



WT Walking Tall

Southern Oregon

9/6/23

LIFE COACHING

FAITH-BASED
MENTORSHIP

HANDS-ON
EXPERIENCES
FOR JOB
READINESS

AUTOMOTIVE WOODWORKING FABRICATING & WELDING SMALL ENGINE COMPUTER DESIGN CONSTRUCTION AND MORE

Christopher brought me to Walking Tall almost six years ago. I didn't know what I was getting into, but I'm glad I got in. I'm interested in playing guitar, and I've been dancing since I was eight.

When Bill Vincent was with us, he touched my heart; he was the first man who put a tool in my hand and taught me how to use it. I bought one of his routers and a set of bits at his estate sale, and I will always keep them. My day job has been working full-time for WT Redwood, making high-end outdoor furniture, and it has been incredible learning so much from that. I never felt motivated to do much, but because someone had faith in me, I've learned to get out of bed, be punctual, and get things done. I'm very grateful for being hired and trusted enough to start building right away instead of what I expected, sweeping for months before having an opportunity to work on a machine. At first, I was like a fish out of water, but my peer and co-worker Tai, with much experience, trained me on all the equipment for two months. Here at WT, the most challenging things in life aren't that difficult, it's just your perception of them and how you look at them. With the wealth of knowledge at WT, I could learn how to build or rebuild many things. It's invaluable to me. The other day, I talked with mentor Tony, and he poured forth some of his knowledge, like knife sharpening, reading an analog micrometer, and wire gauges. Lately, on Monday nights, I've been working on the design of our go-kart transformation in the CAD computer program. We've put out some sheet metal patterns that can now be cut out and bent to convert the go-kart to electric. Now that I'm a little older, I can start giving back. On Wednesday nights, I've been mentoring some great young men in the wood shop. One thing I can say is I wouldn't be the person I am if it weren't for Walking Tall. It has helped me to realize that I don't know everything. When I was around 13 or 14, I thought I had it figured out; I was a pretty arrogant kid. Being around these mentors and other young men, I realized how much there is to learn about things I never personally experienced. The most important life lesson is no matter how good your relationship is with God it can always be better. Hearing all the different stories from everyone made me realize how blessed I am in this life. Mentor Bill Finch shared how so many of us in the present forget to give thanks to the people who have given us so much in this life. My parents have given me everything I need to succeed, hoping I will use it in the best way possible, and that is the most amazing gift anyone has ever given me. And then Walking Tall is like a second family to me. So many put faith in this ministry: Tom, Judy, all the mentors, and donors. Thank you all. Matthew



Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Thank you for your support and prayers!

If you would like to partner with Walking Tall, please consider a one time donation or regular monthly donation to support and continue offering many skills to these young men. Thank you so much!

Walking Tall: PO Box 3789 Central Point, OR 97502 or walkingtallso.org for online donations.