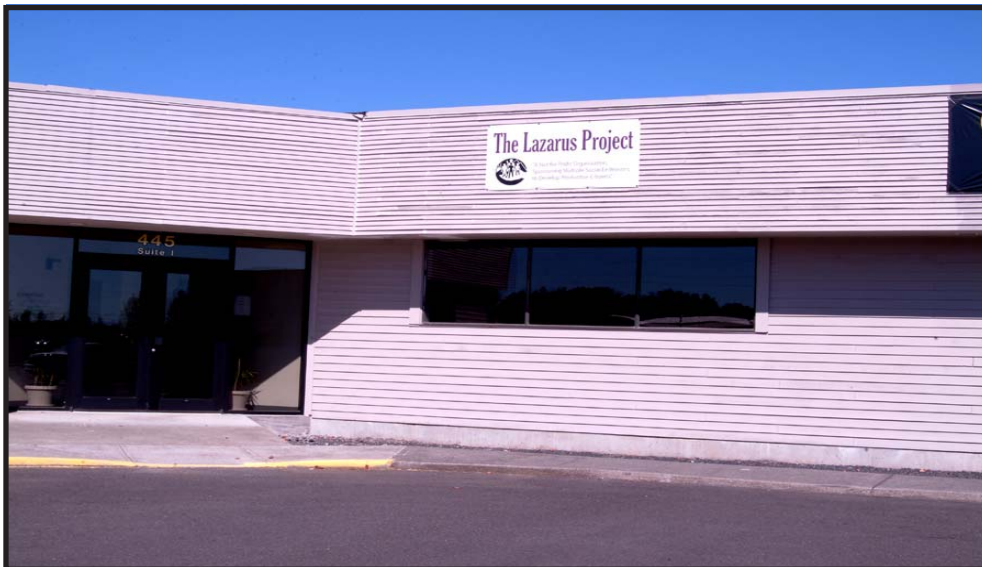
Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

The Lazarus Project
PO Box 1676
St. Helens, OR 97051

If you have a heart for families in our community, let's join together. We are looking for partners who share our dream and want to work together to bring God's power and resources to bear on these issues. Please feel free to fill out the partnership pledge and return it to the Lazarus Project.



The Lazarus Project Board of Directors

Pastor Fred Butcher
Chaplain Robert Gott
Susanne Werings
Barbara Bunn
Sherrie Ford

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Chaplain Robert's Corner

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, BUT that the world might find salvation and be made safe through His Son. John 3:17

My name is Robert Gott and I am a chaplain at the Columbia County Jail..

Those whom Jesus loves and wants to help, must be those whom I love and want to help. God loves people, ALL people..., everywhere.

The above verse states, God did not send Jesus to condemn people in their life-styles and problems, Jesus came to save people *out of* their life-styles and problems. Jesus completely delivered me out of a 30 year addictive life-style with multiple problems far beyond my ability to overcome into a life of freedom, hope and purpose. At last, on my deathbed from years of SEVERE addiction, I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ and I told Him that I would do WHATEVER HE desired with my "new life in Him".

For the last seven years He has chosen to send me into our county jail bringing a message of love and hope to men whose lives are broken from addiction, crime and years of hopelessness. This message tells them that God loves them and that He sent His son Jesus to this world to save them FROM addiction, FROM crime, FROM hopelessness, FROM their sin, FROM condemnation, FROM themselves.

Most of these men are just as I was, without hope of ever being able to change themselves. Many are also suffering from the fear of God's judgment. OH what a message I have for them. The very same message that transformed my life almost ten years ago, the message that Jesus has POWER, a power we know nothing about, until we come to know Him personally. This is my mission, to introduce people to my best friend, Jesus the Messiah and His life resurrecting power.

We began The Lazarus Project on that same basis. God is the God of salvation, not condemnation. He is the God of power and hope, the God of freedom and purpose. This knowledge and a personal relationship with Him RESURRECTS broken LIVES. With passion, Jesus compassionately saved and restored us then He said;

"Freely you have received from Me, now freely give." Matthew 10:18

We, at The Lazarus Project long to give back what God has so graciously given us by sharing this New life with hope for the future, new direction and empowerment to become who and what He created us to be.