



Rockport, TX

My name is Amanda. I'm 42 years old and I am currently incarcerated for three years and two months awaiting to be sentenced on a federal drug charge. I have struggled with addiction and being constantly in jails and prisons. I have never been to church or believed in God... Then in 2020 my little sister was murdered. We were very close and her murder left me shattered and broken more than ever. Shortly after that is when I got arrested for my current charge. I struggled so badly. Somewhere in the first year I came to believe that my sister has to be in a better place in heaven. So that led me to believe in heaven, which led me to believe in God. Then I began to want to know what I must do to get to heaven. I began to read the Bible, enroll in Bible studies and learn more about God and Christ. I soon learned that my salvation is a gift from God, and there is no act, no works, that I can do on my own. I only have to ask God to forgive me of all my sins and ask Him to come into my heart. Every day I spend 4 to 6 hours in my Bible and learning about Jesus Christ and growing closer to Him. Spreading the word of God to others and letting them know that it is only through Him that I find peace and eternal life.

A.M.

Grovetown, GA

I guess that you could say that I grew up on the rough side of things. I heard of God, but didn't really pay any attention. I've used different types of drugs and alcohol through the years, which, along with the pride and selfishness, has led to my sins and a not so healthy

lifestyle. I've been married three times, but twice to the same lady Tina. Tina and I were married, and we wanted a child but due to an old injury I wasn't supposed to have any. But God did bless us with one, Timothy, who is now in his 30's. Tina has already had two other boys, of which I helped to raise as my own. Later, due to lies from other people, Tina and I divorced, and I soon remarried, which should never have happened because it soon ended in divorce. Tina, my first wife and I ended up crossing paths and realized how much we really did love each other and saw that we should have never gotten divorced, but we still weren't living right and we were both using meth. It may have only been while we were together, but it was wrong and led to worse and worse things. After a few run-ins with the police, even to the point of landing Tina and myself in jail several times with both of us on probation and Tina being incoherent through most of it, I decided to try to sell meth. Well, it ended up working out for about half a minute and someone told on me. So, one morning Tina and my probation officer showed up at my house really early with 11 of his friends and searched our apartment and found a good amount of meth and a gun or two. They charged myself and Tina with trafficking, even though she had nothing to do with it. So needless to say, all these times God tried to get my attention and I ignored him. He's now got it fully. "When you hit rock bottom all you can do-is look up." but there is no way that I would take it back, except for my wife having to go through all this. This has been the best thing that has happened to me.

My relationship with God and Jesus Christ is priceless. After coming to prison, I ended up having a stroke which has left me not being able to use my right arm and leg and I can't walk so I'm in a wheelchair. I have to get someone to write my letters for me, but that's been a blessing too, because the guy that helps me is also a Christian, and we have become not only great friends, but brothers, and one day business partners. I have a lot of time to work on my getting better physically and being able to study God's Word, getting to know Him better, and sharing my faith and love for God with all those around me. One of the best parts is the fact that I also get to share all of this and grow in Christ with my wife. I now truly look forward to my future with my wife, sharing our love for God and each other, spending time with our family, and being lucky enough to lead others to Christ. God is totally amazing and with Him, my life and Tina's are just beginning. **T. S.**

Dallas, TX

At 19 years old, I began to use methamphetamines heavily. God sent a body of believers to reach out to me. I went into their discipleship program, but I wasn't ready to give up everything. However, they did have something I wanted. It was the love of God, and I was drawn in, but I did not want to commit to God. So, I ended up literally robbing the church that I served at and going back to the streets. One of the pastors there made a prophecy over my life. He said he prayed, and God showed him that I'd be going to prison. I did not get caught or turned in for robbing the church, but I got 40 years in prison for robbery,

several months after that the pastor said it would come to pass. The number 40 is a very special number in God's Word. When the children of Israel did not believe God, they wandered in the desert for 40 years. Before Moses led the people of Israel, he was an outlaw in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days before He defeated the temptations of the devil and pushed forth the kingdom of God in the power of the Holy Spirit. So for me, 40 years is a number of restoration. I've allowed the Holy Spirit to heal me from years of being physically and sexually abused. Not from seeds, fruit or trees, but the forests of unforgiveness in my soul. From lies and deep dark agreements. He has delivered me from drug addiction, unhealthy acceptance issues, identity crisis, anxiety, deep suicidal depression, and multiple serious attempts. From sexual adultery, pornography, homosexuality, and demonic sexual fetish bondage. I've been raped, stabbed 11 times, and beaten severely uncountable times. But God has me here serving Him in preaching His word, proclaiming His name, teaching God's Word to my fellow prisoners, and being a light in a very dark place. It gets darker, and then He shines brighter, and the darkness cannot comprehend or overcome the light because Jesus Christ has one on the cross of Calvary. He conquered death by coming out of the tomb on the third day on resurrection Sunday. The most holy presence of God, the Most High now tabernacles in the soul of man, giving us power and authority over demonic forces, sickness, disease, and everything that opposes the kingdom of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ didn't die for our sins so that we would continue to live and practice a sinful life. He died to give us dominion through the Holy Spirit over sin!

S. S.

Cuero, TX

My name is Mike and I'm currently serving a 12-year sentence for intoxicated manslaughter. On Christmas Eve, several years ago, I decided to drive while intoxicated, and that decision was a fatal one. A man my father's age was killed because of my sinful ignorance. I don't remember anything about the accident, but upon hearing the charge the next day, I was truly devastated, as you could imagine. I was extremely remorseful for my victim and his family, but I was more devastated for the sins I had committed against God. Not only that night, but for the decades of living a sinful life that led to it. The conviction in my heart was overwhelming. I was broken and cried for hours. I began to meditate on where I lost communication with God. Raised in a Christian household, I had given my life to Christ from a young age. I was involved in church and as a teenager, I was in leadership roles with youth activities. I was happy and I was in love with Christ. In my meditation and prayer, I realized that I had become bitter when my mother suffered a nervous breakdown. She was diagnosed with bipolar and was never the same again. I was angry and needed to blame someone and I blamed the people at church, I blamed God, I blamed everyone! My heart was like a stone, and I became a hateful, horrible person. I turned straight from my Christian path and decided to make my way through life without His assistance. I thought that I could isolate myself from people and without the help of God. I was young and naive, and an easy target for Satan. I became prideful and arrogant as I received college degrees, promotions, and pay increases at work. My sinful pride turned into greed, lust, and I

became what I used to despise the most -a foolish scoffer. My sin had snowballed out of control until that faithful night. After reflection in prayer, I realized that I had become so isolated and had completely forgotten what real happiness felt like. I had let myself go: physically, mentally and spiritually, and my only refuge was in Jesus Christ. I begged God for mercy and forgiveness and made an unspoken promise to the family of my victim in the accident. They may never forgive me for the death of their loved one, but I pray that they find peace and joy in Jesus Christ. The only way that I can honor my victim is by honoring Christ. I spend my time in prison reading, studying, memorizing, and meditating on God's word. My mission is simple: to save lives in and out of prison. As many as I can. For His glory. Amen.

M.P.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

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