

Overcomers for Christ

June 2018



HAPPY
HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY

THE GREATEST GIFT
I EVER HAD,
CAME FROM GOD;
I CALL HIM **DAD!**

Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

September 2017



Real Love
By Amanda Wolfe

Psalm 68:5-6 TPT

To the fatherless he is a father.

To the widow he is a champion friend.

To the lonely he gives a family.

To the prisoners he leads into prosperity until they sing for joy.

This is our Holy God in his Holy Place!

Have you ever experienced what it's like to be truly loved? I'm not talking about the mushy gushy make out session Hollywood calls love, but I mean the kind of love where someone stretches their hand into your deepest, darkest pit and pulls you out – the kind of love where someone sees you at your worst, in your most guilty, undeserving position and pays the price to get you out with their own life. What kind of man or woman would do that? What kind of love is this where a sinner is saved at the expense of the innocent? What kind of love is this where someone calls the very one who betrayed them, "friend"? (**Matthew 26:50**) Can you even imagine what it would be like for the one you've hurt the most to offer to lay down their life for you? Maybe you've cheated someone, lied to someone, stolen from someone ... maybe you've even killed someone. Imagine that very person or their father, mother or child saying they forgive you and then giving their life in place of yours to pay the price for your sin? This is what real love is and looks like.

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13) Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (Luke 23:34)

You may think, "No, I knew what I was doing" or "No, they knew what they were doing," but God says this because He understands the truth is that all sin at the root is simply unbelief. The failure to recognize God Himself as love or to accept ourselves as His beloved child (not believing either of these truths) is the root to every evil behavior. It's really that simple. Man often complicates things, but God has given us a very simple way to live the life and life more abundantly He promises in His Word. Through revelation and understanding of who God really is – LOVE – and receiving His love for us personally and intimately as the very root of our identity, we live DAILY in the effects of that believed and received love. His Spirit (the Spirit of love) fills us with God's very own love which is the source of miraculous power that enabled Jesus to go to the Cross for us and die for a people who wanted to kill Him.

No man can love like that on his own. No person can forgive the offenses of another that has abused him or his family, except that the love of God floods his soul!!! No child can forgive their father for having abandoned them or beat them, and no father can forgive himself for having done those things, lest the love of God fills his soul!! God's very love enables us to do what we could never do on our own, and to live in a joy and peace and freedom on the other side of those situations that no one in their natural mind could ever fathom would be possible. And this love – GOD'S love – all powerful, miraculous love – has been **POURED OUT** into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us! (**Romans 5:5**)

God's supply for us **NEVER** runs out!! (**2 Corinthians 9:8-12**) Sometimes man just stops running into it and taking from what is already His in Christ. Whether because a person feels they are unworthy to receive, that God is mad at them, they feel guilt and condemnation, or whatever the lie may be, every day the blood of Jesus that has been poured out for us is constantly spilling over and goes to waste if we aren't drinking from it. The greatest crime truly is when the abundant provisions of grace Jesus gave His life for us to be made worthy to receive flow freely and man does not partake of them. Forgiveness, healing, peace, joy, freedom, truth, acceptance, etc. are flowing freely and abundantly from heaven's throne. Yet, every time we believe a lie about God (thinking He is anything other than the image of love being poured out to us), every time we believe a lie that we aren't worthy to receive, that we aren't good enough, or that our sin is too great, what we are really saying is that what Jesus did for us wasn't enough!! An innocent, perfect man (who was also 100% God) gave up His life for us, so the greatest gift we can give back to Him is to live in it.

PRAYER WITH ACTION FOR TODAY:

Welcome God's love to overflow in your soul!

Personalize the scripture:

The Scripture below in **Ephesians** is a prayer Paul prayed for the church at that time and for all of us who would come after him to deeply and intimately **KNOW** God's love. Before you adopt the prayer as your own, I encourage you to read it first one time, and as you are reading the Scripture, personalize it by marking an X on every "you" and instead write in "me" so that when you pray, you are reminded the promise is yours personally. If you don't have a pen or a pencil, you can just say, "me" instead of "you" when you get there ... I encourage you to do this often when you read the Bible. Every promise in God's Word is for you personally and is already yours in Christ! (**2 Corinthians 1:20**)

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com

Prepare your heart to see God's love doing a mighty work in you:

As you pray, see God's love overflowing in your soul and doing a miraculous work any place you need it! Let His love into those deep, dark places in your soul that you've kept closed off to everyone, and see His love doing a mighty work in you. See that Jesus chose to give His life for you while you were a sinner, and that God has proven His love, not only in word, but in deed. Let go of all resentment, bitter thoughts, unforgiveness, guilt, condemnation, and every lie that has been a heavy weight in your soul. Make an exchange as you let love in. Receive the abundance of grace and peace as it is flowing into your soul!

Prayer:

Ephesians 3:14:21 TPT - (14) So I kneel humbly in awe before the Father of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah, (15) the perfect Father of every father and child in heaven and on the earth. (16) And I pray that he would unveil within you the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods your innermost being with his divine might and explosive power. (17) Then, by constantly using your faith, the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and the resting place of his love will become the very source and root of your life. (18-19) Then you will be empowered to discover what every holy one experiences-the great magnitude of the astonishing love of Christ in all its dimensions. How deeply intimate and far-reaching is his love! How enduring and inclusive it is! Endless love beyond measurement that transcends our understanding-this extravagant love pours into you until you are filled to overflowing with the fullness of God!

(20) Never doubt God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you.

(21) Now we offer up to God all the glorious praise that rises from every church in every generation through Jesus Christ-and all that will yet be manifest through time and eternity. Amen!

Overcomer's Testimonies

I love reading how God is working in my brothers and sisters lives. God has put it on my heart to share what He's doing in my own life. So I'd like to share my testimony.

I'm a fairly new Christian. I'm in my mid 30's and as of 2016, saved and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

HALLELUJAY! I got out of prison in 2014 and unfortunately relapsed on heroin about a month before coming back to prison. I found myself back in the mess I was in before going to prison. I started using meth with the heroin and ended up shooting them together. I was AGAIN getting arrested and before long had a handful of felony charges.

I was in the Durango jail for a couple of months trying to convince my mother to bond me out, after numerous phone calls, she agreed. With the exception that I would check myself into a rehab of my choice. I made bond and started searching for rehabs in my area. I found one but committing to thirteen months sounded crazy. This time was different because I actually wanted to change, but for myself and not what everyone else was telling me.

I ended up choosing Teen Challenge, who welcomed me with open arms. That was the best decision I'd ever made. I was there from August 2016, until the day before my sentencing, February 2017. I was also baptized on November 2016. God called me there, it wasn't a coincidence that I picked the longest rehab around. I learned so much about Jesus' finished work on the Cross, and am so thankful for that.

As of the time I'm sending this testimony I'm 540 days clean and sober. I now turn to the Lord for the strength to stay sober. AMEN! Today I'm taking advantage of the programs available and will have my Associates degree in Applied Science in HVAC Technologies by the time I'm released at the end of the year. I look at this time as a blessing in disguise. Like I was sent off to college so that I have a career path when I get out. I am doing great, I feel great and do my best to let others see the Christ through me. Thank you for letting me share this with everyone. God IS good, ALL of the time! - K.S.

THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WE HAVE IN APPROACHING GOD: THAT IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. AND IF WE KNOW THAT HE HEARS US - WHATEVER WE ASK - WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE WHAT WE ASKED OF HIM. 1 JOHN 5:14-15 (NIV)

Prayer Requests

I'm about six months from the gate and I want you to know that I have plans of starting a non-profit program upon my release. I've just started the whole process, finished my business plan. I got a hold of the book Non-profit Kit for Dummies and the whole nine. It's to be an 85 bed, self-sustaining homestead model drug program. I can't wait to show it to you, but in the meantime, if you would be so kind to cover this effort in prayer, I would appreciate it ... **D.G.**

Continue to pray for me, and thank you again for the confirmation that our God is an awesome God and that He provides for His children with ALL of His riches in glory. I've been doing this time since 2014. I still don't have a TV or a radio so I spend my days reading and knowing that the Lord God Almighty will supply me with the knowledge of the prophets. Not only to be wealthy beyond my own imagination but to be a living testimony ... **T.C.**

I pray for you all. Please pray for me, I really need protection, if they don't accept me they will basically throw me to the wolves ... **J.C.**

Please pray for all of the brothers and sisters that are doing 'all day' in here. Especially those that are truly not guilty and shouldn't even be here in prison. Let's all pray for the sick and disabled people that are here in prison as well. Please lift up Tina in your prayers as she is in the hospital where 'they' say that she is going to die of liver cancer. I too could use some prayer ... **D.G.**

Well, my plans for when I am released are not at this time completely mapped out. I've sort of got myself an idea I'm playing around with in my head. But I've still got some time to form a more concrete plan. So I've been praying about my future and handing my life and future over to the Lord and allowing Him to work His will in my life. I do know in my heart that I can't just get out and return to my old stomping grounds or homeless and depending on my parole officer to house me. Please keep me in your prayers on this particular matter. Please pray for my new celli and his family and that they reunite very soon and have a good loving future. Pray for all of the inmates and CO's everywhere who are still not yet living in the Lord's truth. Pray for all of our safety while we're incarcerated and for the safe travels and well being of all our families as they travel back and forth to visit us ... **J.M.**

I do have a prayer request. Would you please pray for the K-2 epidemic that is in the whole prison system here in Texas, as well as all over the USA? Please pray that the Lord get a hold of and help the ones that are lost to this terrible stuff. Pray that they come to the knowledge of the Lord's love and the lost come to know His great Salvation ... **R.G.**

Praise Reports

Last August 1st, I had a younger inmate attack me because I refused to give him a cigarette. I lost my left eye in the attack. Since that time, I have had numerous operations to restore my eyesight. I was taken to a medical clinic in Phoenix and given a cadaver eye. The surgeon worked on my new eye installation for 2 1/2 hours. I'm happy to say it was successful. My muscle tissue on the bottom of my eye was so damaged that I lost movement in my eye to look down and up. When I look straight ahead, I can see perfectly. Praise the Lord for His blessing bestowed upon me. The surgeon, in answer to my question if I can get a motorcycle license, said, "Yes." I know it sounds crazy, but I just wanted to ride my Harley again in freedom. God is good ... **A.M.**

Greetings and blessings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you all so much for my birthday card. It was much appreciated and was a much needed boost to morale and a lift to my Spirit. I am blessed beyond measure. The Lord has healed me after four long years of back problems. He did it right before I was headed for surgery, Praise God!! I can't begin to tell you the relief. Thank you all so much for your prayers ... **D.G.**

To the **Overcomers for Christ** family, God bless you all. I would first like to say thank you for not dropping me from your prayer list and your newsletter mailing list. I sure do feel all of your heartfelt prayers through all of the crap, or should I say, the mess that I've been going through here in prison. I'll be very honest ... there has been days that I just wanted to give up, throw in the towel or just pull the plug. But I don't, instead I stay in prayer. The Bible says that when I am weak He is my strength and I have to keep my trust in Him. So again, thank you for all of your prayers they work ... **A.G.**

Hope this letter brings a smile to your faces, as your card brightened my day. Thank you for your ministry, the **Overcomers for Christ**, it is God inspired. It brings light into this dark place. I also want to thank you because it is due to your correspondence that my faith is growing ... **W.B.**

God is doing an amazing work in my life, one that surely would not have happened had I not been arrested. I have learned through this experience that God truly loves us, wants what's best for us and wants to be involved with even the minute details of our lives. God is good - ALL OF THE TIME ... **R.A.**

Say, I have been very busy as I am now in a faith-based dorm on my unit and I am learning so much about the Lord and His Son Jesus Christ. I have been saved since 2010 but I am now truly becoming a man of God as I grow each and every day (smile). There is so much I wished that I could tell you, but you are probably already busy with all of the other mail that you get daily. So, I will just say that God is so great and awesome, WOW!! ... **R.G.**

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

WHY ARE WE IN PRISON?

By G.H.

Why are you, or why were you in prison, is one of the most challenging questions a prisoner or former prisoner must face. It is a question which is asked not only by others, but one which each prisoner must ask - and answer - themselves. Simplistically, each question may easily be answered by stating the nature of the offense for which they are imprisoned; however, life changing events are rarely as simple as they appear. Therefore, to obtain a better understanding of why someone is in prison, perhaps we should consider a different view, by looking through the eyes of a prisoner. Welcome to my world.

In the *Chronicles of Narnia*, C. S. Lewis wrote, "What you see and hear depends a great deal on where you stand, and what sort of person you are." In other words, how we view things in this life depends on who we are and where we stand in our present circumstances.

For example, once the natural and legal consequences of our sins and criminal acts led us to prison, how do we then view such things? Is imprisonment purely an act of man, or a scheme of the enemy, or are we being rescued and delivered by the mighty hand of a loving and merciful God? Do we view prison as punishment, as discipline and correction, or as an opportunity to grow and serve?

Prison is naturally viewed as a place of punishment, and for those who choose to see and believe they are being punished, prison remains a difficult and dreadful place. However, for a child of God, who has been saved through faith in Jesus Christ, (**Ephesians 2:8**) prison is not a place of such punishment. For Jesus took the punishment which was due us upon himself when He died upon the cross for our sins. So for the believer, since prison is not a place of punishment, there must be a greater purpose.

Believers and even unbelievers may view prison as a place of discipline and as an opportunity for correction. There is great value and blessing for those who learn to patiently receive and endure such discipline; for the purpose of discipline is to help conform the one being disciplined into the image of Christ and to help fulfill God's purpose in their lives. (**Romans 8:28-29**)

Prisoners who see their circumstances only as a place of punishment, or even just as our Father's loving discipline may yet miss out on God's intended purpose. Those who choose to believe they are being punished often have unbroken hearts and are clinging to worthless idols. Without brokenness, humility, or worshipping the One True God, prison may well appear to be a place of punishment from which one may seek to escape. However, those who choose to believe they are being disciplined have a better, yet incomplete view. For while discipline may be painful in the present, it produces in the one being disciplined, "the peaceable fruit of righteousness." (**Hebrews 2:11**)

Why would God use loving discipline to bring forth "peaceable fruit of righteousness?" What more is prison than just punishment in a worldly view, and more than discipline and correction in a spiritual view? What if prison is a place beyond punishment, or discipline or correction, but a place of deliverance where God is working all things together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose? (**Romans 8:28**) What if prison - which the world sees as a wilderness of punishment - is actually a place where God has brought us - just as He brought Israel out of Egypt, and where Jesus Christ is calling us; just. He called His disciples - not to surrender, but to submit our lives to His authority and to follow Him wherever He leads?

For when we choose to follow Him, instead of seeking our own desires, we are given authority; we are given power; we are given grace; and we are given peace. David recognized the authority, power, grace, and peace of God in spite of his circumstances when he wrote, "**I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord. Be of good courage and He shall strengthen your heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord**" (**Psalms 27:13-14 NKJV**) But of Israel in the wilderness, the Psalmist wrote, "**They (Israel) soon forgot His works. They did not wait for His counsel, but lusted exceedingly in the desert, and He gave them their requests, but He sent leanness to their souls.**" (**Psalms 106:13-15 NKJV**)

So the question becomes, is prison a place a punishment, of discipline, or a place of deliverance? Prisoners who love

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

God above all else, and are the called according to His purpose are being conformed to the image of our Savior, Jesus Christ, for His purpose and for His glory. Therefore, prison is not always a place of punishment, not even a place of discipline and correction, but a place where one is given an opportunity to grow and serve.

For what you see and hear and believe depends a great deal on where you stand; and whether you believe prison is a place of punishment; or discipline and correction, or deliverance and opportunity - it is exactly what you say. The way to freedom in prison is not through the gate, but through learning from the **Psalms** to:

"Trust in the Lord and do good, dwell in the land and feed on His faithfulness, delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light And your justice as the noon day. Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him, do not fret because of the man who prospers in his way, because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass, Cease from anger and forsake wrath, do not fret, it only causes harm." (Psalm 37:3-8 NKJV)

I have been in the system since 2005. There were times I thought prison was a place of punishment; and it was. There were times I thought it was a place of discipline and it was and still is. However, I am learning to see prison differently, as a place where all who believe the gospel of Jesus Christ, and who love God are the chosen and called according to His purpose. In some cases we are being disciplined and corrected; however, such discipline is not without purpose, but that we shall be delivered from the power of sin even as we have been delivered from the penalty of sin, so that through the Holy Spirit we shall be witnesses to Jesus Christ in prison and unto the world.

We All Have the Opportunity to Encourage Others

By B.G.

Hello my O&C family! May God bless you all and this letter find you in good health, spirit and all the love I have to offer. In all honesty, I was honored to receive a letter back from you so quickly and with so many words of encouragement! It touched my heart in so many ways that I actually cried! To see honest words from another person, to be encouraged and to see that the O&C really does care for its family enough to reach out and touch us individually meant more to me than I could ever put in words on paper. Just know my love and respect for all of you and what the O&C family does goes way beyond reach.

Just know that what you all do there really does affect the lives of the ones who really seek the transition for a better life. Especially those longing for God to be a big part of their lives. Your personal words are uplifting and inspiring, especially in an atmosphere like the place this is. A place where so many are seeking an education in becoming a 'better' criminal and learning from those who to have gotten caught.

Every time I read **Psalm 51**, King David's prayer of repentance, and I come to the passages **12-15**, ***"Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to You. Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, You who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of Your righteousness. Open my lips, Lord, and my mouth will declare Your praise."*** I think about what you and the O&C family does for us in your newsletters!

Brother, never feel discouraged because I feel so grateful for your words. Believe me, they help me and they encourage me. They've opened my eyes and softened what once was a hardened heart! Remember this, God used you and the O&C family to do this. But it took five years for me to realize and be able to write and tell you all of my gratitude. And I don't care who 'they' are - if 'they' are receiving your newsletters and birthday cards God will touch 'them' as well.

Nehemiah 9:22-10:39

Israel was devastated by times of intense rebellion and sin. Yet when the people repented and returned to God, He delivered them. God puts no limits on the number of times that we can come to Him to obtain mercy, but we must come to obtain it, recognizing our need and asking Him for help. This miracle of grace should inspire us to say, "What a gracious and merciful God You are!" If there is a reoccurring problem or difficulty in your life, continue to ask God for His help. And be willing and ready to make changes in your attitude and behavior that will help correct that situation. **(9:28-31)**

Our culture often makes us choose between convenience and profit on one hand, and putting God first on the other. Take a look at your work and worship habits, is God really first? **(10:31)**

1 Corinthians 9:19-10:13

The Christian life includes both freedom and discipline. The goals of Paul's life were to glorify God and bring his people to Christ. Thus he stayed free of any philosophical position or material entanglement that might side track him, while he strictly disciplined himself to carry out his goal. For Paul, both freedom and discipline were important tools to be used in God's service. **(9:19-27)**

Psalms 33:12-34:22

God can, and often does, miraculously deliver His followers from pain and death. Although sometimes, for purposes known only to Him, He chooses not to. When faced with these harsh realities, we must focus on the wise judgments of God. The writer was pleading for God's watchful care and protection. In times of crisis, we can place our hope in God.

Remember, God knows what we need, and our deepest needs are spiritual. Many Christians, even though they face unbearable poverty and hardship, still have enough spiritual nourishment to live for God. David was saying here that if you have God, you have all you really need. God is enough. **(34:9-10)**

David said that a person who fears the Lord doesn't lie, turns from evil, does good, and promotes peace. Reverence is much more than sitting quietly in church. It includes obeying God in the way we speak and the way we treat others. **(34:11-14)**

Proverbs 21:13-16

We should work to meet the needs of the poor and protect their rights for someday we too may be in need of such services ourselves. **(21:13)**

Justice is not a heavy obligation that weighs a person down. For the righteous, promoting justice is a joy. For the wicked, there is no joy in justice, nor will there be joy in their final end. **(21:14)**



"Foot" Notes

Hello everyone! Just thought that I would share another one of my observations with y'all. I'm sure your all familiar with the term 'That Guy' as in 'Don't be like that guy'. A funny thing about how the term of being 'that guy' can turn a 180 degrees when you begin to trust God. I used to be a living example of 'that guy', you know, the self-centered idiot with no regard for anyone or anything around him, doing whatever 'he' wanted to legal or otherwise.

Well, over the past 20 years I've slowly and sometimes painfully morphed into the 'New and improved guy'. Even though I've put myself in this situation due to my own bad decisions, I now refuse to let that dictate my actions today. I'm now working on my Associates Degree. I guess what I'm saying is this. In trusting in God I'm now on that path of taking advantage of every opportunity God places in front of me, to become 'that guy' that refuses to let his circumstances dictate his behavior. Basically what I'm saying is, I used to be 'that guy'. But thanks to my faith in God today I've become a much different, 'that guy'. Ha! Ha!

Love to ya'll short and tall. Vaya con Dios P.S. "Don't ride faster than you angel can fly!"

A BLESSING TO EVERYONE WHO READS THIS ...

By Phoebe Sparkles

This is for every father, every son, every daughter and mother. No matter what your situation was or is, we are releasing the Blessing of the Lord over you.

You are loved.

Not sure which category you fall in, but this blessing of a father is being released to you today! From a heart of a father. John Paul Jackson spoke this out with you in mind.

"Some of you did not have great father figures. Some of you had fathers who passed away before they could give you a blessing. Others of you, for one reason or another are unable to receive blessing from your father."

In any case, John Paul Jackson wants to offer the Blessing of the Heavenly Father through himself as an earthly father to you today. This type of blessing is seen in the Bible in **Numbers 6** as God blessed the children of Israel under the pronouncement of Moses. It goes on to say upon blessing the people, God would place His name and bless those who heard it ... and that means **YOU!**

"Therefore, may the Lord bless you and help you. May the Lord cause his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace." - Numbers 6:24-26

Adapted from John Paul Jackson

May you reach the purpose for which you were created.

May you have courage above your peers.

May you have more passion for the things of God than others think is necessary.

May you DREAM more than others think is practical.

May you expect more than others think is possible.

May you choose wisely without earthy bias.

You have people to influence that you have not yet met.

You have lives to change that are waiting for your arrival.

You are strategically placed where ever God takes you by His grand design just,

So you can become everything He made you to be. (This doesn't necessarily mean your current situation)

That place is where you can grow best. That place is a place where you can be most fruitful.

The place where the future is changed because of your presence.

May you see things that others don't even know exist.

May you see God in every pedal of every flower and every blade of grass. For each of them are designed by His hand.

May you bless your children, and may they become giants in the faith under the mighty hand of God.

You won't fail. You were made by God to be here on earth for such a time as this!"

How many of you don't like this holiday (Father's Day) and celebration? Well, let me tell you that this day doesn't define you or should not make you sad. Whether or not you celebrate doesn't matter and isn't right or wrong.

However, it's an opportunity to reflect on the love of your **Heavenly Father** who loves you so much He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to bear all our pain, guilt, sin, hurt, grief, disappointment, suffering, anger, frustrations, betrayals, envy, strife and shame! He wants us to be reconciled (reconnected) to Him. He wants us to receive all the love and blessings that He has for us, so He made it very easy for us to come to Him. Every day is our heavenly Father's Day. You can wake up and say, ***"This is the day the Lord has made, I will rejoice and be glad in it."***

You don't have to say a long prayer to tell Him you love Him. He is waiting to hear you say it. He loves you and loves spending time with you. You might be thinking, "How can I talk to Him, I don't really know Him like that?"

Well, it's easy. Maybe easier than telling someone you know, "I love you".

Get alone and just tell Him like you would tell another person. He won't judge you and bring up all the stuff that isn't right with you. He will just hug you and tell you how much He loves you and how much He wants to spend more time with you.

You can ask Him to help you get to know Him better and why are you here? What is your destiny and purpose for being placed on this earth? We all have one you know. Have a conversation about how you want to know Him more. We live and have joy through Him and Him alone. Life happens, people mean well but often disappoint or push us away and that gets old. He is faithful and always waiting with open arms for us ... especially, for you.

What Others Are Saying...

"I really like the border on the birthday letter as well as the message printed in orange. Please thank Maria, Trina, Deborah, S, Michelle, Wade and Michelle Anderson and everyone else that signed and wrote birthday wishes to me. That really made me feel special and loved from all of the family of Overcomers for Christ. I really can't wait for the day that I will be able to be there in person with all of you, my family, and enjoying some cake and ice cream together." - J.M.

"Overcomers for Christ, God bless you all! I love going through each newsletter. The articles are inspiring and I feel connected to you as I look through the pictures. May you all be blessed for your faithful service. I have decided to tithe to you all from now on. Living Word is still what I consider my home church, and I feel strongly that I am to support you there as I can." - R.A.

"I've been telling a lot of people about you all there and they say they are going to write to you. So be looking for more mail from this unit. I have a big stack of pictures of all of you there. I save a lot of them from the newsletters. Actually they are the only pictures that I get from the free world. Please, just keep doing what you all do. You all are so, so, so very important to all of us on the inside. Just wanted you all to know that you are thought of and loved by many." - R.G.

"How goes the daily fight of faith? I just wanted to write and say hello and thank you all for the edifying newsletters and encouraging cards you've sent over the years. I really do appreciate the time, effort and resources that you all have put into this ministry sharing the love of Christ, "In deed and in truth." (John 3:18) It's easy to see that you all take the command in Hebrews 13:3, "**Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering**" seriously. Praise God for His grace and keep sharing the love of Christ." - D.C.

"Julie, Richard, Deborah, S, Miki, Wade and Michelle Anderson, Monty, Janet and Joseph! I thank you all for signing my birthday card! Thank you for remembering my birthday and for being the only ones to wish me a happy birthday. It was touching, due to having no one to correspond with and not receiving any mail for so long. Then receiving a birthday card from all of you through the mail ... it felt good. Thank you ALL very, very much." - M.A.

How Can I Get out of This Mess?

By Rick Warren

"Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 7:24-25 NLT)

Here is the testimony of a Chinese Christian:

"I walked through the road of life and had fallen into a great ditch. The ditch was filled with depression, discouragement, and sin. As I lay in that ditch, Mohammed came along and said, 'It's your fault you're in the ditch. You offended Allah, and this is your just punishment.' Then Marx came by and said, 'You're in the ditch because of class warfare. You must revolt.' But after the government changed, I was still in my ditch. Then Buddha came along and said, 'You're not really in that ditch. You just think you're there. It's all an illusion of the mind. Be at peace.' Then Confucius came by and said, 'Here are the 10 steps of self-attainment by which you can get out of your ditch. If you will struggle, you will climb out eventually.' But as much as I struggled and strained, I couldn't get out of the ditch, because it was too deep.

"Then one day, Jesus Christ came by and saw me in my ditch. Without a word, He took off his white robe and got down in the muddy ditch with me. Then He lifted me up with His strong arms and got me out of the ditch. Thank God that Jesus did for me what I could not do for myself."

Jesus did for you what you could not do for yourself.

If you want healing in your life, you have to believe that Christ can change you. **Romans 7:24-25** says, "**Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.**" (NLT)

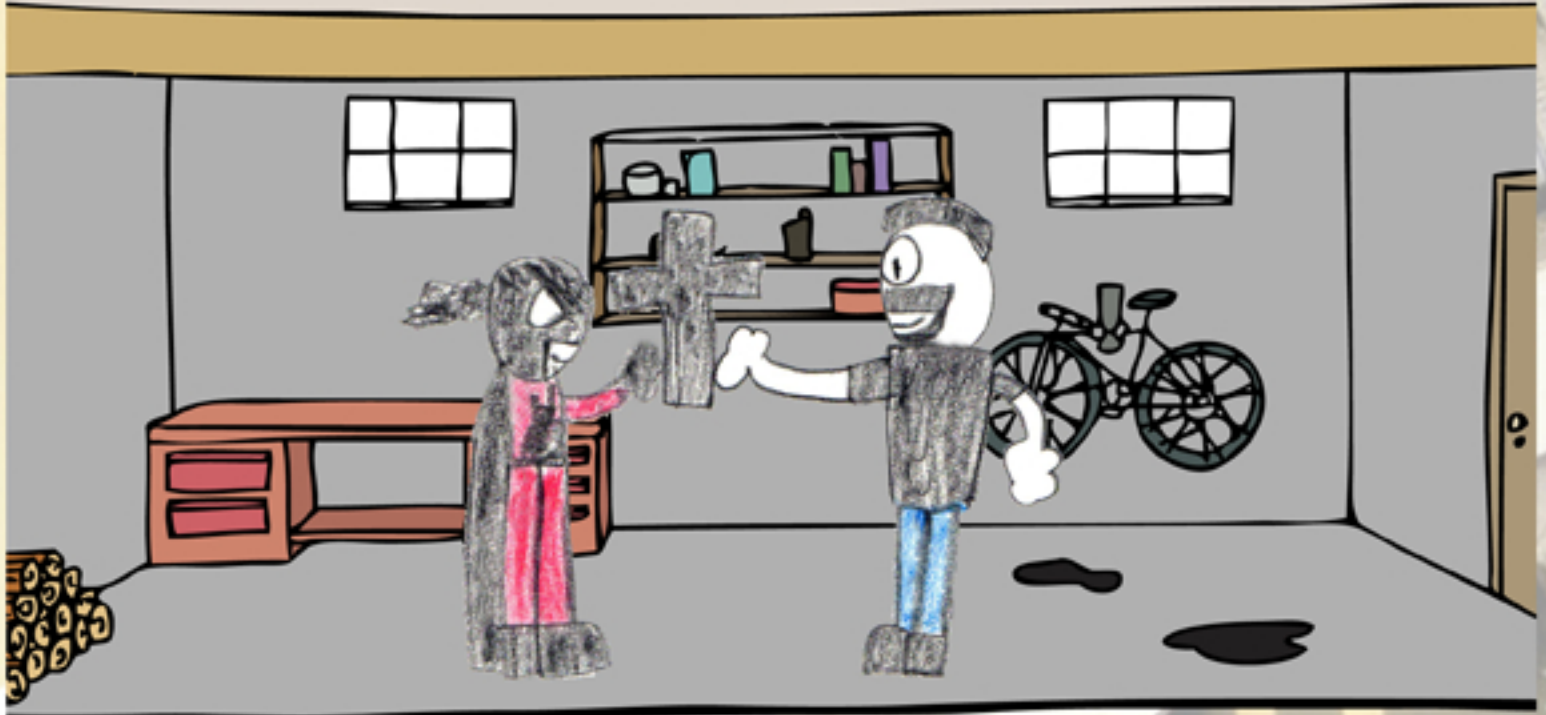
The answer to your problem isn't a person. Who's going to be Lord of your life? Who's going to call the shots? You or Jesus Christ? When you're mastered by Him, you can master your problems.

God has the power you are lacking. He'll help you out.

The Adventures
of

ULTRA TONY

By A.D.



Ultra Tony giving his father a cross for Father's Day. He wants all kids to respect their fathers.

Quote Worthy

"Radical obedience to Christ is not easy... It's not comfort, not health, not wealth, and not prosperity in this world. Radical obedience to Christ risks losing all these things. But in the end, such risk finds its reward in Christ. And he is more than enough for us."

- David Platt - an American pastor. He is currently the Pastor-Teacher at McLean Bible Church, President of the Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board, and he is also the author of the New York Times Best Seller Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream.

Ministry Tithes & Offerings

It takes the body of Christ working together to create, print, and mail this newsletter. None of this would be possible without the faithful support of many people who believe in this ministry. The vision of this ministry is to offer hope, love, and encouragement to those who are incarcerated. You are investing in spreading the Word of God to lost souls, encouraging, mentoring, and discipling believers.

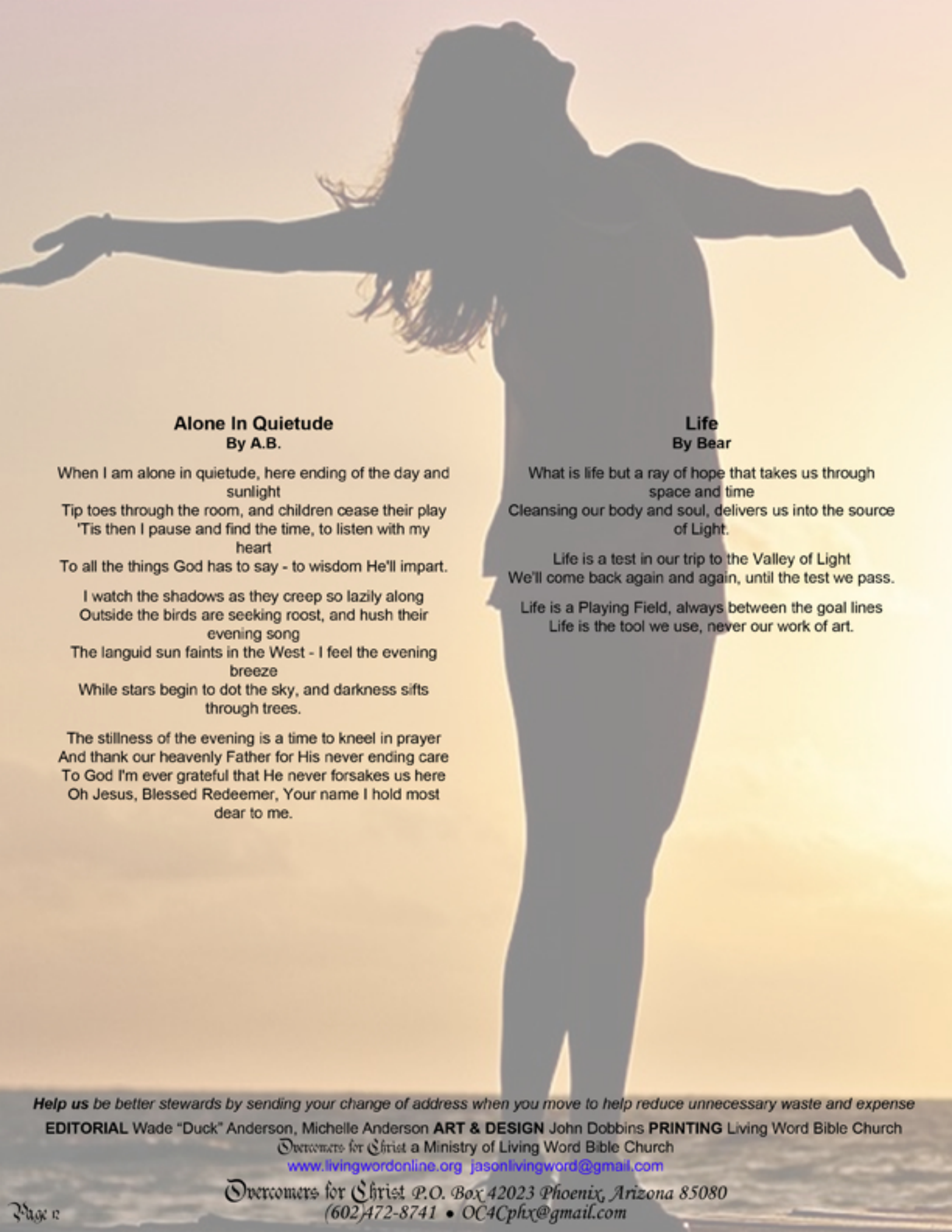
Here is how you can give to the *Overcomers for Christ* ministry:

By **check** or **money order** – Make checks payable to **Living Word Bible Church** and in the memo section put "For Overcomers for Christ". Mail your check or money order to PO Box 42023, Phoenix, Arizona 85080

We thank everyone who sows into this ministry. We pray all that your hands touch will be richly blessed, and that you will have abundance in every area of your life.

Your giving does qualify as a charitable contribution on your taxes. For donations of less than \$250, your cancelled check is sufficient proof for taxes. For donations of \$250 or more, you will receive a contribution statement from the organization. If you have any questions, please call or write Wade Anderson.

Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023 Phoenix, Arizona 85080
(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com



Alone In Quietude
By A.B.

When I am alone in quietude, here ending of the day and
sunlight

Tip toes through the room, and children cease their play
'Tis then I pause and find the time, to listen with my
heart

To all the things God has to say - to wisdom He'll impart.

I watch the shadows as they creep so lazily along
Outside the birds are seeking roost, and hush their
evening song

The languid sun faints in the West - I feel the evening
breeze

While stars begin to dot the sky, and darkness sifts
through trees.

The stillness of the evening is a time to kneel in prayer
And thank our heavenly Father for His never ending care
To God I'm ever grateful that He never forsakes us here
Oh Jesus, Blessed Redeemer, Your name I hold most
dear to me.

Life
By Bear

What is life but a ray of hope that takes us through
space and time
Cleansing our body and soul, delivers us into the source
of Light.

Life is a test in our trip to the Valley of Light
We'll come back again and again, until the test we pass.

Life is a Playing Field, always between the goal lines
Life is the tool we use, never our work of art.

Help us be better stewards by sending your change of address when you move to help reduce unnecessary waste and expense

EDITORIAL Wade "Duck" Anderson, Michelle Anderson **ART & DESIGN** John Dobbins **PRINTING** Living Word Bible Church

Overcomers for Christ a Ministry of Living Word Bible Church

www.livingwordonline.org jasonlivingword@gmail.com

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(602)472-8741 • OC4Cphx@gmail.com