Christian Fellowship Prison Newsletter

April 2024

Chipley, FL

I grew up being raised by a godly Christian single mother after my father took off when I was roughly 2 years old. I grew up in a genuine God-fearing church that truly loved the Lord. They preached straight from Scripture and stressed the importance of raising up children in the way they should go. My mama did her best to raise me right and stayed on me about having a relationship with the Lord, for three decades! It was not until I faced coming to prison that I cried out for help to prepare for some sort of ministry, that I feel the Lord is calling me too. I've had several people, including two pastor friends, that have told my mother they know the Lord will use this to create some sort of ministry. I am not sure yet what exactly He has for me once I am released, but I know that, just like Jonah, I will say "that what I have vowed I will pay. Salvation is from the Lord." M.D.

Michigan City, IN

In 2007 I was convicted of a sexual crime. I was sentenced to 50 years. That was painful but the remorse, guilt and shame I felt inside was 1,000 times worse. The victim asked one thing of me, to be a man and tell the truth and to admit to my wrongdoing. My attorney said that most people would lie and not admit the truth,

and they would take the truth to the grave with them. Even though the evidence on trial convinced the jury of my guilt. I lied and said I didn't do it. Ten years later after trying to kill myself with drug addiction and years of selfinflicted abuse and years of being locked up on segregation units - I was sick, lost, scared, lonely, depressed and paranoid. The guilt and shame had me in bondage. I was a slave to my sin. Accidentally, I was set free when an institution physiologist sent me a pass to see what my problem was. Well, I didn't know this person, but I unleashed everything I ever had done - all those horrible dark secrets. I told the absolute truth. holding nothing back. I brought the darkness into the light. I didn't realize it, but something happened inside me, that shame and guilt that was destroying me had lost its grip. It's power over me was gone. I was able to take my sin to God and ask for forgiveness. A year later I was able to share my story with my older sister, and believe me, it was a miracle she still loves me and is there for me. In January 2023 I was able to give the victim their wish. I wrote the court admitting to my guilt with the absolute truth. The truth will set you free. Jesus, my Lord and Savior and King is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Jesus is the Light of life. Bring the darkness into the light

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and I promise inside your heart and soul you will be set free. **P.K.**

Tennessee Colony, TX

I'm currently serving a short time for a crime I didn't commit. But honestly, that's OK with me. This whole experience has been a huge blessing. I've struggled with addiction since I was about 13 vears old. lt was always something; booze, weed, pills, cigarettes, or other drugs. Yeah, I would get sober for a few months, maybe a year at tops. But that was usually because I ran out of money. And when this started in October 2018, it forced me to get sober. I was given the chance for seven years deferred probation. Well, instead of having full faith in Christ, I caved to fear and took the for-sure route and took probation. Instead of trusting my Savior to remove these lies that had come against me. Only to be violated six months later and being sentenced to four years. But hey, what the enemy meant for bad my God will I was raised use for good! Pentecostal, saved and baptized at a young age, and in my early teens I was on fire for God. And somehow, along the way, (looking back), it was the addictions I opened myself up to that molded my fire. I started to go down a road leading away from Christ. Drugs, alcohol, and hatred for everyone. I

never got so bad as to deny Him, or completely turn my back on Him though. Because I always knew if I lost hold, I would go fully the wrong way and probably never come back. So I always kept up at least a small prayer life and hold of Him. But I just wasn't living for God and honestly hardly even worried or thought about it. Once Т came to prison, I was made to sit still and reminisce about my past. It took a while to get where I am now. I got here and as of the last few months, I have realized it's time to change. God's been leading me back down His road. I feel He's let me go down that road of drugs, alcohol, and all- around horrible life style to bring me back and allow me the experience and testimony to reach others. I'm blessed to go through this because in the end it's only going to bring glory and honor to Him! If not for being locked up, I probably would've died in a drunken, drugfilled stupor, instead, I'm free as can be, with His joy surrounding me, and I wouldn't trade it for the world. J.D.

Indiana Springs, NV

I was raised in a non-religious family. As a child, I was baptized into the Mormon church to increase my parents favor with the bishop and elders. This turned out to be a scam to appear as religious people to then use the good people of the church as a second paycheck. From then on, I swore off religion. My life was extremely unguided, and I was lost in more ways than one. I found myself making horrible choices that led me straight to prison. I was terrified, alone. Thankfully, I had been introduced to a fellow inmate who had been saved and shared the Word and his story with me. I found myself one thing, the peace and happiness that being a practicing Christian gave him. I made the choice to devote myself to Jesus Christ and follow the Word. I have been faithfully practicing for over a year and I thank God every day for sending me a fisher of men to bring light to my life. G.K.

Freeland, MI

I was born to a crack-addicted mother. We got taken away when I was about six years old. I say we, because it was four of us, my sister and two younger brothers. So we were a part of the system at an early age. Going from foster home to foster home we were separated for about five years before someone was willing to adopt us all. We went to a family who beat us and made our lives miserable but God works things out for good. So they ended up finding out we were getting abused, and so we ended up with an angel of a woman. She showed us a whole different side of life. She was a God-fearing woman, everything about her showed the love of God. She was an amazing mother, but she ended up passing away and is now with God. I ended up going to the streets for love and started smoking, drinking, and had my first kid at nineteen years old and didn't know how to be a father so I never was there for her and my other five kids I ended up having. I was too

busy chasing women and partying and I made women and drugs and sex my gods at that time. In and out of jail numerous times and now my first time in prison. Now, my new life in Christ has been nothing short of mind-blowing. While I was in the County Jail I thought life was over, I was losing the woman I thought I loved but I really truly can say now I truly didn't, it was lust. I lost everything material-wise and it brought me to my end. I was looking at eight years in prison and I felt life was over for me, until one day this ministry called Forgotten Man Ministries used to come in when they weren't preaching the Word to us. I thought that was kind of cool that they would take time out of there day to tell us about the Word of God. I still wasn't sold on God until I went to the Word myself and really started to accept God's leading in my life and I accepted Him fully. I was in a cell by myself and cried out to God and said I surrender my life to your will for my life and forgive me for all the sins I have ever done and I went to sleep crying and woke up a new man and the more I got into the Bible the more the spirit kept revealing to me. God is fixing the relationships with my kids and family and working in my life so amazingly. It's hard to put into words. A.J.

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