



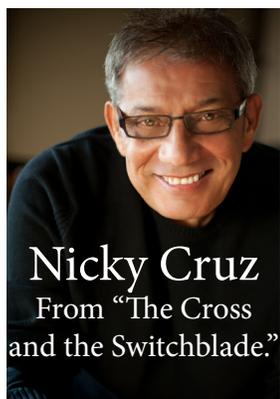
CONNECTIONS

indianatc.org info@indianatc.org

News of God's Grace and Your Gifts - Thank You

Wabash Valley Teen Challenge

Banquet with Nicky Cruz



Nicky Cruz

From "The Cross and the Switchblade."

ISU's Hulman Center
200N 8th St, Terre Haute, IN
Catered by Saratoga Restaurant

March 3rd 6:00PM

For more information contact
timfoster@indianatc.org

Information and tickets online at:
wvtcbanquetnicky Cruz.eventbrite.com



Grace House Teen Challenge



I am a 40 year old that entered into Teen Challenge in March of 2015. It was one of the hardest decisions that I have ever made, but, one of the best things I have ever done.

I knew about God growing up, I was very angry at Him. My grandparents raised my brother and I. When I was

allowed to be around either my mom or my dad, drugs and alcohol were common place. So as an adult, when life got hard, I turned to what I knew.

I got married at the age of 17 with a desperate need of just wanting to be loved. I have 4 beautiful children from that marriage, but as time went on and my drinking started to get worse and my then husband started to grow distant. There again, was that familiar feeling of not being wanted or loved.

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North Central Indiana Teen Challenge



My name is Tommy, I'm 33 and from Elkhart, IN. I was raised in Georgia by my parents who loved Jesus and taught me right from wrong. When I was 11, we moved leaving behind everything I knew. I was forced to make new friends. The friends I picked and decisions I made were not according to how I was raised. By the time I was 12, I was presented with gateway drugs &

by age 13 exposed to alcohol.

This became a fun pastime until it turned into an addiction. I had turned my back on God. I lost all faith in Him. These habits continued for several years until I was given an ultimatum between my soon-to-be son or drugs. The choice was obvious, but I tried to quit without seeking proper help and continuing to run away from the Lord.

Two or three years later I was introduced to prescription drugs, then cocaine and speeders. I was completely consumed by all of them and became deeply dependent on them.

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Central Indiana Teen Challenge

Spoken Word Testimony
Silence by Maggie (abridged)
(on honors level at CITC)



The silence is screaming
but its all that she hears
or maybe she's dreaming
to escape all her fears
the worst has come true
she doesn't know what to do
though she can't hear the words she knows that they're true
her blood turns to ice her heart turns to stone
she promises herself her feelings unknown
she vows to hide it all and never let it show
she'll never let you in she'll never let you know
she's been through the strife and the pain's been a knife
slowly cutting the strands from her life
but there's one last strand that just won't budge
and try as she might she just gives up

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Grace House continued

I didn't want to live. Several times I attempted suicide, but the God that I was so angry with just wouldn't let me die.

My marriage ended after 17 years. My drinking progressively got worse, to the point of daily seizures and even being put on life support at times. I lost everything I had. My kids, jobs, my home, my marriage, my identity. I had nothing and I felt nothing. I was done....with everything.

My last hope came through a woman named Joy. I broke down one day and told her how broken I was. It was through God's guidance that she was able to talk me into coming to Grace House.

About a month after coming here, my son said something to me that still makes me tear up when I think about it. After long pauses on the phone, he finally said "mom.....you sound like my mom" And I believe, that God is also looking down at me saying "there you are my daughter, you sound like my child."

The verse I stand on is Mathew 11:28 "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest". And that exactly what God has done for me. I went to Him as a tired broken mess and He's allowed me to rest as he put me back together.

Coming into Grace House, if you asked me who I was...I would've told you I was cheap bottle of vodka but now....I can proudly tell you, my name is Amy and I am a child of God.

NCITC continued

After ten more years of stealing, lying, hiding, secretly abusing drugs and refusing the help of anyone, God began to work in my life in an amazing way. He strategically took everything I had gained. My house, car, job, finances, my family and even my son, were gone.

God left me with one option, Him!

I joined Teen Challenge in Elkhart where Jesus and I finally got a chance to do something I've never experienced before, build a relationship with each other. A year ago I wanted to take my own life, but God has since given me purpose.

He has shown me Love in areas of my life where darkness and sin has lived for more than two decades. I cannot explain in words the infinite amount of joy and peace that has been given back to me. Now all I want is to spread that same love of God to others. I'm currently doing an internship with the ministry at Teen Challenge and I plan to stay here until God has His next assignment for me.

A verse I live by is Philippians 3:13-14,
"I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it, but one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and striving for what is ahead. I press on towards the goal to win the prize that God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus".

CITC continued

there's a rope around her neck but the end won't come
she wishes she could stop but she knows she never does
so she tears at her skin with the tears streaming down
as she cries out to God she's begging to be found ...

she's standing there in the depths of despair
she's crying to God to show her he's there
and she's wondering in her mind
how many times will this happen before she can open the door
and let people in
and how many times will she let go of her mind
and shut out the world because that little girl was too wrapped up
to care
as she sat in her bed just wishing for prayer
crying to God are you even there
until she gets so desperate she doesn't care how many times she
hurts the ones she loves
as long as she does what she does
nothing else matters
she doesn't care what happens to you or to me
she hurts anyone in her way
that's how it'll always be
even if that person is her she's hurt herself before one more time
won't ruin the score
she just wishes someone would care about her
care enough to do whatever it takes
take her mask off so she's no longer fake
so she can't hide who she is or deny what she does
she just wants to be loved

God can you hear her crying out
can you help her please save her now
because that little girl who didn't know what to be
God that little girl she was me
you took that rope off my neck
putting my emotions in check
showing me life could be more than just that
showing me I could knock those lies off
helping me take you out of my box I had put you in
all of those times I just gave in
you pulled me up off my knees
showing me you are all that I need
you knocked that glass from my hand
stopped the poison going in
you saved me before I got to that end
you stopped my foot with that wall
pulled me back from my fall
but most of all you changed that girl's fate
God you saved her before it was too late

