Christian Fellowship Prison Newsletter

May 2023

#### Cleveland, TX

I was walking in the darkness of addiction, depression, anxiety, brokenness, and being suicidal. I didn't have any care in the world about anything or anybody except for my next fix. It never mattered where I slept - behind stores, bus sidewalks, stations, abandoned houses, and even behind dumpsters if I had to. I went from gas station to gas station, begging for money. Lving became normal and living with no care also became normal. All the drugs that I was doing was never enough. Depression was growing stronger and stronger. My heart feelings were more broken and my anxiety getting to the point as if I couldn't breathe. There were not enough drugs to satisfy my desires so I started to sell drugs. A whole new world arrived, and more demons were created. Power, money, cars, and women. It's all I wanted. I went from living on the streets to running the streets with a lot of power. The more money, the more drugs, and the attention I attracted after a while, still didn't make me happy. If anything, it made me more depressed. I became a person that I never thought I would be and also treated people in a way I thought I never would. Going crazy, I became suicidal. I was like a madman, destroying everything, arguing with the people that actually cared about me. The people that loved me I pushed away. I cursed God, blaming God for

everything, and reacting against our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior that died for us. I was praying to these that didn't have any power, buying things (idols) that were useless, and worshiping idols that never gave praise back. I still felt empty and without any hope, like I was useless. Around my birthday I was taken off the streets. I was still not ready for a change and still in my ways smoking, doing drugs, and running from God. Every day the routine was the same - wake up, get high, and get more high, till I found myself in some trouble. I got a hold of some drugs that I flipped out on the major and captain and guards. They locked me up in seg. parole. I found myself in a position where God wanted me to be. I cried out to Him, poured my heart out to Him and told Him that if He was to get me out of the situation that I was in, I would serve Him. I wanted to know if He loved me. Now these bad drugs that I had gotten a hold of had me seeing things, hearing things, and had me scared. I was in seg. for four days and it was the worst four days of my life. God answered my prayers. On August 20 I gave my life to Christ. He has filled my heart with joy and has given me peace in my heart. I no deal with longer depression, anxiety, and even thinking about harming myself. The Lord has restored my brokenness, and is still pouring out His love for me every day - healing, renewing, and making a way for me. I have been sharing

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His Word with others, and telling others how I was and who I have become. Drugs have become my bridge to freedom. The same thing that was keeping me from God let me in to Him. I have never felt this free my whole life. I worship and praise somebody that loves me back. I worship and praise Jesus Christ. My decision to follow Jesus has changed the way I talk, the way I walk, and the people I surround myself with. If God can do it for me, He can do it for anybody or anyone. There's nothing that the Lord S.M. cannot do.

### Navasota, TX

I've claimed to be a Christian most of my life, but I didn't really give my life to Jesus until January 1, 2021. I was just tired of being beaten down by life. Nothing seemed to work. So, on that New Year, I prayed. I prayed like I never had before. I told God that I've done things my way for 25 years and to look where it's gotten me. I told Him that I'm giving my life and everything to Him and asked Him to help and bless me. And bless me He has. He has re-opened doors I forever thought closed. Mended relationships I thought forever broken. It's been a long two years, but it's a time I will never forget. I am writing this letter, because I am beginning to see God's purpose for my life. I'm slowly being pushed into more of leadership positions in my faith group. I'm proud to have the responsibility, but I'm also humble.

There's still so much that I myself don't know. **M.W.** 

### Amarillo, TX

First of all, Jesus Christ dying on the cross is what has truly made a difference in my entire life, for over 26 years. From the age of 38 to 65 years old God's presence has kept me grounded in Him. I cannot say enough about how time after time the Lord Jesus made each new day a joy to reflect on His goodness. God really loves us, I've seen His foot prints in my life through the many turbulent and disappointing instances, like death of family members and loved ones. I have been locked away these years, I must tell of God's mercy, goodness, and grace abounding inside me, and giving me the courage and strength to overcome it. Jesus has never and shall never leave me nor forsake me. I have found that to be the very corner stone of understanding that it's all about our relationship with the Master Builder Jesus. My God truly has supplied all my needs according to His riches in glory. For sure, I have plenty to rejoice for, from receiving two stacked life sentences, and God never giving up on me, even when it seemed all else failed, God never let go. He's made His merciful light to shine upon this shattered heart of mine. I've seen my God come to my rescue time and time again. He loves us, I'm certain of it! R.R.

## Huntsville, TX

I was born in El Paso, Texas, to a beautiful mother and an athletically gifted father. As a kid, I was very outgoing and that tended to get me in trouble. At 13 I was in

serious trouble with the law. I was then sent to live with my dad in Houston Texas. It was with my dad that I got the freedom I so desperately wanted. I went to school and literally got a job the very day I turned 16. After meeting the mother of my children, we married at a young age. After I caught my exwife cheating, I began to use drugs. I quickly divorced and started sleeping around with several women. Eventually, the street is where I preferred to be. This would lead me to working for the streets. I was known as "driver". If it involves driving, and you were paying my fee, I was in. One day as I was sitting in my truck, a man from the church walked up to me and told me to show up at the church down the street so he could give me a free for turkey Thanksgiving. Immediately I was overwhelmed with a sense of guilt for all the things I had been doing. I prayed to God and asked Him to take me away from the lifestyle I'd been living. I had been doing wrong by my family and friends. And much more, in the eyes of God. I'm sure God answered my prayers, but not the way I wanted. He answered the way I needed! Two weeks later, I was pulled over, taken to jail, and eventually prison. In jail, I picked up a Bible and read it. Then I began to study. Immediately I began to live by it! After detoxing from all the drugs, I began to honor the body God gave me and at 40 years old I am in the best shape of my life. All glory to God. Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior, and I thank Him every day for the blood He shed to cover my sins. I love Jesus, and I know He loves me too! I'm a prisoner, but through Jesus, I am free. **A.C.** 

I used to sell drugs and had sex with lots of women. I was living a lifestyle that I thought was right but at the end I was not happy. I thought I had friends and women and money, but I didn't. I was in and out of my kid's lives. I got married at 19 years old and I was not ready to get divorced when I got locked up. But my exwife had two kids with my so-called friend. I knew she wasn't the right one for me. All she cared about was money and what I could do for her when I came out of prison. I was still the same person until I met a brother in Christ. He showed me who God was and what He can do for me. I didn't have anyone. I thought I was alone until I got close to God and He blessed me and got my family back in my life. I accepted Jesus Christ to be my Savior so now I am a Christian. I thank God for being in my life and being in my family's lives. So now I'm walking with Christ. I'm doing everything to move forward and walk the right path. I've changed a lot and I'm not the same person as I was when I was out. I thank God for showing me who I really am.

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