Christian Fellowship Prison Newsletter

October 2022

### Buford, GA

My mother used to make me go to church every time. The doors were open but I was too young and rebellious to pay attention to what the pastor was saying. By the time I was 15 years old, I was on that wide path going straight to hell. I was into drugs really bad. And the only things that could hold my attention were fast cars and faster women. At the time, I really didn't see anything wrong with the way my life was going. Those things were all I wanted then. Next thing I know I was getting locked up so often that the jail kept a cell empty just for me. I tried slowing down off the drug use and tried to settle down and have a family. I got married, had a beautiful daughter, a handsome son, with the love of my life. But the drugs were not done with me and I lost my family, got locked up for felony, lost my house, clothes and everything. Thank God for my mother's prayers, I got a 15- year sentence and finally got sick and tired of being sick and tired. I started reading my Bible and praying. I told God that I finally see that without Him in my life I'm going straight down. I asked Him to please deliver me from all the drugs, and that I believe that He gave His only Son to die for my sins, and I believe that He was resurrected and to please save my soul. All of my problems just disappeared and I felt a joy that is indescribable. Not just happiness but real joy. Now I am at the end of my 15- year sentence, no drugs in 10 years with the help of the Holy Spirit, and a feeling of freedom that I didn't even feel out of prison. Thank God, through the blood of Jesus Christ I am a new creation. People can't believe I'm the same person they hung out with on the street. Now I love reading and studying the Bible, and I just asked God to lead and direct me where He wants me to go. **C.S.** 

## St. Petersburg, FL

Each new day I thank my Lord Jesus Christ for waking me up to enjoy what He has made me to experience afresh for that day. Whatever it be - hardships or what I call peaches and cream days, which are blessings that I don't notice until they hit me right in the chest. But God has a unique way of keeping my attention every day. There are times when I feel overwhelmed by the trials and fire that come my way from this wicked world we live in today. Although I pray sometimes it seems like God is far away. But right at my breaking point my heavenly Father and Lord Jesus Christ are right there beside me to catch me when I fall. Some of those falls hurt. Physically and spiritually. Sometimes I tend to be stubborn and we need to get bruised up a little, but even when the ways and cares of this world get in an uproar my Lord Jesus is waiting with open arms to embrace me and comfort me. God promised the Israelites perfect peace and protection. He

# Vol. 32. No. 10

will do the same for you or me. I keep focused most of the time when I'm alone by myself. But don't test the Lord your God. He will correct us with stern love as He has done in my daily walk with Him. Even though I, in the flesh, hate being corrected, I really do love my Lord Jesus Christ. This prison reminds me of the Apostle Paul when he was in prison. The staff are corrupt so I pray for them to have an encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ so they will believe in His name and be saved. But as I keep on studying His Word, the Holy Spirit talks to me and helps me get through each day. So by God's love and mercy I pray that this testimony will bless you and encourage you to live for Jesus Christ. We don't know when He will return, so keep watch and be ready for His return. R.S.

### Lovelady, TX

When I was 17 years old, about to be 18, I married my childhood sweetheart, who was 15! My parents and her parents signed papers so we could marry. I was strung out on crack cocaine very badly! She didn't care, she still stood by me. I went through so many good jobs, living on the streets with my young wife and my addiction. My son was born in April and by May I was on my way to prison for robbery. I lost my wife, my son, and my freedom. In prison I joined a gang - that was the worst thing I ever did. I had a 10- year sentence. I had something to prove and the

only family I had was my gang. Even before I got locked up, and after, God kept trying to reach me. In so many ways He was always there for me, I just wouldn't have admitted it, but he carried me through those 10 years! I got out and my mom had gotten my son when he was two years old from my ex-wife. She raised him, he was 11 years old when I went home. But I wasn't free very long. I got to know him, got close. But I ended up getting into trouble again with another woman. I got her pregnant. She had our daughter in the county jail, when we're both on our way to prison. I've still not met my daughter to this day. I finally got out of the gang in 2018. I started using meth right before I made parole, so I went to a halfway house in Austin with a new addiction. I was there a few days, got into a fight, behind drugs, and kicked out. Which violated my parole, and I lived on the streets in Austin for about a month in the freezing cold. I would go to churches for food, clothing, etc. I couldn't go to a homeless shelter, because I had a blue warrant and cops would always be at the shelters. So eventually I got a job. I got paid daily, but I was getting high on crack, meth, weed, and drinking. I couldn't ever get ahead. Well, I finally bought a phone, and the guy worked with downloaded 1 Facebook and Messenger and sent a friend request to my ex-wife for me. I ended up getting her number and calling her. She gave me my mom's and son's phone numbers and I called them. I hadn't talked to my son since he was 11. My mom bought a bus ticket and had it

waiting for me at the station. I went and got it and went home to my family. For a couple months, I was all right. Then, I got arrested on my warrant. I stayed in the county jail. They reinstated me to my mom's address. I ended up getting a good job, an apartment, and was doing pretty good for a while. Then I started stealing cars, whatever. After getting out of prison, I got arrested for possession - use of a motor vehicle in felony theft. I started leading prayer call in studies in our county jail. I gave my life completely to Christ! But I lost my son and my family doesn't even write me anymore. But since I gave my life to Christ, the past has ceased to trouble me, and I have peace. I gave everything else to God, who is working in my life right now, I'm just trusting in the Lord, and living for R.S. Him.

## **Stand In Faith**

Stand in faith Even when you can't see your way Stand in faith Even when you feel like you can't face another day Stand in faith Even when the tears want to flow from your eyes Stand in faith Knowing that our God will always provide Stand in faith Even when you feel that all hope is gone Stand in faith Knowing that He is always there for vou to lean on Stand in faith Even when you feel like giving up Stand in faith Because He is there ... saying, "Just

look up" Stand in faith Even in those times you feel so all alone Stand in faith Hold on and be strong, for He is still on the throne Stand in faith Even when it's hard to believe Stand in faith Knowing that He can change your situation, suddenly Stand in faith Even in those times you feel it's hard to pray Stand in faith And believe that He has already made the way Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen So stand in faith Because you already have the victory! J.C.

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Romans 15:13

Send your testimony letters to: Christian Fellowship Prison Ministries PO Box 135 Fredericksburg, OH 44627-0135