

## ***Lives Are Changed through the Living Waters Program.***



***Living Waters* is a Christ-centered discipleship/ministry program for men and women seeking healing in areas of**

**sexual and relational brokenness; including pornography addiction, codependency, sexual addiction, homosexuality, sexual ambivalence, childhood sexual abuse, transgender issues, and difficulty in establishing and sustaining healthy relationships. Our next program is starting soon.**

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***Here are some powerful testimonies from participants who had their lives changed through the power of Jesus Christ in the Living Waters program. They are used with the permission of the participants.***

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I've learned that it is ok to bring God into my pain; that I need to fully integrate my emotional health with my spiritual life. I've also learned that my identity is not that of an "abused", or a "victim" or a "codependent" or a "homosexual", but that my identity is that of a child of God and it does not rest in my feelings about myself, other people, or relationships – but solely in who God says I am.

*A female participant.*



I found Living Waters in a crisis of my marriage falling apart for many reasons, but one was **because of my same-sex attraction**. I didn't know which end was up at the time. However, I knew that I need to start the path to dealing with my same-sex attraction in whatever way God wanted it dealt with. Living Waters was the start of the path God and I went down.

I have dealt with **same-sex attraction** since I was **very young**. It became sexualized in middle school. There were often dark times in my life because of the

same-sex attraction. I tried things a couple of times in my teens but later on knew that acting on my same-sex attraction with guys just couldn't happen. That didn't stop me from looking at porn and masturbating, but I thought that since I wasn't doing anything with anybody else that I'm **somehow or somewhat okay**. My addiction would come and go with intensity, but it was always there. I always vowed to never be involved physically with a guy.

**Fast forward to being married. My wife knew from the start that I struggled with same-sex attraction.** Later on we experienced a situation that focused attention on my same-sex attraction that lead to further breakdown of our marriage and my wife choosing to be done. **Prior to our split, I went through about four months of identity crisis, questioning God if He was okay if I began pursuing a same-sex relationship. My wife was challenging me to embrace how I was "really made". Ultimately, I knew deep down that God didn't want me living that way.** I knew that I needed help to actively pursue a different course, one that acknowledges that God hasn't made people to have same-sex relationships. **I'm pursuing God with everything in me and learning, thanks to Living Waters, how to approach life in a healthy way.**

*A male participant.*

**I came to Living Waters looking for healing from past molestation, abuse, and neglect; but I found so much more.** Not only were those wounds recognized and visited, but Living Waters dug much deeper, beyond those wounds, to the places those wounds damaged the most. Up until this amazing ministry I thought I simply had to get past my past, past those obvious hurts, ask God to heal me, and move on. The truth is, there was much more than healing that needed to be done. **Not only were there deeper wounds that had been festering for years beneath the obvious ones, but those wounds had changed me into someone I didn't even recognize anymore.**



A person who covered her wounds with sexual acts, who pushed others away before they got too close to see the broken pieces, whose filters were so flawed she thought even the kindest acts were there to laugh at her, and who criticized both men and women for being both too masculine and too feminine.

Before Living Waters, I didn't even know who I was, I had hidden myself so well behind my layers of broken protection, that I couldn't even find myself... **but God found me. He found me buried in the rubble, He gently scrubbed my wounds, and bandaged them in both Grace and Mercy.** I am still a work in process, I still have wounds and flaws, but I also have Hope. **I may remain somewhat uncertain as to who I am – I have seen glimpses of her, and she is beautiful – but I know without a doubt whose I am.** I know God will continue His work in me. Thank you, Living Waters, I thank God for you all.

*A female participant.*



**While enduring a terrible marriage I was looking for a way to relieve the huge amount of stress in my life. One night on my way home from night school, the evil one suggested that I do something that I had quit doing many years before – cross dressing.** I jumped at the chance and soon could no longer satisfy my cravings with occasional dressing up, so I got a divorce and began living as a woman. **I eventually succumbed totally and had surgery in my efforts to look more and more like a woman. I still was not satisfied but could do nothing else to myself.** Then God worked through a friend of mine

and got me involved in a group that opened my eyes and began clearing my head. **After a year of this I resolved to go back to being a man but knew I needed help. By God's grace I found Living Waters and am now solidly grounded in Christ and living completely as a man.**

*A male participant*



**If you or someone you love is struggling with sexual or relational difficulties, there is hope and healing through the power of Jesus Christ. Call us and ask about attending the next Living Waters program. (586) 739-5114**