



## Resident Profile: Zach King Woodstock, Georgia

curriculum for regeneration, his self confidence has been re-stored. He recently marked his one-year anniversary at No Longer Bound, plans to stay on for internship, and for the chance to give back to new residents.

Zach works in the NLB Woodshop, building beautiful handcrafted furniture made of reclaimed wood. At NLB's recent Banquet on Oct. 13th, Zach was chosen to welcome and give Judge Jeffrey Bagley of the Superior Court of Forsyth County, a tour and share his testimony. He shakes his head in wonder at how far he's come this past year. "There's no way I would have had the confidence to handle this type of interaction before NLB. My life has truly changed."

He's excited about the expansion of No Longer Bound industries into his hometown of Woodstock, Georgia with the opening of NLB Thrift Store Woodstock and looks forward to sharing his testimony and message of hope for those struggling with addiction.

*"No Longer Bound has created a place where broken men can come and release the burden of all the lies, guilt, shame, fear, self loathing and break the destructive strongholds their addiction has had on them. The last 10 years for our family have been heart wrenching, brutally difficult and many days were so dark I nearly gave up hope. I would go through it all again because the journey brought us to No Longer Bound. I have watched my son Zach shed the lies he has believed about himself. He now believes he is worthy, old fears are washing away, a new sense of pride and accomplishment has replaced his self doubt. Best of all he has found a new and deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus. It's like I'm watching him learn to walk and talk all over again! He is becoming the man God intended him to be. I will be forever grateful to the staff, interns and other men in the program for helping guide my son back to us."*

- Belinda King, mother of Zach



Born an only child to loving parents, Zach King's journey from Boy Scout to addict began when he was in middle school in Woodstock, Georgia. It all started with a friend who had a mother with terminal cancer. The high powered opiates in abundant supply at his friend's house to control the mother's pain were easily accessible to the boys. Together they tried OxyContin and addiction soon followed.

It wasn't long before Zach began dealing pain pills at school. He was caught and arrested at 14, barely a freshman at Woodstock High. He was suspended and sent to alternative school. Surrounded by harmful influencers, his addiction only got worse. And so did his despair.

"It was easier for me to get pain pills than cigarettes," said Zach.

The progression from pain pills to heroin occurred easily for Zach. "I was in such a bad state with my addiction, I was just hoping to overdose and end it all," he said.

Death, depression and thoughts of suicide often become part of an addict's world. "I've lost five close friends to addiction, including the guy I started using with in middle school. I knew that if I didn't get help, I would probably be next," he said.

Four attempts at short-term rehabs never had any lasting effect for Zach. "These treatment centers barely scratched the surface and were not effective in helping me deal with my deeply rooted emotions of separation from God and lack of confidence in myself, the drivers of my addiction," he commented.

Zach eventually found hope and healing at No Longer Bound. "It was the best possible decision I could have ever made," he said.

During his time at NLB, Zach has not only had a chance to achieve and maintain sobriety, but through intensive group counseling and time spent in classes diving deeply into the NLB

