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Daily Devotional

“Standing Tall” – Wilfredo Bobe

ANNCR: May 9th, “Standing Tall.” Have you ever achieved something good? How did it make you feel? It could have been helping a person in need, breaking an unhealthy habit, or mending an old friendship. Whatever it was, it probably left you feeling accomplished – maybe you found yourself standing a little taller, even carrying yourself with a little more confidence. That’s because these things are noble endeavors. They give us purpose and reflect our heart’s deepest need to follow in the way of our righteous Redeemer. True fulfillment, however, only comes from doing what is right, while fighting to follow our own way will only leave us restless, bitter, and unhappy in the end. But maybe Wilfredo can shed some more light on this for us. He’s here to share his true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

WILFREDO: Because I was tall — over six feet by age thirteen — I got away with drinking in bars. By sixteen I was buying drugs in discotheques. I had a scholarship to college but blew it away by not studying. Like others, I sold drugs to support my habit. But girls and money and drugs didn’t make me happy. I was lonely and

miserable. When a friend invited me to hitchhike to a college in the Adirondacks one winter, I went for the adventure. A man with a Bible picked us up and invited me to visit the Bible camp where he worked.

I'll never forget my weekend there. I tried skiing, played volleyball and basketball and a lot of other sports. But he also took me to every worship service they had, and we sat in the front row. I heard about Jesus Christ and the love that sent Him into the world. I didn't accept Jesus that weekend, but I didn't have any peace. I didn't know that my friend and others were praying that I wouldn't sleep until I received Christ.

Sure enough I didn't sleep the first two nights. The next day I returned the things I had stolen. Then I threw out my porn collection and drugs. After three days and nights without sleep, I went to my knees and asked Jesus Christ to be my Savior. Did I ever sleep after that! And did He ever give me new life! I'm Wilfredo Bobe. I completed Bible college and became a youth pastor. I had the joy of leading my younger brother to Christ four months before he died in a drowning accident. Jesus gave me joy and purpose and He'll do the same for you.

ANNCR: Psalm chapter 16, verse 11 says, *“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”* Friend, God Himself is the source of all goodness and righteousness, and He has provided us the opportunity to walk in His likeness! His instruction provides us with the guidance we need to stand tall and experience a foundation of joy in this life. Are you living in this truth today?

CREDITS: Unshackled Daily Devotionals are produced by Pacific Garden Mission along with our Unshackled Audio Dramas. To find even more true stories of God’s saving, transforming power, visit our website, unshackled.org.

This episode was written by Jack Odell and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Michael Myers.

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