

Randy Gabbard – Testimony

For the past 20 years I haven't been the best version of myself, and I've fell short in every way imaginable under the sun. I've lied, I've cheated, been a thief, and a drug addict. But after battling through all of that the one thing I was never able to over come was alcohol, and quite frankly I expected to die from it, and part of me was ok with that. I didn't like myself at all, I couldn't stand the person I saw in the mirror without reliving all the harm, heartbreak, and pain I had caused. I had really bad anxiety, and somehow Alcohol got me through it, and for a long time I used it as my medication to numb myself from my own self induced misery. 7 years ago I married the love of my life, and she has been my best friend, in some ways I honestly believe one of many reasons God placed her in my life for this day today. I got to a point where I wasn't good at drinking anymore, I was getting angry, and bitter. I was wearing thin. I began asking her to get me my gun when I would get to the bottom of another liter of tequila, I was constantly feeling like there was nothing worth living for everyday was the same, wake up hungover go to work, go home beg my wife to let me drink, make a fool out of myself, all to do it again the next day only to wake up with more regrets than I had the day before, while trying to pretend everything was ok, and telling myself my wife is crazy, I foolishly wondered why she didn't love me drunk like I loved me drunk. Two years ago I started reaching out to God. I started only drinking once a week, and dedicated my self to reading 10 pages of the bible a day, sometimes while drinking my tequila. Looking back now I realize how delusional I was because, I was planning on baptising myself in the river, even though I was getting closer to god, I was still planning my way to get to heaven with that bottle with me. But my delusions shortly came to an end after some family drama, I put the bible down, and hit the bottle even harder. My depression got worse, and I let myself fall apart, until August of this year I reached out to god telling him I wanna get sober, but I need help. And so I started back on my journey with God and I was telling him again I will only drink once a week, and I started my journey and 2 weeks later My wifes family had a family dinner planned that honestly I was dreading, I didn't wanna go put on another fake smile and pretend everything was ok, little did I know that would be the beginning of my new life. Roger Young had requested that I sit next to him, he wanted to ask me something. Roger asked if I would come to see him get baptized, and my heart was just filled with joy, I was honored he would ask, and I immediately felt God had set this meeting up. I opened up to Roger that day, and Roger told me that the holy ghost was working between us, and I knew he was onto something because I could feel it. and I stayed sober for like 2 weeks and I slipped up. The next day I felt like I betrayed God. I felt so dirty inside, that morning on my way to work I begged God to forgive me. I knew what he wanted but, I was scared, something came over me and I just gave it all to God, I told him I was done. I'm going to heaven without my bottle. Shortly after I got saved, gave my life

to Jesus, and never picked the bottle up again. My addiction was gone. The monkey on my back was dead. I'm 92 days sober today, and 50lbs lighter. I have a new lease on life, my anxiety is gone, my bitterness has vanished, and I have a fire in my bones that I've never had before. Every aspect of my life has changed for the better, I'm part of this amazing church, my marriage has blossomed to the next level, I'm happy again, I'm no longer depressed. The old me is dead and gone. I can say without doubt in my heart, and with my chest full of love,

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.