



## **Good Enough**

A Story of Hope

**Daily Life on the street?** You wake up surprised you woke up alive. For a single female in South Sacramento, it's very dangerous to be homeless. I always wondered what mood the man I loved would wake up in. I wanted him to wake up in a good mood. I had to have his drugs ready. His cigarettes needed to be lit, to make him feel good. I wasn't enough to make him feel good. We would make plans for the evening. When you're homeless, most of us try to sleep during the day, and your living hours are during the night. Less judgments, less stares, less knowing you're unlovable. In the night hours we would "Find a Lick", which was somewhere to make money. It was any gig that would get us our next fix, food, or reputation to prove we were good enough. Even if it was just good enough to the other people on the streets. We saw the saddest things on the streets. I remember seeing a 14 year old girl who ended up out there in the streets. She pretended to be older, and the cops would come for her but by the end of the night she would

be back with another bruise. It's sad that for some it's safer on the streets than at home. Even though she didn't feel good enough. In our tent it wasn't good enough.

If we didn't make money, anger was dangerous. Everyday I thought he would kill me. In the tent were just drugs, and needles covered by blankets. When we couldn't support the need his rage would become a monster. We were hustlers. We got our hands on a solar shower, and we charged others to use it. I used to walk amongst people knowing how dirty I lived and was. I knew I was judged and it made me feel worthless when they looked at me, and sometimes they didn't look at me at all.

Yet at **Acres of Hope** I learned about Romans 8:1 where it says, "**There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus**". That means to me that no matter where I have been, when I gave my life to him, there is nothing that can keep me from him, not even my past. It was a veil tearing experience. I wasn't always good enough, but through Christ I have been made **good enough**. Even more so, I have been made clean. I used to charge people to get clean with my solar shower, but Jesus made me clean at no charge to me. Grace upon Grace is what I have received.

**Acres of Hope has been a grace to me.** I'm now 18 months clean. I have confidence in myself, and I know that I am enough in Christ. I have an opportunity to be the woman God calls me to be. My heart is transformed. My CPS case has been closed and I have full rights to my daughter. My other kids have come back into my life as well. Now when I wake up in the morning my head is held high. I'm ready to live during the day and believe that I'm enough through Christ.

*~ A Woman of Hope*

At Acres of Hope women and their children are learning that they are **Good Enough** and so much more.

*Your support creates the opportunity for life transformation, family reunification and restoration, as they grow into strong independent women who are loving and nurturing mothers to their children ... who are thriving!*