



PRAISE REPORT

December 7, 2015

Last Wednesday, at the Community Center, I asked Chuck Newton, our lead cook, to give the Bible study. He chose Ephesians 6:10-18, the Whole Armor of GOD. Little did we know the impact it would have on one of our youth, Austin.

For months I and our Counselors, Loyce and Billie, have been working with Austin. He has a history of using meth and other drugs, since he was twelve. He alienated his family and early this year came to Denver. Living at Urban Peak, he participated in their work education program. To his credit, he passed the program and was provided an apartment and assistance in getting a job. Austin also works with me cleaning up the Community Center after each Wednesday. He does an excellent job.

On Monday, December 2, Austin told me that he had contacted his family and friends, and that they were encouraging him to come home. He would be living with a good friend and his family would help him get a job. He was so excited. Austin was scheduled to leave on Thursday, December 3, at 6:30 am. As I was driving him to the airport, I asked him if he was worried about relapsing back into the world of drugs. Without hesitation, he repeated the verses about the Armor of God Bible Study, and told me that with the protection of the holy spirit, he would be fine. It was a gift from GOD, giving him the strength to face the demons of his past. I dropped him off at the airport, I prayed with him and wished him well.

This was Austin's new beginning, but it was not to be. As is the case with so many of these youth, the hopes and promises from afar become just another sad story. I received a call this morning, from Austin. His family did not have a job for him and his friend, who promised housing, had not talked to his wife. She objected and he was once again on the streets of LA. Austin started to relive the transgressions of his past. As we talked, he went from anger, to frustration to tears; having lost all hope.

I prayed with Austin, and we started to develop a new plan. He had enough money for a bus ticket back to Denver, he still had his apartment, and the Peak would still help him find a job. He agreed to come back. I hope to see him this Wednesday at the Community Center, where once again, he will beat me at pool.

Please keep Austin in your prayers.