

# ***Believing In Something Greater Than My Oppositions!***

## ***Wellspring testimonial:***

### ***Author Heaven Heals***

Hello my name is Heaven,

And I'm proud to say that I'm a current participant in the Career Intensive Program at Wellsprings Women's Academy as of January 12, 2024 after receiving my High School Equivalency November 15, 2023. The journey up to this point hasn't been easy but it was necessary and worth it, it's been 2 years of hard work, long suffering, dedication, determination, Homelessness, loss of job, Covid, being broken, battered, shattered, feelings of hopelessness, defeated and the loss of family members along the way, however through those deemed moments God brought light into a dark place and that was Wellsprings Women Academy. WWA has been such a blessing to me and my family from the first day I walked into the doors of orientation I knew God had placed me in a place that I had prayed for so many times: A prayer for help and change was answered in more ways than one. I could only fathom what would happen next in my life....

### **Chapter 1: Orientation Day October 2021**

OK, here we go Heaven, this will be my last attempt at getting this GED. If this don't work, I'm just going to figure out a way how to make me one, because at this point this a waste of time. Heaven began to walk into orientation and to her dismay the room felt warm and safe she felt as if she was in a place where success could be obtained, everyone was smiling and excited; however, there was still some type of resistance and insecurities that lie dormant that needed to be discovered, which in due time would be discovered and uprooted

Wait! this is nice, the setup is beautiful, but who is that lady? and that lady and that lady? Wait!! What are they up to? what could they possibly want from me? Heaven started to practice some of the exercises she had learned through counseling in the shelter, Heaven!! just sit down, be quiet and do something different. What's the worst that could happen, she said a quick prayer wrote her name on a name tag and settled in her seat. A Spiritual formation facilitator

prayed, and tears started to flow profusely as Heaven hid those tears he questioned the feeling arising inside of her, It was familiar but unfamiliar at the same time, Heaven had made a promise to herself that she would never let anyone see her cry, Heaven felt God surround her and kiss her on her cheek as she decided to let God lead her, because she had been doing it all wrong for so long in her life.

**November 2021:** *Heaven passed Language Art/Social Studies exam and received noticed that she had to leave the shelter with nowhere to go.*

**December 2021:** *Heaven struggles to focus on the remainder of her Ged Science/Math studies because she has to go back to work, has surgery and has to find a place to live all while recovering from the past trauma of being out on the streets again, she makes the hard decision to tell the ladies during her final review that she would have to leave to make sure she finds she and her children a home. She goes back to work driving shuttle buses for the Atlanta airport, she starts to fill a sense of unworthiness, she didn't feel fulfilled and started feeling like she was headed back down the same path God had delivered her from, Heaven needed a way out so she did what she knew best she said another prayer to God and asked Him "Is this a Distraction?" and He answered "YES" She found the urge to want to go back to school and allow God to finish what He had started. Wellsprings Academy had opened up a brand-new horizon that had changed her way of thinking from that point forward. Therapy at Wellsprings had shown her the possibilities of having a healthy way of living and thinking, If I change my mindset, I'll change my decision making and ultimately change my future, she had decided not to be an aggressive runner anymore. Her wall had come down, she quit her job by faith and shortly that afternoon she received a phone call from Wellsprings Women Academy hence chapter 2.*

**Chapter2: The phone call September 2022- March2023:**

*Heaven begins to pray about her leap of faith, asking God is she had made the wrong idea and if she needed to call to get her job back, after all she was one of the top drivers, So hey why not! She paced back and forth across the floor crying*

*asking God to help her and what to do next. She hears God so clearly go back to finish what I started. School was a top priority In Heavens life at this point especially after passing Reading and Language Arts. She had made up in her mind to call Wellsprings to see when classes would start back or if it had. Heaven CCM picked up the first ring and says," Hiiiiiiii Heaven!! we we're just talking about you, and to Heaven's dismay she is very shocked and surprised and though she was very curious her CCM moved forward with the conversation, Stating We've just received funds to pay 6 months of utility and 6 months of your rent!!!! And your name was the first to come up. Little did she know that I had just quit my job that day, scared and confused and trusting God all at the same time, she then expressed and cried out all of her emotions to her CCM. And pursued the mission of going back to school to get her High School Equivalency, more self-help classes now it included financial literacy, and a single mother self-help class. Heaven felt super motivated with only two test to go, she had now bee motivated and able to focus on getting her cleaning business started, which a wellspring staff member even assisted her in writing out her very 1<sup>st</sup> cleaning contract, Heaven was elated and fueled up. That determination and the ability to put her pride to the side by utilizing the tools Wellspring had given her, coupled with her drive to change landed her 3 contracts. But she still had 2 more test to go. She had taken the Math test 3times and failed but couldn't figure out the barrier so she focused on science. She even bought her cap and gown, Toke graduation pictures and practiced walking for graduation so she wouldn't get discouraged about the promise God had given to her, and this is without passing her math and science test. With the hopes of passing them both in order to walk with her class in May. Heaven had discovered great faith!*

### **Chapter 3: April 2023 Science test Day**

Heaven, started to pray going into the testing center, the anxiety about testing started to creep back over her like it had never left, the lies she had told her self-started to speak, and the voices got louder and so did Heaven!! She refused to accept defeat and be defeated by lies that heled her back for so long. God had used WWA to help Heaven understand her potential and what she was capable of. As she finished her last few questions Heaven said a quick prayer over her test,

left to go home and decided to take a nap!! Yes, Heaven was exhausted from the mental battle that she trusted God and decided rest!! As Heaven woke up from her phone ringing, she heard the sweetest voice one could hear with this beautiful Jamaican Accent, “Heaven Dear”! Congratulations you pass!!!! All Heaven could do was cry and thank God and still couldn’t believe what she had just accomplished. She was half way at the finish line there was definitely no turning back now!!! Heaven saw the help being given to her and wanted to take advantage of every moment she could so she increased her time in class and less time in Her therapy sessions and group meetings which was the wrong thing to do. Heaven scheduled her math test and failed once again, not being able to walk with her class 2023 May class, however she did show up and congratulated each one of her fellow class mates and Wellspring Sister who did. Because Wellspring had taught about how to be a sisterhood and support each other just by her own personal experience with each staff member she had encountered rather they are still with WWA or have perused other life endeavors God has called them on we have also celebrated those sisters as well.

#### ***Chapter 4 May 2023 April showers bring May flowers:***

School was out for the next 3 months and Heaven seeing the graduation and even being able to take pictures with her friends she had charted on territory she had never charted before and she was enjoying every bit of it, She started singing writing her songs thanks to WWA selecting her as the Palmist for certain events and Spiritual formation session Heaven had a new attitude and knew that she was unstoppable, so she decided that while WWA was out for the summer she would continue her studies at APS, She understood that it wasn’t enough for her peers, teachers and the WWA staff to want this for her she had to want it just as bad as they did. So, she grinds hard and from time to time when she would get discouraged and it was in those moments her cap and gown came in handy for her, as she would put them on and see herself Graduating, practicing her speech and what she would say or sing to her graduating class. She understood hard work paid off and you have to see it to believe it, you must speak those things that are not as though they were!

### ***Chapter 5 Back to school day July-Sept 2023:***

Focus, Focus, Focus “Heaven no time for distractions, no looking back, no play time, its game time”. Heaven started telling herself this even before she got to school that day. And all of sudden the more she started to see familiar faces the more inspired she would be. Because as stated earlier Heaven had built a family at WWA, and if she didn’t, she certain faces she would become concerned, she cared about the ladies tremendously. OMG WWA have rubbed off on me Heaven exclaimed !!LOL. And she loved every bit of it, she knew she could be herself and wouldn’t be judged, Heaven knew her voice mattered. During the break Heaven worked hard she knew the goal and she had a plan now it was time to execute, so she thought it’s amazing how we try to make plans without God, Heaven needed more income so she went back to work this time in the Caregiving field which minimized her time at school, although things weren’t bad her bills started to get a little behind, and then her car was repossessed while at a client house. Heaven simply said. “Ok God what are you telling me” She continued to go to school, work and Clean for her clients, but that still didn’t seem as if that was enough so once again, she began to seek God for answers.

### ***Chapter 6 A Double Blessing: October-November 2023:***

Good day Heaven how are you, well we have great news if you could please send over your information we have more funds to pay 2 month of your rent and a month of your utility bill. Heaven began to praise and shout to God for everything that He had been doing all she had to do know if figure out what she needed to do to focus on getting her last test done, it was a struggle getting back on track now trying to figure out how she was going to get to school on time, how to ride the bus what time and where the bus stops where she seemed quite curious about the adventure. WWA then gave her a bus pass to get to school as well as her peers who would give her a ride from time to time, everything was right on track, but heaven would soon have to give up her caregiving job, being that she had no means to get around the city for her caregiving shifts. Heaven decided not

to take the Math test in October God had given her November 15,2023 so that what she planned for until.

### ***Chapter 6 The understanding of Giving Thanks November 2023:***

I feel terrible, I can't move I can't talk, I can't eat, I don't know what's wrong with me Heaven expresses. If its not one thing its another I may have to reschedule my test on the 15<sup>th</sup>. No Heaven just wait it out its only a week a way you should be fine before then, then Heaven gets a phone call November 13<sup>th</sup> just days before she was to test, her favorite Aunt has been placed into hospice and she needed to and say her final goodbyes. Heaven sobs muffled through her broken heart and hoarse voice over the phone, as she knew she wouldn't be able to give her last goodbyes, and this would be the only chance, because she no longer had a car and could barely breath let alone move her body to even get up to use the restroom. Heaven cried and began to grieve her aunt knowing that it was time to let her aunt go, Heaven knew what she had to do, and knew it wasn't going to be easy but it was definitely going to be worth it.

### ***Chapter 7 Math testing Day November 15,2023:***

Heaven alarm goes off, she picks up her phone to turn it off and sees a message from her cousin," @ 12:15 am Hey cousin Auntie just passed away" Heaven could only say Thank you Lord. She then begins hearing her aunt's voice. And all though she felt that this would be just as good as any reason to reschedule her Math test, she rejected the urge to give up and pressed on to take her math test, As it turns out this was the same day WWA was throwing their famous Thanksgiving party. Just what Heaven needed a good distraction. Heaven didn't tell anyone that her Aunt had passed that day she had a mask on literally and figuratively so that she could hide what was going on inside after taking her test she, Crying and talking to God and her aunt the whole time needless to say she join the party and just thanked God for the moment of life, love and giving.

### ***The finale November 15,2023 /Currently:***

Heaven, you passed!!! Heaven looks at the WWA director all the way across the room in disbelief. What!!!! Heavens yells, yes you passed!!!! Yells the Director. Oh my God Thank you Lord!!! Thank You Lord!!! Heaven shouts as she receives all the love and recognition from everyone in the room that day, she begins telling the journey of her aunt passing that day and how she had been feeling well all week up until that day. And how she had pressed and was determined not to allow anything to get in her way of her promise. Heaven had broken one of many generational curses that had been attached to her life, and will continue breaking those curses by pursuing the Career Intensive program. Heaven decided to let go of the Caregiving job the day of the CIP orientation God rewarded Heaven's obedience once again by giving her an incentive of \$200.00 once a week which was way more that she was getting working the Caregiving Job once a week!! Heaven looks forward to achieving many more dreams and accomplishing so much more, because at this very moment she has not only gotten 1 but 6 certificates in the Career intensive program and has only been in the program 4 weeks as of February 2024 Heaven as also been accepted into college to obtain a B/S in Christian Organizational Leadership and Business Management which she plans to start this may Gods willing.

Heaven also plans to further her gifts and talents in the paid apprenticeship program upon completion of the Career Intensive Program as March 2024

This concludes my testimony I hope you all were inspired in some sort of way to believe the impossible and seek to achieve the unachievable In Jesus Name!

Peace and Blessing,

Heaven

