

## Testimony from Two Former Students

**From Sherry:**

Thanksgiving 1996

Hi, my name is Sherry. I've been a student here for almost a year now. I sure am thankful for the Home. Being the hurting young person I was, it was difficult to find the help I needed elsewhere because it all cost money and I didn't have any. I still don't but through the support of caring people I'm able to get the help and guidance I've been so desperately looking for. God is definitely good. And I'm just so thankful that people listen to God's voice and do financially support the Home. Actually I TOTALLY thank God for all the blessings He has poured out on me and the Home.



**From Andrea:**

Spring 1998

Hi, my name is Andrea. I've been at the Home for 6 months now. Since being here I have learned a lot about God and having a personal relationship with Him. It took me a while before I realized that I could really be honest with God and that I needed Him to work in my life instead of putting a restriction on Him. My life has changed a lot already since I have been here. I am really encouraged to know that God has a plan for me. I am also thankful that God has brought me through to where I am now and excited to see where He will bring me in the future.

## FOUNDATIONS

*During our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year this column will be written by those who have been instrumental in our development and growth over the years. This month's column is by Bonnie Langstaff former Discipleship Co-Ordinator.*

*In the beginning of 1988 when the Home first opened, I was hired on as office administrator. Having a heart for God and for hurting young women, I just wanted to be of help.*

*I spent 15 years there; had many, many happy times and some really hard times. But that's the Christian life. During those years, I took on many different roles as I had a heart for discipleship, teaching and counselling.*

*The biggest impact of my life was when I was asked by the Director to do a teaching on sexual abuse. You see, we were a discipleship program at the time using the "Teen Challenge Curriculum" and were teaching the young women about God and His word regarding overcoming bondage to sin. We were not dealing with causes as such, because we knew as Christians we are responsible for our behaviour by trusting in Jesus. But the question remained, "Why were most of the girls coming into the program abused or neglected as children in some way?" This must have something to do with their behaviour.*

*In my search for truth and desire to help the girls, I learned more deeply to understand that SIN was a relational issue not just a behavioural one. Knowing this, I was given the freedom to know it was ok biblically to talk and deal with the issues of our past. With a biblical perspective we know that in Christ we ARE new creations and can put the past behind us. But we need to be honest about it and truly forgive from our hearts. Although this is a process and each person needs to be treated as an individual, the Truth still is the same for all. The Gospel of Jesus Christ!*

*Because of Him, Bonnie Langstaff*

