### We know exactly what you're going through...

Few things are more disheartening than spending months or even years making headway overcoming bondage, only to watch your emotional pain and shame drag you back into addiction.

Frustrated, embarrassed, and living a life of secrets, you end up feeling like a failure because nothing seems to help.

No matter what addiction you face, you need support to overcome it. Men, insistent on "going it alone," are reluctant to ask for help. But that strategy typically backfires, and even causes addictions to deepen.

Getting encouragement from men who have personally experienced freedom from addiction changes everything!

# There is hope. There is help.

The Stampede was created for men ready and willing to take bold, definitive action to pursue healing and wholeness. It's a place for men to gather for 90 minutes every Tuesday night to ÿnd fellowship, faith, and freedom.

#### **Our Name**

The Stampede men's group embraces the American Bison as our mascot.

The bison symbolizes strength and survival. This creature, whether faced with the blazing sun, drought, fire, or raging blizzards, was able to survive in massive numbers. In fact, 150 years ago 30 million roamed the Great Plains.



Named "Faces the Storm" by Native Americans, the bison does just that. When biting wind starts to howl and snow whips, the bison turns right into it and starts walking toward the storm. This smart animal knows that walking right into it will get him through the storm faster than if he hunkers down and waits.

Like a bison herd, Stampede men band together and walk boldly into the storm of addiction. In addition, a heard of bison can stampede, forming a thundering mass that moves as a single body.

#### **One Man's Journey**

Phil battled his addiction since early childhood, starting with abuse that led to poor choices and bad experiences. Even after finding, falling in love with, and eventually marrying the girl of his dreams who loved the Lord, 11 years into his marriage he'd come to a crossroad. After the 2013 wildfire had taken everything from them, what was left behind was a destructive trail of wounds from years of hiding. His wife could no longer tolerate the habit. Phil faced a choice to sincerely get help or lose his marriage.

He prayed to God, like no other time and remembers the search and discovery of the Stampede men's group.

"I was determined to find an accountability group—not just a meeting—where I could get practical counsel with sincere guys. I found a group of peers, normal guys from all walks of life, who met diligently every week, and helped me establish a new habit: sobriety.

"I found healing and encouragement and took on a new challenge in my life—to pursue godly masculinity, a clean heart, and honest sharing of my life with other men. This led to a stronger desire to love God, myself, and the woman He chose for me."

Today, after 25 years together with his wife, Phil is one of many Stampede facilitators. He's learned to pray always, love his wife immensely, and enjoy weekly fellowship with the guys. (over)

#### One Man's Journey (continued)

"There is power in honesty and banding together as real men," he shares. It cannot be found in most church groups. As stated by other leaders before me in the Stampede... at some point in our lives, as men of God, we must tirelessly and continuously oppose our fallen nature, and lean into recovery."

King David wrote in Psalm 51, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me..." This is what the Stampede men's group seeks to accomplish.

#### Our Founder & Leader



Rob McIntire is a retired narcotics detective and deputy sheriff. Seeking to manage the pain of a severe spinal cord injury he suffered during a raid, Rob became

dependent on prescription drugs and acting out sexually. In a desperate place, he found hope and help in a Christian recovery program.

After experiencing transformational emotional and spiritual healing, Rob felt God was leading him to use what he had learned to help others, so he pursued formal training and in 2004 launched Freedom to Live Counseling in Colorado Springs. Today Rob treats men and couples for sex addiction, intimacy anorexia, and traumas, as well as individual and couple's issues.

Realizing that men trapped in addiction desperately need systematic help, including group support, Rob launched the Stampede in 2012.

#### Take Courage!

A courageous man is a valiant warrior, a man willing to put himself in front of a bullet to protect others.

The word courage comes from the Latin *cor*, which means "heart." So to have heart means to have courage. This is God's idea of strength.

Stampede men lend courage to other men. We treat courage as a commodity that we are compelled to share with others! Grateful men set free by God's grace enthusiastically and humbly come alongside other men.

#### Join us Tuesdays at 5 p.m.

Woodmen Valley Chapel Rockrimmon Campus 290 East Woodmen Road Colorado Springs, CO 80919 (enter in back, lower level of the worship center)

> Rob McIntire, MA, CACIII Freedom to Live Counseling 7025 Tall Oak Drive, Suite 110 Colorado Springs, CO 80919 719-593-1163 ftlcounselingco@gmail.com freedomtolivecounseling.com

The Stampede purposes to be a group of men committed to becoming more like Christ. As Stampede men pursue intimacy with Him, their courage and passion are so irresistible and contagious, other men are drawn to join them!





## Men Facing Life's Storms Together

The Stampede encourages and exhorts men toward godliness. Men who have experienced God's healing and restoration lend courage to brothers who desire freedom.

At the Stampede, the strength of men supporting one another combines with the amazing force of God's empowerment in a context of humility, honesty, and accountability.

Our goal: men embracing and living out godly masculinity.