

## The Peale, Baltimore

*Out of the Blocks* Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the Out of the Blocks website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>



Sir Lister Floyd ([00:00](#)):

This is a song that I wrote probably about 20 years ago. I did 10 years in prison and on my last two months of coming home, I was always writing gospel out of the Bible. I would write in gospel letters home to my mom and I just so happened to wrote a song that's called "Put Your Faith in God Hand, Leave Your Trouble Behind." (singing)

Sir Lister Floyd ([00:35](#)):

My name is Sir Lister Floyd, Jr. Capital S-I-R, capital L-I-S, capital T E R, capital F-L-O-Y-D. 10 years in prison. Every day I felt like I was just living a bad dream. Now I'm out, free. Now I feel like I'm still just stuck in another dimension of a bad dream. I been homeless for three and a half years. My house had burnt down. My brother, he brought the house down by mistake. He took the blower out of the furnace and put a regular fan in the furnace and it burnt the house down.

New Speaker ([01:15](#)):

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So I've been homeless ever since. I've been living in a tractor trailer, in the bed of a tractor trailer in the yard with guys fixing on cars. And I've been living this for three years until Monday and Monday, I got kicked out the yard. I don't know. It's just taking a toll on me right now. So I don't... I can't rob people cause that ain't my lifestyle. I don't sell drugs because that ain't my lifestyle. Seems like I'm just out here alone. And I know I ain't the only one going through it. It's a lot of homeless people out here. Last year, there was 157 homeless people that died all in the cold. And I was just one of the lucky ones.

Speaker 2 ([02:10](#)):

Mr. Floyd came to Paul's place through our hot lunch program. And here we are several months later and he's now a five day a week, ambassador volunteer, meaning he's working his way back into the workforce, polishing up on those soft job skills.

Sir Lister Floyd ([02:26](#)):

The other day, there was a lady that was... She had a kid and I helped her get food and try to help her get more assistance that she needed for her utility bills. It just makes me feel like I have a place in life.

Speaker 2 ([02:44](#)):

Paul's Place helps families respond to crisis and it helps families strengthen themselves. And the youth in their family. We're located at 1118 Ward Street in Southwest Baltimore, literally in the center of Pigtown.