

# Melvin's Story of Hope

I started off drinking and became an alcoholic for 10 years. This problem caused me to ruin a marriage. After this addiction, I went to smoking cocaine. At 27, I started on drugs and was addicted for at least 20 years. I lived on the streets and did things that I should not have done to feed my addiction. I felt like there was no hope; I simply didn't care. One day, I just got tired and said that there had to be a better way to life. I told Pastor Luther, who was an old friend of mine, that I wanted to change. I didn't know how to change, but I had heard that the only way to do so was to give my life to Christ. 3 years ago, I submitted myself to the Lord. In October of 2009, I went to the Salvation Army and my life started to change. I went into a transitional housing program and began to learn how to have the tools to a new way of living. I went to Bible studies on Tuesday and began to get involved in the community. 6 months later I became the house manager and served in this position for 2 years. I became a member of Bridge of Hope that same year and I found out now that God is the right way. God has blessed me in several ways in learning right from wrong and being able to carry out my dreams. I have now been clean for 3 years! I have been highly involved with my home church at Bridge of Hope and am excited about the upcoming opportunity to be the house manager for our newest men's transitional house on the Kansas side. I am excited to see the change in other men's lives that I know personally only Christ can bring.