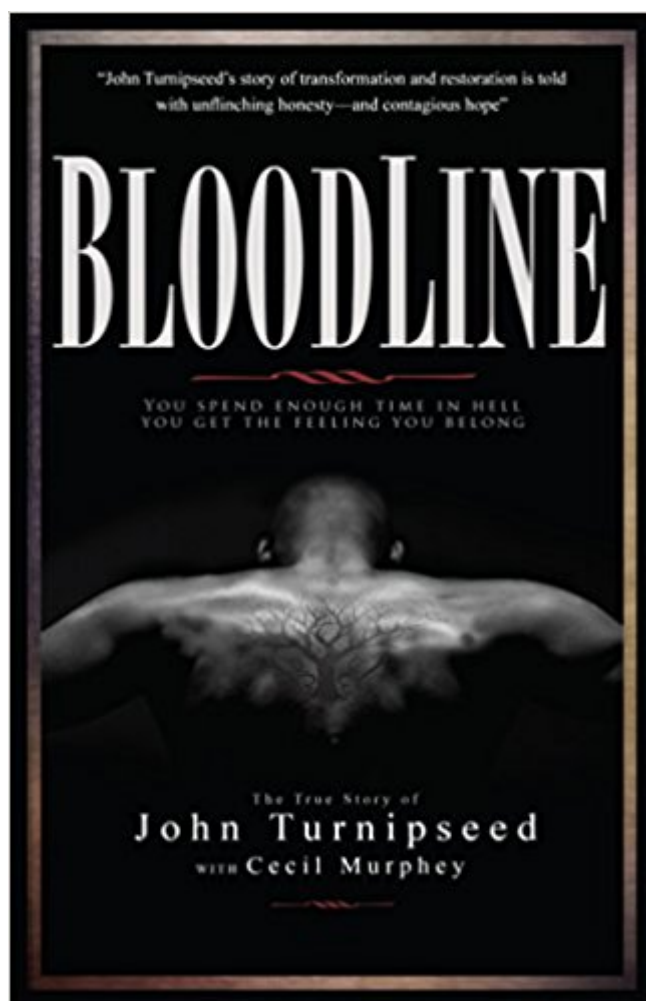


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# Bloodline: You Spend Enough Time In Hell You Get The Feeling You Belong



## Synopsis

Torn from an idyllic life with a loving, extended family in 1960 Alabama, young Johnny Turnipseed found himself in Minneapolis, Minnesota with a father he no longer recognized and empty cupboards. A.C. Turnipseed's alcoholism and womanizing started a chain reaction of poverty, violence, addiction and despair that nearly destroyed three generations. From lost and frightened little boy to gang leader, drug dealer and pimp to one of the nation's most respected pioneers of community restoration, John Turnipseed's story of transformation and restoration is told with unflinching honesty and contagious hope.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I am drawn to stories of people overcoming adversity. Stories of the human spirit rising above and conquering over the struggles, hardships, and downright hell and we all encounter at some point during our life's journey. This is what attracted me to John's story and the reason I wanted to play his part in the Turnipseed movies. Hearing, reading, and seeing these types of stories motivate me to keep fighting and to keep the faith when I go through struggles. If you are at all like me, then just one chapter of John's life will do the same for you. • Lawrence Gilliard, Jr., American Character Actor and Hollywood Movie Actor John Turnipseed's story shows how a changed heart will shift what you think of your self and the impact you can have. I thank God for you, John Turnipseed, for sharing your story, for allowing Jesus to change your heart, and for you deciding to love and lead others to be the best

they can be. I'm calling all the John Turnipseeds, types forward. Let the shifting begin. It is time to change the world, your state, your city, your community, your hood, your street, your family, and your life. But it starts with you. Go all in and finish the race. We all need you.

• Shaun Alexander, NFL MVP, award-winning author of *Touchdown Alexander* and *The Walk*

John Turnipseed is a living witness and example of the transformational power of Jesus Christ. John's life experiences have made him an excellent candidate to speak into the life and brokenness of our communities due to the cycle of crime and culture of rebellion. One of the things that I have come to admire about John is his commitment to his family. Because John's heart is to see people restored, his bloodline runs deeper than his family of origin. Through his work at the Center for Fathering, John has added members to his family countless beyond number. He has become a father to many, a brother to others, and a source of inspiration to all who know him.

• Quovadis Marshall, National Director, Restorative Church Coalition of Prison Fellowship Ministries

Once a notorious gangster, drug dealer and pimp, John Turnipseed knows what it's like to feel trapped in sin. Now a licensed minister, Turnipseed wants those struggling to make a change and to know God hears their prayers. "I always try to tell people to look for the evidence of God because it's always there and sometimes we just ignore it. We look past it [because] it doesn't look inviting to us," he said. In his soon-to-be-released autobiography *Bloodline*, Turnipseed tells how his troubled childhood led him into a life of crime and how surrendering his life to Christ led him to become a helping hand for others living hard lives. As a young child, Turnipseed's family attended church every Sunday. Then the family relocated from Alabama to Minnesota and his father, once a deacon and a member of the church choir, became a violent drunk who beat Turnipseed's mother daily. Turnipseed said he prayed five to 10 times a day for the abuse to stop but it continued. He and his five brothers eventually stopped praying. He told *The Christian Post*, "I just felt that there was no God at that time." But looking back, Turnipseed said God did intervene. "I see that He actually did send angels to help but we did not grab the angels' hands." The family stopped attending church regularly and he said, "Three times I remember different ministers tried to reach out to us and my mom wouldn't talk to them." His mother also forbade her sons from talking to school counselors. Turnipseed rebelled against God by turning to the local pimps and drug dealers. He began running errands for pimps in exchange for sex with prostitutes at age 12. Then he was kicked out of school by age 16 for threatening to kill his principal while high on drugs. As an adult, Turnipseed became involved in several illegal activities such as armed robbery, pimping prostitutes, and selling drugs and was constantly in and out of prison. His son, Little Johnny, and stepson,

Roamel, had both followed in his footsteps, becoming drug dealers and gang members. Turnipseed did not begin to seek God again until Little Johnny was shot outside of a party. Though he was in prison at the time, he cried out to God. ã ã BYã ã STEPHANIE SAMUELã ã ,ã ã CHRISTIAN POST REPORTERã ã September 26, 2014

John Turnipseed, a former gang leader and drug dealer, is a community leader, pastor, speaker, facilitator, and has written parenting curriculum. For more than 15 years, John was the director of the Center for Fathering at Urban Ventures in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was promoted to vice president in 2014. Overcoming the deadly effects of a violent, absent father and the downward spiral of gang life, John is passionate about helping rebuild relationships and successful living. Cecil Murphey has written and co-written more than 135 books, including the New York Timesã ã bestsellerã ã 90 Minutes in Heavenã ã with Don Piper andã ã Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Storyã ã with Dr. Ben Carson. His books have sold in the millions and have brought hope and encouragement to countless people around the world.

This is a stunning testimony to the grace of God Almighty and how He uses people to win those some would consider throw-aways. What a clear picture of the effect a father has on his family and how his understanding and use of his authority effects the many generations that come after him. Amazing grace of God indeed.

John Turnipseed, born in Alabama, follows his father to Minneapolis to find that his father is a criminal, a drug user and dealer who abuses John's mother and who has no time for John. Not surprisingly, John turns to using and selling drugs and to burglary and theft to fund his habit. Amazingly, John is saved by several Christian mentors and becomes a Christian leader himself.. An amazing story of pain, hope and redemption.

I picked up this book after watching a Glenn Beck interview of John Turnipseed. After hearing the man speak, I truly wanted to learn more about his life and how he overcame incredible odds. It was far beyond what my sheltered life could comprehend, and good to read if we want to understand better how difficult it is to turn around neighborhoods when generations have opted for a life of crime. The book is very direct in its style and is a narrative that includes multiple failures as John tries to turn his life around--but that's what makes it real and believable.

This book took me into a world that I have never known. John's story is both shocking and uplifting. Captivating and compelling are two words that I would describe this book. This is not a easy book to read due to the harshness of the reality of John's world. John's story brings many questions that our society must wrestle with. I would encourage you to buy the book and read it.

Great testimony to read

The book had a lot of great reading and it was good.

Autobiographies are always so interesting. But an autobiography that has an amazing testimony of a life that made a 180 degree transformation is thrilling to read. I will recommend this great book to everyone looking for truth, knowing that the reader will be fascinated, encouraged, and informed.

To think a father started all of Johnny's problems. Children need both a father and a mother to be successful in life. Thank God John was able to overcome his background.

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