

## Israel

How we doing ladies and gentleman? My name is Israel. I 've been ten months in treatment, and when I first started this treatment, I was real resistant. I was that person that said that this isn't for me. I don't have a problem. I saw myself as a functioning addict. Basically, I worked. I had money, my kids were fed, and I took care of my business. But, I had the downfall. I got arrested and, thank God, through the grace of God I got into this treatment.

Now the treatment, at first, I wasn't with it. It's not for me. I didn't like it at all. I was at orientation I was hating it...hating it. I was away from my family for such a long time, but as the first two months went by, I started giving in more and more. I had people there. They helped me out. They listened to what I had to say, and this was the first time in my life that I met people who were in the same situation as me. I felt more comfortable in sharing with people that had the same problems and addiction as a I did. I found myself going to seminars, to rap session, conversating with people. I started doing NA, and. I found that really helped my treatment.

You really, you really need to give this program a chance. It's your life your talking about, and as for me, I'm 31 years old, and I've seen other members in the program which I am in, who are forties and fifties. I say to my self, wow, fifty years old, and now is when you started to get it right. I mean it's never to late, but thank God I got the opportunity to get it down now.

I'm trying to get back to my children, and you gotta work the program. You gotta work the program. You gotta do the meeting, go to NA, and get yourself a sponsor. You find yourself. I know the first few months are going to be hard without your family, but in the long run it, it gets greater later because our lives have a value beyond expectation when we become aware of our negativity and strive for change. And, the key to our success is to be honest with ourselves, and our brothers and sisters.