

Christian Fellowship Prison Newsletter

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Stillwater, MN

I am a sinner. I walked away from God when I was 13 and for the next 16 years of my life was miserable and wretched. For over a decade I was incarcerated. I drank, and did drugs by the pound, lied about everything, stole whatever would fit in my pockets or could be driven away, ate out of the trash cans, slept on whatever sidewalk I collapsed on, I was sexual property, was in a gang, carried weapons, engaged in sexual immorality, survived near death experiences many times, and really made a mess everywhere I went with everything I did. But five months ago I broke down and realized how awful I had become. I even took a life. It took more courage than ever for me to get on my knees and confess and surrender my life to Christ. Now I cry more than ever, pray daily, fast, meditate, walk with God, and love Jesus more than life itself. Someone died so another could live. That weighs heavy on any man. Then again, one man died so that so many could live. Praise Jesus!
J.P.

Live Oak, FL

In 2003 I was smoking pot and using alcohol daily. I was doing this for 25 years, although I thought it would be a good idea and did say many times I would quit. In many instances, I would have a drink in my hand before the sun went down the next day, many embarrassing instances. Then came my arrest in July 2003. I was charged with first-degree murder. Thirteen months later, I was tried for second-degree murder, and was found guilty for

manslaughter with a firearm. I was sentenced to life without parole and 30 years. Today I have six years two months to go. My wife of 42 years is still with me. My children and grandchildren are also doing well. Upon my arrest, I began to take a long, hard look at my life. I began to reevaluate and re-prioritize what was important in my life and, more important, what was missing. I invited Jesus into my heart. Through the power of the Holy Ghost I have been delivered from drugs and alcohol addictions. I've been sober since the day of my arrest. I've shared my testimony with thousands and with Celebrate Recovery classes. The Gospel is the most valuable thing that I have and I share it with everyone I come in contact with. **D.D.**

Tennessee Colony, TX

I am back in prison for a technical violation. I regionally caused the death of an older woman in a car wreck. I left the scene in order to allow my passengers to avoid confrontation with the law-enforcement. I was arrested for leaving the scene of the accident and later sentenced to 30 years in prison. I served 11 1/2 years in Texas prison and worked in maintenance on the plumbing cart. I was given a program in 2017 and released in 2019. The problem I faced was thinking I needed all the material achievements everyone else had already completed while I was in prison to feel like I was successful. I

was out about a year by the time I finally found a full-time plumbing job working out of town. During all this time I started to drink beer again after work, especially with coworkers. I had the belief that it was okay to reward myself with a cool, relaxing beer after a hard day's work, even though alcohol consumption was totally in violation of the conditions of my parole. After a few months, my behavior became excessive like it usually did. My appetite for pleasure turned into that driving passion for after work delight while I worked out of town. However, I was sometimes the perfect Christian on the weekend at home and in church Sunday mornings. Before I left prison, I learned to become a master manipulator and also a deceiver. I was a religious person and did not actually know it. One day I left work early and had two beers before leaving. Seven hours later I got pulled over and was arrested. When the test was about to be brought up in court, I was there for felony and the courts wanted me to sign for time served for the six months I had already served, but I refused. I was about to have this case dismissed and quite possibly my parole reinstated. But God stirred my spirit up to write my parole officer to explain what had happened, but my parole officer did not get my letter. The head power officer received my letter and transferred my officer to Houston

and ordered me to be revoked and sent back to prison for admitting to drinking beer after work. I've been back in prison for six months. I thought that I would make parole again when I saw them but instead, I got another year set off. I realize today that I cannot bargain with God. I am now learning to become sincere with my prayers. Before, I would just study about God, I did not know him. I knew a lot of stuff about Christianity, but I knew little about a heavenly Father. Today I confess to know nothing and become like a child and come near to my Creator. I am 50 years old and feel usually in the Spirit because I am not trying to compete to win approval. I already am. I trust God will allow me to be paroled in the near future. I am not doing all this to receive parole like I was before. It is a weight removed. I am also learning to stop being hasty. Where am I going? I can do something for His glory right here. **A.E.**

Salisbury, NC

I was raised up in a Christian home, or so I thought. My parents divorced when I was about eight years old. My father ended up with custody of me and my half-sister. It was then that my life began to turn dark, because that is when I begin to be mentally and sexually abused. This led to me starting and becoming addicted to drugs. It also birthed the lifestyle of me stealing and not caring about anything. Eventually, I just gave up and ended up coming in and out of prison, in fact, it has been that way for most of my life. However, around August 2022, I stopped being a prayer leader for the Native American

services here. It was then that I gave my life to Jesus. It is at that moment that I state "I found Jesus", even though I now realize that He was always there the entire time. Regardless of my continued running away from Him, He was always with me, and His love has always covered me even when I didn't realize what it was about or knew that I needed it. I am a witness that God's love always chases after us! On the other hand, my life has changed tremendously since giving my life to Christ. I've graduated from discipleship training. I graduated in July 2022, and was given a certificate. This class spoke volumes to the new life. I now live, and publicly declared that by being baptized in August 2022. God has and still is working on my life. God is ordering my steps as well as opening many doors for me. This testifies to just how the power of Jesus works for us when we give our entire life to Him. He will renew the unrighteous things from us and replace them with His righteousness. Every day He remains at work in my life. **C.A.**

Taft, OK

When I was 14 years old, I was riding my bike out on the highway when I was hit by a truck and it dragged me 85 feet. When it finally came to a stop I got up and all I had was a skinned knee and the truck looked like it had been wrapped around a tree. About four days later, the police came to my house to follow up and told my dad that his son was hit by a truck and showed him pictures of the truck and my dad told them they were mistaken, because the kid that was hit by the truck must be dead. Then he looked

at me and I showed him my knee, and all he could do was just hug me. You know that was Jesus that stood up and took the hit from that truck. Jesus stopped that truck from killing me that day, and now today I am set up to preach here in prison. So you see, Jesus saved me for a purpose, His purpose. And I'm so grateful I just want to do Him proud now, and serve Him. Yes, I have messed up in the past, but my future is now with Him. **B.B.**

"Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." Isaiah 55:6-13

Send your testimony letters to:

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