

My name is Dustin Pearson. I was born on March 20, 1983 in Jackson, TN. My father was a Pentecostal preacher and met my mom at the church in Salisbury, NC where he was the pastor. They were divorced shortly after I was born. I grew up with rebelliousness in my bones, hating school. I managed to make it fun by socializing and seeing how much trouble I could make for the teachers, so they passed me to get me out of their class and told me I would never amount to anything. I smoked my first cigarette at the age of 8 and started huffing gas and sniffing glue at 10 years old. When I was 12, I started smoking marijuana and it escalated and by the time I was 18 years old, I was doing crack cocaine and hanging out with my brother who is a big time DJ (disc jockey) in Charlotte, NC. I started doing Ecstasy and Ketamine drugs. During this time I met a girl (who would be my future wife) I liked a lot and although she was already pregnant when we met, I stuck it out with her, thinking the whole time that a child would help me to change all that was wrong with me. Me and the girl got married, However, I continued on down that destructive path and at the age of 23 on my 1 year wedding anniversary checked into a 6 month secular rehab. After rehab my wife became pregnant with our first child Noah (who today is 2 years old). Within three months of completing the program there, I was using again. After breaking my wife's heart many times and overdosing multiple times, (once on my mother's birthday, and another time my 3 year old daughter called 911 and saved my life) my wife was ready to leave me for good in April of 2010. At the end of my rope, I finally looked to God and He sent me to Dare Challenge.

I now have a hunger to know God's Word and I love to sing praises to Him. He is restoring my marriage; my mom is now having hope. I now look forward to a life more abundant in Christ instead of not caring whether I lived or died. I want to go on to Bible College and learn more and serve God for the rest of my life.

I thank Jesus Christ for being a God of Reconciliation!

And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

1 John 2:28