

Shaping Lives at Nations Harvest Bible College

Shabaka Williams gave the following words of encouragement to fellow graduates of Nations Harvest Bible College in the summer of 2004. "Completing Bible College isn't about having attained some great certificate to go out and get a job with, but it is about completing part of the process God has you in. It is something that will shape the rest of your life." Shabaka originally came to Bible College from Chicago, and he has chosen to remain at Heartland where he works with boys in the youth program.

His words rang true for graduates and for fellow students who are coming along behind this year's class.

A Lifetime Learner

One of those students is Mrs. Aline Marshall, a lifetime learner who is among the thirty-five students enrolled this semester at Nations Harvest Bible College. Most college campuses have a few students who don't fit the fresh-out-of-high-school model. Aline and her husband, Wayne, had already reared children of their own when they came to Heartland a few years ago. At a time when most couples are content to enjoy their grandchildren, the Marshalls decided to start all over again instead. They are

currently house parents for a dozen teenage boys—along with being grandparents for their own extended family. As if all that were not enough to keep her busy, Mrs. Marshall de-

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Aline Marshall with her husband, Wayne, with some of the young men who make up their family at the Ozark House.



From top: Shabaka Williams reminds graduates that they are God's representatives in the earth. The class of 2004, NHBC instructors and staff pray for each student; here, Felicity White blesses Fabiola Vargas. Ben Pawlitschek is congratulated by NHBC Dean, Kris Palmer. Center: graduates listen an address by Pastor Charlie.

FROM THE PASTOR



If My People

Charles Sharpe

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

There is no question that our land is in need of healing. We have strayed so far from the Biblical values that our country was established on. Both as a nation and as individuals we are in desperate need of God. The good news is that God has made a way for healing to happen. According to this scripture, it is a two-part process.

Man's part is to humble himself, to pray, to seek God's face, and to turn from his wicked ways. God's part is to hear from Heaven. Then He promises to forgive our sin and to heal our land.

He can make this promise because He is the God of nature. He can shut up the heavens. He can command the locusts and send pestilence on the rebellious land. He did it over and over in the land of Israel when they turned away from Him.

He is also the God of grace. He can hear prayer and forgive sin. He heals not only land but souls. In these days when great turmoil is on every side, it is good to remember that the God of all providence has promised to hear us when we pray. He has assured us that when we approach him with humility and turn away from our sin, he will heal our land—including our own souls.

NATIONS HARVEST BIBLE COLLEGE

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scribes her return to the academic world this way:

“I was very encouraged when Nations Harvest Bible College opened at Heartland. It would give our high school graduates an opportunity to have a greater Christian foundation before pursuing other careers.

Everyone should continue learning throughout their lives, so with NHBC being part of the community, I decided to take the Old Testament Survey class. I learned a lot and really had fun. I continued the next semester with New Testament Survey class. Before that semester was over, I knew I had to go on. Now, God-willing, my goal is to become a graduate of NHBC sometime in the future.”



The Heartland family congratulates Mrs. Marshall on the example she is setting for students of all ages. And everyone is cheering her on as she picks up two more courses this semester. When asked how she manages to juggle homework with all her other responsibilities, Mrs. Marshall replies, “That's simple. I'm going through school on my knees.”

Preparing for Life

Jenny Rutherford moved to Heartland with her family several years ago. Her father

is a pilot for Ozark National Life Insurance, based out of Heartland, and her mother is a school administrator at HCA. After graduating from Heartland Christian Academy last spring, Jenny looked at several options for her future. She settled on Nations Harvest Bible College for these reasons:

“Besides the fact I know I'm supposed to stay here in Heartland, I came to NHBC to get my foundation laid and my focus set. In the future, I would like to become a teacher, and before I try to teach someone, I want to have all the teaching I need to be

the best I can be. I know that I'm called to train the next generation, and I want to be able to instill in them everything I receive in Bible College.”



Classes at NHBC include the practical; in Math, Jenny and her classmates learn the importance of good stewardship. Inset: The entire Rutherford family (including Jabez).



“Straight from the Heart” Television Program

KTVO Channel 3 Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
 WGEM Channel 10 Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
 CGEM Quincy Cable (Fox) Saturday, 9:00 p.m.
 KHQA Hannibal TV7 (CBS) Sunday, 7:00 a.m.
 WTJR Channel 16 Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.
 Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Radio Program

WGEM 105.9 FM Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Heartland Christian Academy Calendar & Upcoming CNSIMI Events

Note to parents/guardians: Remember that events and dates are subject to change. Please be sure to communicate with the appropriate departments well in advance when scheduling Heartland visits/home visits for your child.

HCA Teacher In-Service (no school) Oct. 22
 Heartland Open House Nov. 5
 Philippines Missions Trip Nov. 11-20
 Equipped for Life Classes Nov. 19-20
 Thanksgiving Break (no school) Nov. 24-26
 HCA Elementary Christmas Program Dec. 6
 HCA High School Christmas Program Dec. 13
 HCA Christmas Break (no school) Dec. 20-31
 HCA Classes Resume Jan. 3, 2005
 NHBC Spring Trimester Begins Jan. 3
 HCA Teacher In-Service (no school) Jan. 28
 Missions Conference Feb. 27-March 2

HEARTLAND ADULT RECOVERY

For the Sake of the Future

The Heartland Women's Recovery Center is filled with stories of families who have been put back together by the grace of God. Tasha is one of those stories. After graduating from the recovery program, Tasha continued working at Heartland and is sharing a stable home with her son.

My life started getting out of control when I was ten. My stepfather began hitting me, and I was afraid to tell my mother. When I was twelve, we moved from West Virginia to Texas, and I started running around with the wrong crowd. Before long, I was experimenting with pot, drinking beer, and skipping school to get high. By the time I was thirteen, I was sleeping with older men.

My mom did not know what to do with a daughter who was falling apart and a husband who was in a deep depression. So, she buried herself in her work. By the time I was

fifteen years old, I was in a relationship with a twenty-eight year old man. He introduced me to drugs like acid, cocaine, and meth. When I discovered I was pregnant, we decided to get married.

My family was devastated. But I didn't seem to care, because I thought I was getting what I wanted. When I was sixteen, I found myself with a newborn baby and a husband who was mentally and physically abusive. I responded by going deeper into drugs. By the time our son was ten months old, drug addiction was taking all our money and



leaving nothing for food. My husband eventually left, and I got into a relationship that was even worse.

When I was eighteen years old, I finally tried to clean myself up. I got my own apartment and even went to church for about two months. But then I decided to move back to my hometown, and I slid right back into a bad relationship and the drug scene. In despair one night, I popped three bottles of pills and drank a bottle of cough syrup in front of my two and a half year old son. Then I got scared and called a friend. I ended up in a mental institution for seven days. My son celebrated his third birthday in a rehab center with me.

Things had gone from bad to worse, and my mom told me that the only way she would come and get me was if I agreed to go to Heartland. So I agreed. Two weeks later I found myself in the middle of a cornfield in the Women's Recovery Center. During my time in the program, I learned how to be the right kind of mother, and I began to love God more and more. I discovered that God would never hurt me. He would always be faithful and true to me, even when I thought I didn't deserve it.

I also learned how to have structure in my life so I could train my son, Christopher. Now that I have graduated, I am also learning that my past is an important part of my testimony. But, even more important for my testimony is my every day walk and my love and growth in God.



Part of Tasha's every day walk includes her job in food service at the HCA lunchroom.

HEARTLAND YOUTH RECOVERY

A New Creation

Often the struggles young people face have more to do with internal conflicts than external circumstances. At Heartland, young men like Billy learn that Jesus really is the answer to every issue.

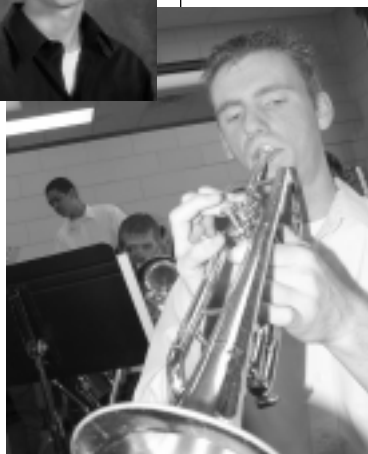
Before I came to know the Lord, my life was a mess. My downfall was not drugs or sex; it was anger and attitude towards people. I was a jerk to all of my friends and all of my family. I got into arguments, and a couple of fights, with my mom and dad. I was sent to two different institutions because my parents did not want my influence on my two siblings.

Finally, at the age of twelve, I was diagnosed with ADHD and ended up being on a variety of different drugs. My parents sent me to Heartland in October of 2000. At Heartland, I came off all the drugs and was told that what I really needed was Jesus. I didn't be-

lieve that at first. I had gone to church when I was little and heard about Jesus. But I didn't know you had to have a relationship with Him. Then I started to see others around me who loved God. They not only served me but loved me, too.

So, I gave the God-thing a try, and I got saved. I have found out that it is not easy to walk with God. I found myself several times on my face, but there was always someone there to pick me up and help me. So, slowly,

God is changing my life from a life of pride and anger to one of humbleness and integrity. No longer do I punch someone who hit me dead in the face or steal a candy bar when no one is looking. God has given me a new heart with new convictions, and it has become a blessing and an honor to serve God with my whole heart.



Billy runs through the scales on his trumpet during band practice. Students learn to worship on their instruments for marching band, recitals, and concerts.



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Compassionate Care for Today's Youth & Children

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.heartland-ministries.org

Living the Gospel—at Home and Abroad

Going into all the world to preach the gospel is a mandate Heartland Community Church takes seriously. Our goal is to evangelize, disciple, and make leaders both at home and abroad. At home, Pastor Charlie and the Heartland team are committed to training a generation of youth for the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations of the world.

One way that is accomplished is through short term mission trips. Last year, teams traveled to Mexico and the Philippines. Seasoned ministers led students who helped serve local pastors in these locations.

Hope for Ishmael is another missionary outreach of Heartland, and it serves as a ministry of reconciliation to Muslims and Jews. The ministry is equipping churches and increasing awareness of the Islamic movement. They also train people how to reach



Muslims and Jews with the love of Jesus Christ. As a part of this ministry, Tass Abu Saada has traveled this year to places like Iraq, Jordan, the Philippines, Egypt, Malaysia, and Finland.

Each year, Heartland also hosts a Missions Conference. Local pastors and missionaries from many countries are invited to join

us for times of refreshing in the presence of the Lord. While they are here they have the opportunity to build relationships with men and women who are also committed to the task of reaching the nations. And students at Heartland

have the privilege of meeting and hearing from these international guests during HCA's missions week.

If you would like to attend this year's conference February 27-March 2, visit our web site for more details.



Taysir Abu Saada with orphans in Iraq (top) and boldly giving the message of Jesus to people on the streets of Egypt. Inset: During a training in the Philippines, Tom Hutchens prays with pastors.