



Milton, FL

All praises to the Most High for life, health and strength. I am 30 years old, and have been locked up for seven years. I was blessed to give back some time and as of now I have 13 years left. With the power of my God I'll be home when I put in my next appeal. My brothers and sisters, I want to share some knowledge with you. While you are incarcerated, whether you are alone or short time, focus on bettering yourself so that you can benefit yourself and your family. A lot of times, myself included, get caught up in the gang culture and want to be violent. I understand what it's like as a new person in the system. There are feelings of hopelessness - you feel powerless and alone. You feel angry at the world for the situation you're in, and you take it out on others. I took all my pent-up aggression out on others and chose the path of violence to release my stress. After building up a notorious reputation, I looked back at what I had to show for it and guess what I had, nothing. Creating fear in others benefits you nothing in prison because all it will lead to is being placed under maximum security. Hanging out with the wrong crowd cost me more than I realized. Because of my anger, I was shortsighted, I lacked vision. I didn't realize what my actions caused, and who they would affect. In all honesty, behavior in that manner made me selfish. Constantly being in

confinement and building a reputation behind the wall, caused my real-world relationships to deteriorate, because being in lockdown you're not going to be able to communicate with your friends, family, and girlfriend like that and then it hit me one day in the box. Do I want to continue to see things in the flesh and live a life of sin? Or do I want to grow in what's real and have eternal life? I guess you know, after I had a long talk with God I decided I wanted to be a winner, I wanted to follow His laws and commandments, I want a wife, I want to make legit money, and most of all, I want to achieve my dreams by leading people to Him through my creativity. Now I have a vision, I am a writer with currently seven books completed all with the testimony that my brothers and sisters can relate to. There is a podcast that I listen to that also encourages me and helps me through tough times. I believe that through the entertainment industry - music, books, movies, and TV shows I can reach the lost souls. I wouldn't change my story because my testimony is unique. All the times I felt that I wanted to give up and that I wasn't going home vanished, thanks to the Most High. I run into people from my violent past, and I always make sure that I spread the word about God, giving them some of my favorite proverbs and talk with them. I'm about to begin the process of obtaining a

bachelor's degree. It's never too late to turn your life around. All you have to do is take the first step.
C.W.

Soledad, CA

I went to church when I was seven years old. I lived in poverty, but my family was doing the best they could. My dad was a recovering alcoholic, but when he found out I was going to church he started teaching me what he was learning in His Bible studies. So on Wednesday, we would come into one accord, and tell each other what we learned and how we felt God was speaking to us. And how we could apply the truth we learned to our lives. Well, we did this until I was 16, then I was kicked out of my house and homeless in the streets. I always felt God's hand of favor, putting me in situations and incidents that can only be explained as a miracle of God. I thought I had always been saved, so I thought I was good. But subconsciously, I was trying to earn my salvation. I always wondered why every time I got incarcerated, when I was inside I could get out and right away go back to the vomit I was in before. So I've been doing this since 2004 to 2023. This time I got locked up in 2022 and when I couldn't sleep, I totally disowned God and in my heart I didn't mean it, but I couldn't figure out why I still felt emptiness and loneliness that has been with me ever since I first

received into my heart. So when I landed in prison, I immediately found the church on the yard and found something that I've never had or seen before and that was a church full of the Holy Spirit. The feeling I got brought me to tears. That was on a Friday afternoon and that whole weekend I spent in my cell, fasting and praying on my knees and pouring my whole heart out to God. I am alone in my cell and heard a voice saying "What are you going to do with my Son?" And I told God I was sorry for the life that I wasted, and that if He would forgive me and come into my heart, I would surrender my life to Him. My life flashed before my eyes at that moment and what was revealed to me was all the bad things I've ever done and worst of all, the good that I was supposed to do, but didn't. I now live my life by the Holy Spirit leading the conviction that I get when God is telling me to do something and I get that conviction that I need to do this right now and that has been my life since May 2023. When I truly surrendered my life to Christ and let the Holy Spirit in into my heart, there was a confirmation with a vision of a Bible that I had a long time ago. It was a really good study Bible and I had forgotten all about it until now. So I picked it up in astonishment, and something spoke to me in my mind, saying, "save it". So I put it in my cell. A week later the sister that raised me, that kicked me out of the house when I was 16, that I haven't even talked to in 22 years, sent me a package that I couldn't accept, so I

wrote her a letter at the address my dad gave me years ago and told her if she wanted to do something for me that I would like a Bible. So a couple of days went by and I found the Bible I wanted on the shelf. I teared up, picked it up and said thank you Lord! I have a rock-solid foundation in Christ and assurance from Him that He hears me and lives inside me! I have my sister back in my life and I'm moving in with her when I get out in four months! So I gave my life to Christ when I found myself spiritually in rock-bottom, and sincerely repented of my sins, received Jesus into my heart and know deep down in my heart that He is God. And that He came down to live a sinless life and died for the sins of the world and then He rose up from the grave, and is at the right hand of the Father in heaven. I believe this to be true, and I got baptized in the name of Jesus and now spend each day living life and sharing the gospel and my faith to the people in the yard. **D.M.**

Raymondville, TX

I was lost in sin, a true child of the world, given to the state at thirteen and raised by the state till I was eighteen. Living a violent, drug filled, sin-filled life until I met my wife, a devout born-again Christian. So, from the time I met her till her death, the devil and the Holy Spirit fought for control of my soul. Well, she passed away and my world collapsed. I cursed God for taking her and not letting her live. I was a broken man, with no will to live, no care for my safety, or life. All I sought was oblivion through alcohol

and marijuana until I got a drug sentence and went to prison. Three weeks later I knew what I had to do in order to survive and thrive. I called on the name of Jesus Christ to save me and wash me and make me one of His children. With out a doubt this happened that instant. My mind was destroyed and my heart was still broken. The depth of my grief was unfathomable. I had no drugs or alcohol to cover or erase the pain of the loss. But the pain drove me to tears constantly. I could not hold a conversation or even sit quietly for longer than fifteen minutes and I would start weeping. My mind was so broken I could not write a legible, coherent sentence. So, I kept praying and trusting in Him to heal me, my mind, and heart. And right away He started answering my prayers with small things like being able to talk to a doctor. Then I found a couple of spiritual books on growth and prayer. And little by little the Lord, our Messiah, our Savior, gave me back my mind. Healed! No doctor could do this, only Him. I was also filled with a new sense of purpose, no longer carrying the poisons of Satan to cover the pain in my heart. No longer was it broken and empty, it was new and full to overflowing. I am a new man in Christ, praise His name! and now my life is being lived for Him first and others.

J.G.

Send your testimony letters to:

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