

Living Well in the Shadow of Life

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My Favorite Item In My Office



I want to invite you into my office to see if you can find my most valued item.

As you enter the door, to the right will be a framed photo of me at the US House of Representatives. I am standing with the Speaker of the House along with their chaplain. In 2005, I delivered the opening prayer. My wife had it framed along with the prayer.

As you look to the wall behind my desk, you will find a “one of a kind” metal 1969-1970 Boss Mustang. A friend of mine works at a school where they build cars. After one of the “builds”, they make a model of a classic muscle car. I painted it red with black racing stripes.

On that same wall is a gas cap from a 1965 Mustang as well as the “horse” that would have been located on the fender. Moving along that same wall is a Mustang clock.

If you continue around the room, you come across a “leg lamp” from the classic Christmas movie, *A Christmas Story*, featuring Ralphie. My kids gave that to me a few years ago.

Continuing on, you will come across another Mustang clock. This one has twelve different Mustangs on it. As the hour hand reaches each Mustang, it replicates the sound of that year’s model starting its engine.

On the bookshelf is a model 1965 Mustang convertible.

Alongside the model Mustang convertible is a picture of a blue house with white trim. It’s a simple house in a nice community – a two bedroom, one bath house.

That house is owned by a co-worker. I first met him



when he came to the Mission needing help for his drinking problem. At the time, he couldn’t stop drinking. After finishing the Rescue Mission Rebound men’s program, he went to a halfway house where someone challenged him to talk to Habitat for Humanity about owning his own house. Today, he is one of their proud homeowners. In addition, he was once the President of the Homeowner’s Association.

Every day, that picture reminds me of the life changing work God does at the Charlotte Rescue Mission. No matter who you are, no matter how bad your life has become, no matter what you have done, your life has not gone so low that you are beyond the grasp of the love of God and His power to change it.

When you’re in the area, stop by and let me show you the items on the wall. Be sure to look closely at the bookcase; there

you will find my most treasured item. *

Rev. Tony Marciano is the Executive Director of the Charlotte Rescue Mission. The Charlotte Rescue Mission provides a free long term Christian recovery program for men and women who are addicted to drugs and alcohol. For more information, visit our website at www.charlotterescuemission.org

