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January 2018

Plumblime Testimonials

Inside Terry's Office:

Our Quitting Point Is God's Beginning Point

COUNSELING 2017



2017 was another year of Abundant Life at Plumblime; full of grace and love, miracles and restorations, grief and losses. Our twelve counselors and four interns met every week for continuing training and for (what we call) Internal Soul Care as we scheduled over 150 appointments a week along with providing classes and Soul Care Training.

The following testimonies are included in this newsletter to give you an idea of the nature of the counseling we have provided. What you won't read in the testimonies are the cases of those who dropped out of counseling. Please join us in praying that everyone of those who dropped out will someday return to us (which happens often!), or will find their healing in other ways or with other counselors.

It's my prayer you will be blessed and encouraged by what you read.

In His Grip.....TWE

"Without your wounds where would your power be? It is your melancholy that makes your low voice tremble into the hearts of men and women. The very angels themselves cannot persuade the wretched and blundering children on earth as can one human being broken on the wheels of living in love's service. Only wounded soldiers can serve." - Thorton Wilder, The Angel That Troubled The Waters

TESTIMONIALS

I met Terry Ewing in October of 2010 after being referred to him and Plumblime Ministries by a mutual pastor/friend. My wife and I were struggling greatly in our marriage and in raising our four children. We completed the intake form and TJTA tests and sat down with Terry so he could fix our marriage believing that we would be good.

Well, 7 years later, I am still "drinking the Kool-Aid" (as I affectionately term it). My family has learned to love struggling, striving, and growing together and enjoying GOD in this abundant life He gives us - every circumstance, including trials and transitions.

I highly recommend the Safe People classes, the Boundaries classes, the Co-dependent classes, and the incredibly rich two-year Soul Care training.

I am so thankful for Terry Ewing and Plumblime Ministries and the impact he has had on me, my family and countless others.

Matt Duell

ESTABLISHING A PLUMBLIME IN THE HEART OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The Plumblime



We are nearly a 30 year married couple with significant issues in our life journey. Our recovery started about 9 years ago with Celebrate Recovery. We were referred to the boundaries class at Plumline Ministries and soon afterward began counseling there which lasted 4 1/2 years. We began counseling for marital issues but that expanded into working on our individual issues, which were numerous, including codependency. Applying the tools including the feeling chart (mad-bad-sad-glad) and the 51% principal were key in our recovery. We continue to take classes at Plumline and our marriage is much better now, We are healthier emotionally and continue to work on our individual issues.

Anonymous

~

I didn't come to Plumline because I thought I needed counseling (I totally needed counseling by the way). I came to navigate a difficult family situation with a difficult family member who was young and needed a place to live. Knowing I was in way over my head, I reached out to Plumline for help. I learned that by agreeing to "serve" another (by providing a home for a person in distress) that service was my happy place. However; in doing so, I had actually agreed to something far greater. Unwittingly, I had placed myself smack dab in the middle of ministry (Terry's definition of ministry is entering into a difficult relationship with a difficult person). I had take on a broken girl from a broken family system for which I was obviously unprepared and definitely ill-equipped. Rather suddenly, our journey took an unexpected turn when this family member decided to return to her former life. I felt that I had failed. What I discovered, rather quickly, was her ending at Plumline was merely my beginning. A journey mapped out by God, a ministry for the healing of my marriage, my family....my soul. As it turns out, my view of life was distorted (though I would have told you and believed it wasn't). Thankfully, time and the patience to see life differently gave me a new perspective. One cannot know what they do not know. I love what I am learning at Plumline....too bad a new insight does not seem to lessen my struggles (or better yet, make them magically disappear!) It does however give me new-found strength and courage to face my struggles within the confines of a caring community.

Today, this is what I know: I am content to be a stick-woman and not a "strong-woman" and so a stick-woman I will always be. I will (as Terry explains) continue to struggle, strive and grow; only now with a fresh perspective...and certainly not alone.

Andrea Lea



After seven years of consistent and often times intense therapy - secular and religious, counseling at Plumblin and with various pastors, and inner healing prayer in many forms, I really believed I was finally fixed. I began walking in real freedom and was baptized again as a symbol of the incredible healing and work the Lord had done in my life. Over the course of the next 4 years I began stepping out in many forms of ministry though small groups with women and leading Bible studies. I experienced great victory in my marriage after a separation and 6 months of incredible and life-changing marriage counseling through Plumblin. My

husband and I reconciled and even had two more children! (I blame Plumblin for that too!) But that's not the end of this testimony though frankly I wish it were. What came next is a bit fresh and still quite raw.

Early this year, feeling secure and confident in my spiritual, mental and emotional health, I picked up a book on counseling women who had experienced childhood sexual abuse. Having been a victim myself, I wanted something outside my own experience to use as a ministry tool to help encourage some of the women I had been meeting with as I was not quite ready to share my own story. This, of course, ended up triggering me in ways I really did not anticipate. I had a few panic attacks. I wasn't able to sleep and instead of doing what I knew to do thanks to all that counseling and inner healing prayer, I avoided the issue completely. I threw myself into as many ministry outreaches as possible. I began a mom's support group in North Tulsa, directed a vacation bible school over the summer, led several small groups, and took on a recovering addict who was living in a sober living house to mentor. In my private time, aside from raising and homeschooling my children as a stay at home mom, teaching piano lessons, and caring for a home. I filled all my quiet spaces with very intense fasting and physical exercise, spiritually and philosophically rich books by authors such as Bonhoeffer, Tozer, John R.W. Stott, and C.S. Lewis, just for some "light" reading. Even my "quiet time" in the mornings became filled with intercessory prayer for others with a lot of crying out but not much listening. Somewhere in there, I got around to contacting Terry at Plumblin to schedule an appointment. I told him some of what was going on and he suggested I try Splankna. Trying Splankna once before (at Plumblin) and experiencing immediate relief of TMJD symptoms, I consented. Thus began a series of sessions pointing towards the idea that I was paying penance for something each time with at least 10 supporting emotions, all of which I was in denial about and resisted wholeheartedly! I was extremely resistant to the entire process. Denial, denial about being in denial, avoidance, anger...lots of anger at God, my parents, myself and TERRY! (bless Terry for his patience!) Over time, these appointments began to bring clarity to my heart and my spirit as to what the Lord wanted to do. My brain finally was able to make the connections it needed so I could begin to allow God into the deep places that at some point I blocked off, walled up, and locked down even from myself. I began to feel less "triggered" and more open to introspection and revelation about myself and my history.

It turns out I wasn't fixed, I just had not "arrived!" My healing journey would be just that, a journey. This process, though extremely difficult, was necessary for me to be able to experience real freedom and joy not just during times of health but in times of turmoil and emotional sickness. I realized that I can be joyful and even hopeful about being "healthy enough to be sick". Instead of distracting myself and working myself to the brink of exhaustion, I can hear clearly the voice of the Lord calling me to rest and surrender these hard things. I can allow myself to be myself and be joyful about who I am even when things aren't going perfectly. I've come to terms with the idea that sometimes God heals instantly and miraculously and sometimes it's a process of sanctification. God isn't finished with me yet and how thankful I am! I am extremely grateful for Plumblin and Terry and encourage anybody who may be struggling to consider meeting with a counselor at Plumblin.

Anonymous

“It’s Time to Begin Righting the Story of Your Life”

David Jeremiah

If you are a pastor eager to discover new ministry vision, or to help educate your staff, or motivate members of your congregation to better meet the needs of the ever-evolving congregation, then Plumblin’s Soul Care program is an irreplaceable educational experience that will prepare you for unexpected success and life-changing discoveries.

The Soul Care program is truly a remarkable class participation setting that will equip you to experience amazing results in ministry situation. The amazing staff at Plumblin provide a unique opportunity for one to fully engage, and the personal connections are sincerely inspiration and resourceful. Being a Care Pastor and having experienced personal reconciliation through the process of Christian counseling, I place enormous value on this style of ministry. It’s particularly clear to me that God has used my time at Plumblin to reveal more of his character as well as mine.

If you are in the hopes of fulfilling the commission of reconciliation to the body of Christ, then the Plumblin experience will open doors and windows of Godly understanding and contemporary life building tools. The most valuable entity is the confidence that you are truly empowered to help others.

Geno Anderson

Care Pastor, Bridge Church

~

I have known Jesus since I was very young. I had a loving family. I have a good marriage and wonderful children. Despite all these good things, in my mid-forties, I realized that I had some issues I needed help with and came to Plumblin Ministries. During my two years with my counselor, and through a Boundaries class, I have recognized codependence, gluttony, envy and control issues in myself.

My counselor has been straightforward with me, never sugarcoating the truth, but speaking life and hope to me. I now know God and myself in ways I never have. My issues have not magically disappeared, but I have tools that help me deal with them in a healthy way. I feel free like I never have before, and I am able to really accept God’s love for me.

Anonymous

~

I expected to get “fixed” through the counseling process. Instead of learning “I’m wrong”, I am discovering how to live freely in God’s design, instead of others expectations. Plumblin and Carol Anne McNamara have walked me and my son through the darkest time of my life, embracing me with God’s love and gently guiding me to the hope of healing an God’s light after trauma.

Marcia and Jordan Cato

#metoo

In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:6

I have been blessed to find my respite during the challenging trials of life by meeting with Carol Anne at Plumblin as she shares her expertise, scripture and encouragement to keep up the good fight and know....”that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Phillippians 1:6)

Plumblin and specifically Carol Anne have been a Godsend. They have created a place where I can be transparent and vulnerable without judgment. I can talk about my blind spots, shorting comings and weaknesses in a healthy way in order to bring restoration and healing. Their unique way of presenting the counseling experience is like journeying with friends and family.

Mike T.

~

I grew up in chaos, married chaos, and produced chaos.....but through Soul Care and counseling, the Lord has set me free!

Pam Bolger

~

I am so thankful for Plumblin Ministries. I have met some amazing people there but mainly, if it had not been for Terry Ewing being such a strong leader and not giving up on me, I don't think I would be alive today. He is such a God fearing man and one you always look up to for the right guidance. I started out seeing him because I had a long line of abuse from an ex-husband and then from the one I was living with at the time. But there was more..... so much more to uncover. I unfortunately lost track of Terry for a few years and got so confused I could not remember how to find him. Finally, one blessed day, a wonderful friend I had met through Plumblin called me. We spent many days talking and then I ended up in the hospital. I remember going to my neighbors house and asking her not to let me die because it truly felt like I was going to die. Down deep in me I was hurting so bad it felt like my heart was breaking in two because no one in the whole world loved me!!! My neighbor called the ambulance and they ran every test in the world on me but could not find anything wrong so they let me go home. That is when my friend helped me get back in touch with Terry. Hallelujah!! I knew he would figure out what was wrong with me and he did!! That is when the “so much more” came out and I remembered being abused as a child. Terry found out I had DID or split personality disorder. It's scary to hear that about yourself but we worked through everything. It felt wonderful to finally have an answer to my past and to the way I acted. I really do change into other people and I can't help it but it helps to have some answers. I have so much more I could tell you but Terry wanted me to keep this short. I just thank God everyday for Plumblin and for Terry. I should say we all do! Our names are Cindi, Susane (that is how she likes to spell it), Sarah and Karen.

Karen Block

Our Quitting Point, is God's Beginning Point

Woodrow Krall

I came to Plumblin Ministries at the referral of a friend. Newly divorced, I struggled daily with the pain of a destructive marriage and a traumatic childhood. My life experiences seemed only to validate and reinforce lies and beliefs that had been born out of abuse. As I found myself in this place it seemed more like a burned out village than a life. I dealt with self-loathing, massive co-dependency, and as self esteem that was based solely in my worth to a man. All of that was accompanied with a good dose of anger, anxiety, and self-destructive behaviors.

While I have been a Christian the majority of my life, I believed that God was a masochist. I would serve Him because I knew He was truth, but accepted that I forever would be less than and punished. Through Plumblin, I came to see what love from the Father is. I came to see that the Lord did indeed delight in me. Step by step, class by class the healing began. Through my counselor Michelle Carpenter and the teaching materials from Terry Ewing, I began to actually work out and understand what it meant to "take it to the Cross". How many times I had been told to just leave it at the cross. How does one do that? Logistically what does that look like? What happens after that? For me, Plumblin provided that guidance. Stickman Theology shed light on how to do the impossible with my hurts. The encouragement that God does truly delight in me at all times has imparted such healing. I continue counseling and classes here. I live most of the time with hope. In the pain I see light, I see Father God, and I can now see him as FATHER GOD. I now value myself and who God created me to be. I have tools to work out my Christianity with boundaries and love. I am not who I was and I am grateful.

Michelle Krebs

~

I have been seeking guidance through counseling at Plumblin for the past two years. My life, knowledge and vision has increased dramatically with the use of the tools that I have learned! This positive experience led me to the decision to apply for an internship to become a pastoral counselor at Plumblin. The application was accepted and I began that phase of my journey on September 1, 2017. The knowledge I have received from the teaching provided in the Soul Care classes has been invaluable in my healing. I was comforted to learn that I am loved here and not judged. The Mad, Bad, Glad, Sad and Numb tool has already made an incredible difference with my anger issues. I've learned that stuffing inappropriate feelings in the wrong category will not allow them to be processed. I have learned about the 3 Roots of Behavior, that it is OK to be a Stickman and what an overemotional investment looks like. I am learning about family dynamics, unprocessed trauma, and boundaries. My experience at Plumblin has been life-changing and my prayer is that anyone who needs it would find their way here!

Tammy Beals

God Specializes in Giving People a Fresh Start

Rick Warren

I began counseling at Plumblin in October of 2012. At the time, I thought I was going to counseling because I was stuck in grief over my dad's passing in April of 2007. My career had been as a legal secretary for twenty years from 1985 until 2009. My mother passed away suddenly at the young age of 60 in 2000. Then, in 2007 my father and my grandmother passed away. I was raised in a very dysfunctional family (notice I didn't say "my family of origin was a family with dysfunctions" - that's because we didn't know we had dysfunctions!) After the loss of my mother in 2000, my father and grandmother passing in 2007, becoming an empty nester (all three sons graduating in '05, '07 and '08) and working for years in a high stress environment, I quit my job. So much of my identity was wrapped up in what I did and what I looked like doing it. In September of 2012, our church had offered a Boundaries class facilitated by Michelle Carpenter where she also incorporated Plumblin teaching and tools. I was amazed at how much I learned from being introduced to those tools (Stickman Theology, Mad, Bad, Sad, Glad; Emotional Investment; 51%, the Forgiveness Model). One night after class, I approached Michelle and said "I think I need to come see you."

I remember two main concepts she brought up during my first session. One, about bringing things (problems, fear, struggles) in to the light. And that healing only comes in the light. The other question she asked me to consider "what is a good _____ wife, mother, employee, daughter, sister, church member)? Although I didn't realize it at the time, I now understand it was the beginning of teaching me about definitions....my identity in Christ.

On the subject of identity, I had little to no joyful identity. I was a believer. I was a Christian. I was brought up in the Catholic Church and knew who the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit were, but wasn't really sure if God knew who I was. Another concept Michelle shared with me as the idea of "dancing with God". Basically, enjoying God and allowing God to enjoy me. At the end of each counseling session, Michelle prayed for me and literally every time, I left feeling enjoyed.

After the first year of counseling, I started Soul Care classes on Thursday evenings with Terry Ewing. Everything I'd been learning in counseling and more was taught on a deeper level with others who were also struggling, striving and growing believers. When I would tell people about Soul Care training, I told them I was learning to care for my soul. I used the example of what a flight attendant would say when you board an airplane; if the plane loses oxygen, put your mask on first, then help others. I was putting my mask on first. I was learning boundaries (how to let the GOOD in and keep the BAD out) and how to embrace my own mad, bad, sad and glad, how to reassure my FAB (feelings, attitudes/beliefs and behaviors) and how to ENJOY God, others and myself.

To say God, through my counselor, classes and counseling at Plumblin has changed my life would be a huge understatement. I am blessed to be able to continue my counseling and have professed I am a "lifer" to my counselor. I don't see myself as ever having it all figured out and hope I am able to embrace daily that I am a struggling, striving, and growing believer in Christ, leaning on the full armor of God day by day, minute by minute. I praise and thank God for Plumblin and the teaching and tools the ministry offers. If they had cheerleaders, I would be the head cheerleader as I tell everyone who will listen how I found recovery and healing through Plumblin ministry, classes and counseling.

Anne E. Crawford

FINANCIAL AND MINISTRY UPDATES

As you know, our sponsoring churches provide for most of our overhead expenses. Asbury U.M.C., Believer's Church, The Bridge (new this year), River Oaks Presbyterian, Northside Christian, and Parkview Baptist Church are our partners in ministry. We are proud to represent ourselves as extensions of the pastoral staffs of these churches.

Our staff members are hired as independent contractors and negotiate their salaries on a six month basis. For 2017 our staff has contributed time and services valued at over \$190,000! These services do not include their continuing education and internal Soul Care hours or the time spent in "management chores" (cleaning, office management, etc.)

FUNdraiser

WHEN: Tuesday, February 27, 2018

5:00 - 8:00 P.M.

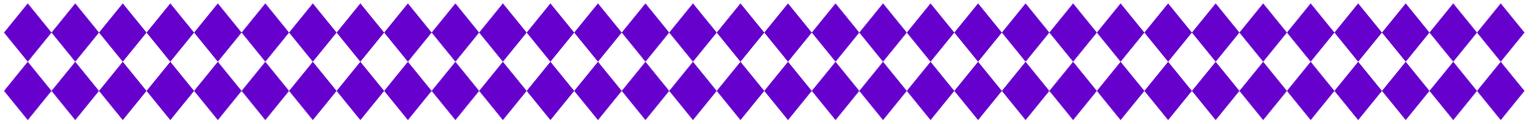
WHERE: SMITTY'S GARAGE

7104 South Sheridan Road

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136

10% of all proceeds will be donated to Plumblin Ministries!

Please come and support Plumblin!



PLUMBLINE CLASSROOM TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

The Classroom Transformation Project is just one of the projects we are currently working toward at Plumblime.

What is the Classroom Transformation Project?

OUR VISION: To transform the existing classroom into a warm and welcoming living room type environment to allow class members to feel comfortable, encouraging emotional growth.

REQUIREMENTS: This project will include painting, lighting, upgrades to the wall décor, adding a pass through bar counter in the kitchen, window treatments, transform the floor coverings, and furniture upgrades at a minimum.

BUDGET: The overall budget for this project is \$15,000 to include all items.

TIMELINE: Once the funds have been acquired, the project will be scheduled and completed.

ASKING: We are seeking donations to assist us in completing this Classroom Transformation Project.

VOLUNTEERS: Additional ways to assist will be by volunteering your time and expertise when the actual work begins.

Would you partner with us for this project?

Donations can be sent to Plumblime Ministries, Inc. [8222 E 103rd Street, Tulsa, OK 74133](#).

All donations are Tax Deductible.

New Winter Classes

Looking for a change? Tired of getting the same results? Come learn a new way! Plumblineline will be offering the following classes beginning in January, 2018:

Co-Dependency: *Were you raised to be nurturing, caring, loving and responsible? That's a good thing....right? So I'm doing these "good things" and yet I'm called a "control freak", bossy, selfish, and obsessed? Can someone tell me please...when did nurturing, caring, loving and being responsible become such bad things? If you are struggling with these issues, then this class will be of tremendous support and encouragement to you. Taught by Marion Fuller. Class Begins Sunday January 28th, 2018, from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.*

Boundaries: *What are boundaries and why are they important? Boundaries are unseen structures that protect us from harm and support healthy, productive lives. Boundaries are personal property lines that define who you are and who you are not, and influence all areas of your life. They give you the freedom to walk as the loving, giving, fulfilled individual God created you to be. Taught by Michelle Carpenter. Class begins Tuesday January 30, 2018, from 6:30 to 8:30 P.M.*

Safe People: *Want to discern safe from unsafe people? Do you need practical steps for leading you to individuals who truly make you a better person by their presence in your life? Do you want to take ownership of your own unsafe tendencies and become a safe person for others? Countless individuals have invested themselves in others only to be used, abused, or abandoned. They have lost their sense of security and personal value in the process. Would you like to avoid repeating your own mistakes? If you are ready to look inside your self for blind spots or vulnerabilities and outside to evaluate the nature of others, both good and bad, then please join us as we learn to identify the nurturing people we all need and want in our lives. Taught by Margo Hanne. Class begins Wednesday January 31st, 2018, from 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.*

Each class is \$70.00 and runs for 10 weeks. Please visit our website, www.plumblinelineonline.com, or enroll at the office.

Stickman's Prayers

Plumblin's newest book, *Stickman's Prayers* has been published and is now available at Plumblin!

stickman's prayers

the everyday practice of
"loosing prayers"
and the ministry of
"exploratory prayers"



Michelle Carpenter
Terry Ewing
Erin Garcia
Margo Hanne
Carolyn Knippers
Carol McNamarra
Sue Merrill

Would you be surprised to know that the "Prayer of Jabez" was a joke?

Would you be happy to know what kind of prayers are appropriate for you to pray for yourself and what kinds are meant for you to pray for others and others for you?

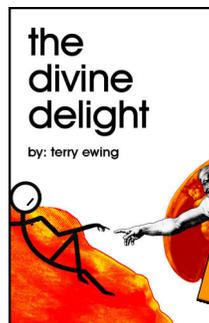
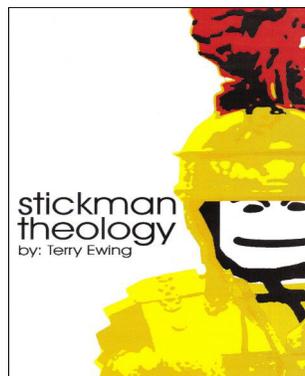
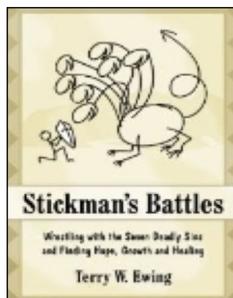
Would you like confidence and freedom to simply enjoy your personal and ministry prayers?

Praying is the most natural thing in the world for Christians; an on going conversation with our best friend, counselor, and confidant; gratitude to our Savior and provider; intercession on behalf of our friends; requests to our Creator. In this regard, a book on prayer may seem presumptuous. When you write a book on Prayer aren't you suggesting that some are praying wrongly, or, at least could be praying better?

That really is not the kind of message we look to promote. So...why the book?

The *Stickman's Prayers* serves two purposes. First, to challenge some ideas that other teaching and preaching concerning prayer has promoted. And, to offer simple encouragements to personal prayer and prayer ministries.

Available at Plumblin for a suggested donation of \$10.00 each



Did you know you can download

Stickman Theology

On your KINDLE?

Did you know that when you shop on Amazon, you could be helping to financially support Plumblin? Through the Amazon smiles program, **Amazon will donate a portion of the sales to Plumblin.** All you need to do is go to smiles.amazon.com, designate Plumblin Ministries, and start shopping! Amazon will then donate 0.5% of the total sales price to Plumblin. Please remember to bookmark that page and you can help us as you shop!

PLUMBLINE

MINISTRIES

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