



The City Gate

To Reclaim, Rebuild and Restore, Lost and Broken Lives

FUNDING

- *Monthly Commitments
- *1X Donations

FOOD

- *Sugar / Creamer
- *Proteins & Dairy
- *Boxed Meals
- *Canned Meals

HYGEINE

- *Razors
- *Deodorant
- *Toothbrushes
- *Shampoo
- *Conditioner

CLOTHING

BANK

- *New underwear
- *Socks
- *Shoes & Jeans
- *M-XXL Shirts

MISC.

- *Sleeping Bags
- *Plastic/Paper Bags

VOLUNTEERS

Donate

THE CITY GATE

CALL or
Facebook first
before dropping
items off.

509-455-9670

SOWING SEEDS, ONE LIFE AT A TIME

It is astounding when you think of the money, volunteers, and all the donations it takes to keep The City Gate up and running. As believers in a supernatural God, it's truly a miracle! For over 27 years, this ministry has been successful in establishing an inner city church, purposed in reaching the homeless and those who struggle on our city streets, with the heart and hand of Jesus Christ. Every day, the board of trustees and staff put their trust in God to bring the right people, at the right time, to support God's heart of Reclaiming, Restoring, and Rebuilding, lost and broken lives.

With Carrie Brown, manager of the Alberta House apartments of over three years, moving on to another job opportunity in April, Pastor John and Shirley looked to God for the right person to hire. Located above the church and owned and operated by The City Gate, the 28 unit apartments, (two, of which are used as emergency shelter) are a huge responsibility this ministry has been entrusted with. Our vision isn't to see the apartments as merely low cost rental units, in contrast, it is a field of possibility to assist and grow lives that have great value to God. The question our pastors were faced with was, "WHO God, do you have to fill the position that will see it beyond a job and have the heart to serve the people?"

In enters...

Elisha Paul Shelton

Family man, country boy, singer/songwriter, skilled in playing the guitar, drums, and piano, pursuer of Jesus Christ, sower of seeds, and now, on assignment as the Alberta House apartment manager...



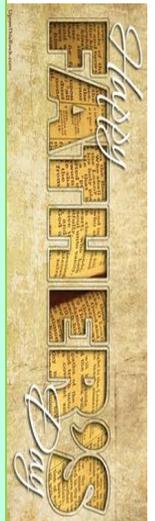
Raised in Hiwassee, Virginia, Elisha grew up in what he calls, a "perfect" Christian home. In a world full of temptation, his family in ministry wasn't enough to keep Elisha from being led away. Lust, drugs, alcohol, ungratefulness, pride consumed Elisha. For years his attitude was, "What can I do just to get by...living the so called, 'life in the fast lane' without any direction." Elisha states, "I was in Nashville playing country music, backsliding and finding myself in places I didn't belong."

With a beautiful family, three bedroom/two bath home on 500 acres, doing what he loved to do for a living, Elisha suddenly found himself going through a major divorce, losing his kids, and moving into an apartment in the bottom of a friends house, full from floor to ceiling with clutter. Looking back, Elisha realized that his apartment mirrored his heart . . . COMPLETE DISORDER.

The seeds sown into his life, watered by his parents, various churches, pastors, youth pastors, and people over the years, was his saving grace, bringing him to a place of surrender. In his brokenness, Elisha heard God say "GO!", giving all of his belongings away to follow after God with his whole heart.

In Jan 2012, Elisha came to Spokane to visit a childhood friend. When he walked off the plane, he knew she would be his wife. Later that year, Elisha explains, he went to a local Christian men's camp, and a transformation took place. "God spoke to me and said I AM TRANSFORMING YOU!" At camp, a man of God prayed for him. Elisha attests to bondages falling off that were binding him since the age of seven.

June 2014



**Continued
from pg. 1**

From that moment on, he started seeing clearly who Christ was in his life more than ever before.

In 2013, Elisha wrote a beautiful song and sang it to his bride on their wedding day. With his commitment to the Lord and his new family, God began opening doors, showing Elisha favor that he hadn't experienced before. In the last year, he has witnessed family members saved, delivered from prostitution and meth addictions, alcohol addictions, and much more.



Elisha first began working in the kitchen at The City Gate, immediately looking for opportunities to encourage people. With his love for worship, an acoustic guitar, and a warm southern voice, Friday morning praise and worship fills the air. Now, our guests come in looking forward to Fridays, with a noticeable change in the atmosphere, as we worship together.

Hired as the new manager for the Alberta House in April, Elisha faces new challenge. Many people God brings to this ministry are broken, in pain, and full of shame. "I am asking God to give me eyes to see people as He does, speaking into lives daily about their destiny, and as I have opportunity, sowing seeds, one life at a time." He says, "It can be overwhelming at times, but there is more inside of our downtown residents and guests than they realize, and I want to help pull the goodness of God out of them."

Elisha Shelton refuses to allow a downtown apartment building to be a stumbling block for people, but rather, A STEPPING STONE! He says, "If God can change me, he can change anyone **ONE SEED, AT A TIME!**"

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR ALBERTA HOUSE RESIDENTS, STAFF, CHURCH SERVICE ON SUNDAY, AND OUR FRIDAY PRAISE & WORSHIP.

We have an enemy who roams about looking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8), BUT OUR GOD is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above ALL we can ask or think, according to the power that works IN US! (Eph. 3:20)



By Andra Phelps



**YOU CAN HELP
EARN DONATIONS
JUST BY SHOPPING
WITH YOUR FRED MEYER
REWARD CARD!**

Here's how the program works:

- Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to The City Gate. GO TO: www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.
- Click on "Link Your Rewards Card Now".
- IF you already have a Fred Meyers account, sign in, OR create an account.
- Type The City Gate in the search box.
- Select The City Gate by clicking on the circle.
- Click SAVE and you are done!
- All of your Fred Meyer purchases will count towards the reward for The City Gate.

THANK YOU for helping us, help others!

Ever been STONED?

Interesting title, huh? My own answer is “YES”. I grew up as a boy in the farm country of central Indiana and was taught first-hand about stoning. I received daily lessons from my abusive ex-military stepfather who despised that I had ever been born. His harsh judgments taught me to be equally judgmental of others. I became a master at throwing stones at those who were different from me. I regret that I am still very capable of this same judgmental behavior many decades later.



I recently purchased a small magnetic plaque to hang in my counseling office. The plaque reads: “Judging a person does not define who they are... it defines who you are.” I was so excited to find it and have it be seen by all who came into my office – THEY needed to read this! When I became frustrated trying to find an empty wall to hang it on, I heard the Holy Spirit speak to me: “No, Rich. This is meant for you to see everyday.” It is now stuck to my file cabinet facing my chair where only I can read it. I am still shocked at how often it wakes me up from my old auto-pilot of judgmental thinking.

My family and I have been involved with the ministry at The City Gate for 20 years. In all this time, I have never seen the stone throwing judgment that comprised my own personal life. As we have been taught by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, none of us has the right to cast that first stone at another. Truly, The City Gate is a “stone-free” environment.

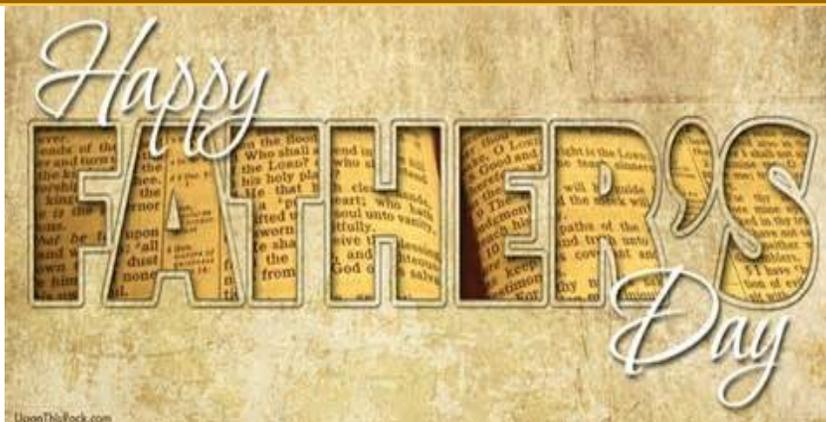
I invite you and your loved ones to draw closer to The City Gate and experience first-hand the Christ-like love and acceptance we are all called to share. This ministry is by sinners for sinners. Please consider volunteering, being a prayer warrior, or providing much needed financial support for the physical needs of the ministry. You may be very surprised by what the Lord has in store for you personally. Oh, and by the way, no stones allowed!

Submitted by Rich Paulsen, sinner and member of the Board of Trustees

To receive our newsletter by email
& in color, message us at:
thecitygate@qwestoffice.net

Write your name and
“EMAIL NEWSLETTER”
in the subject line.

THANK YOU for helping us
to be good stewards!





To Reclaim, Rebuild, and Restore Lost and Broken Lives

The City Gate

"A Gathering Place"

Matthew 11:28

170 S Madison

Spokane, WA 99201

509.455.9670

E-mail - thecitygate@qwestoffice.net

LIKE us on

facebook

See **MORE** of what your prayers, financial support, and donations are doing for the inner-city poor and homeless of Spokane.

www.thecitygatespokane.org

Please Pray For:

- Vickie & Jimmy
- Virginia Dowdy
- MORE Evening Volunteers
- Board of Directors

The City Gate staff

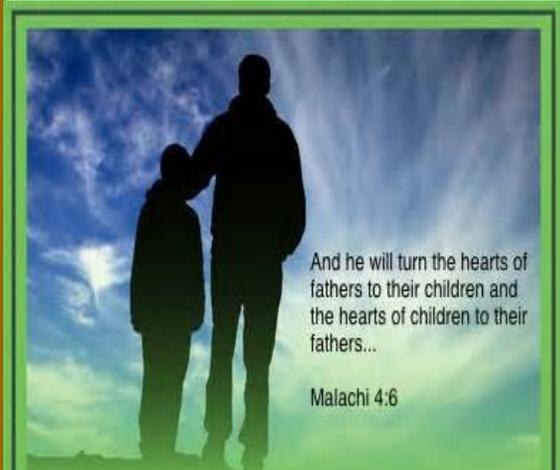
- John Murinko, pastor
- Shirley Murinko
co-director/office mgr.
- Bonnie Murinko
co-director/food bank
- Jim Hahn, food bank
- Michael Wattles, food bank
- Buffie Harmon, clothing bank
- Don Lanegan, dining room mgr.
- Danielle Green, kitchen
- Andra Phelps, public relations
- Wes Heimbecker, social services
- James Gulbranson, security
- Brenda Gulbranson, kitchen
- Sue Shane, coffee station
- Elisha Shelton, Alberta House Mgr.

ATTENTION!

**Summer BBQ
will be on Saturday,
August 9th.**

If you are wanting a
wonderful opportunity
to donate or you
would like to have fun
**VOLUNTEERING,
CALL NOW!**

Happy Father's Day



And he will turn the hearts of
fathers to their children and
the hearts of children to their
fathers...

Malachi 4:6



Without the support of volunteers who give their time and energy to this ministry, The City Gate would not be the haven it is to so many people. Whether you come once a week or once a year, you have contributed to keeping this place up and running. Your donations, regardless of time, money, food, prayers or clothing, have done so much to help the people who walk through our doors everyday. As pastors and as Christians, we want to thank you for heeding the voice of the Lord and ask you to keep us in your prayers as we continue this journey. *Love, Pastor John & Shirley*