

THE MOUNTAIN JOURNAL

GOD STORIES: A YEAR IN REVIEW



love my city.
MTN CHURCH



This year, The MTN Church's ministry, Love My City, has been extremely busy giving back to our city to spread Jesus's love to the unhoused, the elderly, and even within our own church families. In just 12 short months, many people have given their lives to God through this ministry with the help of all of our amazing volunteers.

In addition, Love My City has hosted several trainings to better equip our volunteers to serve the community. We also provided a free CPR and AED certification. Love My City has grown in numbers, with more volunteers joining this incredible cause to help those in need through providing food, prayer, and ministry, as well as sharing information about shelters, mental health services, and addiction recovery locations. God continues to move mountains through this ministry in many ways!

Mel's Transformation Miracle



Just one year ago last November, Melissa "Mel" Schrader attended the Restoration and Recovery Thanksgiving outreach partnered with Love My City as an unhoused person to receive food and other resources. After speaking with Angel, Mel joined the LIMA program and graduated in September.

Schrader overcame some very difficult challenges through God's amazing grace and blessings. She made it an entire year of continuous sobriety, walked through loss and mental health struggles, completed her behavioral technical certification, secured stable housing, obtained full-time gainful employment (Getting to do a job that she loves, helping kids and families, sharing her lovely spirit with them), and is giving back to the community through volunteering.

"Our role is to accept God's ruling and move on to the next experience God has planned for us!" Schrader said.

She is growing her faith and love for God; her story is an example of how God can change people's lives!

God's Grace Surpasses All Evil

Even after going through many traumatic situations, Schrader has found peace through God's Grace to help her heal. She plans to share her story to help others who have endured trauma, abuse, or trafficking to let them know that they are not alone and that through God's grace is ultimate healing.

"I would like to add that through this year I've witnessed how God removes barriers in our life and evil influences. I've learned that I'm not in control of others and their behaviors, and our God, when consulted will remove such influences when asked!"

Schrader added, "It is through opportunities that God presents us such as LIMA, House of Judah, Restoration and Recovery, Human Behavioral Institute (HBI), Salvation Army, Courtyard, Freedom House, AA, NA, and all the many recovery houses and resources Las Vegas offers, that one is afforded the chance, choice, and opportunity to forge an individual path to redemption and prosperity under God's Divine Guidance.

The biggest lesson God has truly demonstrated to me this year, is when one door closes, another one opens!!! We just have to be willing to let go of what no longer serves us, but what serves God through us."



Some of Schrader's goals and service projects include becoming a CASA Volunteer, serving at the House of Judah, continuing homeless and substance abuse outreach, and writing her own children's book series, "We Can Get Through this Together." The series will address real social topics in a kid friendly manner.

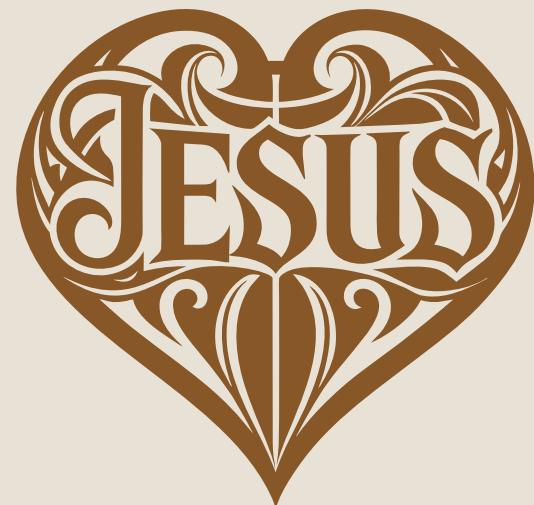
"My dream for this series is to be a resource for family, community, and practitioners needing a hand in translating tough situational subject matter, so our youth can be positively informed and inspired, while not being left alone to decipher and translate such experiences on their own," she said.

Although her recovery from trauma is far from over, Schrader has shown that God can save and heal anyone from enduring the enemy's advances through His amazing Grace and loving spirit. We will continue to pray for Schrader to heal and achieve complete deliverance.

Schrader has had a full circle moment by volunteering at the same Restoration and Recovery event she attended last year as an unhoused person.

This time, she was in attendance to serve others who were in similar situations, wanting to give back to the community that helped her get back on her feet.

Love My City will continue to keep everyone updated on Schrader's journey of healing, recovery, and spiritual growth.



Love My City - A Year in Review



January: Blood Drive with Boy Scouts of America



January: Helping the unhoused in the tunnels with Shine a Light foundation



February: Valentine's Day celebration at Lake Tonopah Senior Community



February: Harm Reduction and Overdose Training



March: Feeding the unhoused at Restoration and Recovery Event



April: Outreach training



April: Praising God at Restoration and Recovery Revival



May: Mother's Day hat designing contest at Lake Tonopah Senior Community



May: HOPE Advocacy training about overdose prevention



August: Back to School Outreach



November: Thanksgiving Outreach with Restoration and Recovery