

Overcomers for Christ

July 2017



PSALM 22:4

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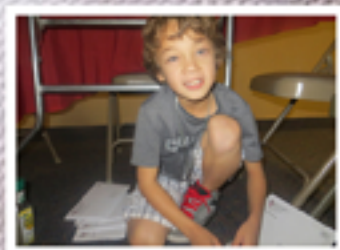
GOD

WE

TRUST

Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

November 2016



Do You Still Remember? - Part 2

By Wade Anderson

Let's pray: "Lord Jesus we want You to know that we are grateful and thankful for Your love. We thank You that You loved us even before we were lovable and we thank You that Your love towards us is NOT contingent on our performance. Holy Spirit we invite You to continue helping us to always remember and rejoice, letting others know of the great things our Father God HAS ALREADY completed in our lives while always looking forward with expectation and confidence of the even greater things yet to come. Holy Spirit, quicken our spirits to remember that our final destination from this life not only be thought of as heaven, but that our hearts long for THOSE with who we will spend eternity! You God, the One that gave Your only Son. You Jesus, the One that gave up Your life that we might share in the riches of Your glory both here on earth and then FOREVER with You. And yes You, Holy Spirit for guiding and re directing our paths to not always the easier path, but the one that would ALWAYS glorify our Father God. We pray these things in confidence according to Your Word. Combined with our faith, in the name of Jesus, we believe and therefore receive Your grace to finish our race strong and with plenty of years! AMEN! AMEN!"

Okay, are you ready? Here we go.

In **Acts 16:16-40**, Paul and Silas were going to the place of prayer when they encountered a young lady that was actually 'owned' by several people that used her and even earned money by her fortune telling. Scripture here tells us that she followed the disciples around for several days shouting, "**These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.**" (**Acts 16:17**) At first, reading this it may appear that this would be a good thing, right? It's when we stop and for a second think about what was really taking place that we begin to see things the way that Paul did. This woman made her money and the livelihood for several others by contacting evil spirits. The people there around them knew the type of woman she was and what she stood for. Even though she was telling the truth about what the disciples were there for, she also seemed to be mocking them. Many people seen her as being deceptive and quite possibly didn't want to take a chance to what side of the fence she was on this time. Paul eventually became irritated enough with her that he turned to her and said, "**In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her.**" (**Acts 16:18**) As soon as Paul spoke this the evil spirit left the woman. I'm pretty sure her owners felt the squeeze on their pocketbooks as their money source 'came out of her' and slipped between their fingers. At that second her owners grabbed Paul and Silas and drug them before the magistrates saying they were "**throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.**"

The crowd became unruly and "**... the magistrates ordered them (Paul and Silas) to be stripped and beaten with rods.**" (**Acts 16:22**) After all of this Paul and Silas were thrown into prison where they were under the close and guarded watchful eye of a jailer. Here's the point I'm getting to. Even after all of that, "**About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God ...**" (**Acts 16:26**) Listen here what happened next as a result of their praying and singing praises to God. "**Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. AT ONCE all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.**" (**Acts 16:26**) In the natural it would look like they really didn't have a reason to sing and praise God after all they just endured. But Paul and Silas' eyes were fixed on the supernatural. They knew that in spite of their circumstances God was the supplier of their peace and their strength!

Hearing these loud thundering noises and the jail doors slamming open the jailer thought that he had slept through everyone escaping and knew that the magistrates would order he be killed. So, "**... he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.**" Paul immediately yelled, "**Don't harm yourself! We are all here.**" (**Acts 16:27-28**) Because Paul didn't have his eyes focused on his circumstances he was able to seize the moment at hand. As the jailer then "**rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas**" he asked them "**Sir's, what must I do to be saved?**" Brothers and sisters you never know where your opportunity to minister into someone else's life lies. What if one of the CO's there around you was in desperate need of Jesus, would you be so consumed with your own circumstances, and them being on the outside of the bars, that you would be blind to their needs? Our very existence here on this earth as Christians is listening for the inner voice of God and responding with obedience to the need at hand, to ever increase the Kingdom of God!! When you look around you do you just see 'cops' or do you recognize and respond to these other hurting hearts that are crying out for a Savior?

Responding to the jailers heartfelt question they replied, "**Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household.**" (**Acts 16:31**) After hearing the Word of the Lord spoken to them both the jailer and his whole household were saved and later baptized. (**Acts 16:32-34**) Scripture doesn't tell us how many were in his household but Jesus tells us, in the parable of the lost sheep and the lost coin, "**I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.**" (**Luke 15:7**) And "**In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.**" (**Luke 15:10**) Just think of the results if while we were going through tough times we instead of

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feeling sorry for ourselves kept our focus on God's promise to **"never leave us nor forsake us"** and looked for the opportunity to minister this promise to someone that is unaware of this truth. Sure the Scriptures share with us about what it will be like in heaven but we can only imagine from there what glory there is awaiting us in heaven! Hallelujah! Praise God!! You don't want to go to heaven alone do you? Heck no! So share the message and love of Jesus with someone else and let's each take bus loads of people with us! AMEN!?

Praising and thanking God was exactly what I was doing when I started this article on my front porch last month. I'm sure you remember earlier where I said that I 'thought' I had shown the city and poured 15-20 tons of rock in front of our house. Years later it was instead like I had cut my own nose off to spite my face. Meaning, as our house became our home and the yard and parking areas out front began to be formed in their own place I both paid someone to move tons of that rock away and I personally moved tons of it myself, with a wheel barrow and a shovel. The 'other guy' that had that rock put down, well let's just say that I'm grateful that 'he' has gone and the new one has arrived! (**2 Corinthians 5:17**) That's what I praise and thank Jesus for every morning, that I'm NOT where I used to be and I'm grateful for every place this NEW life with Him has/is taking me.

As I mentioned early on here and in many other articles, I love to garden. I love to watch God's Word come alive from seed form to harvest. Whether it be vegetables, flowers or our own lives God is faithful to His promises. Today we have a beautifully landscaped yard full of 6 different kinds and colors of rose bushes, Purple Plum trees, Pepper tree, Bougainvilleas, Yellow Bells, Lantanas and many other seasonal flowers. Over these past several years God has caused all this foliage to grow up right in front of my eyes resulting in what I referred to earlier as the 'Duck blind'. This is why I encourage all of you to do the same things, praise God in what seems like the little things and always believe Him for the even greater things yet to come! I know that NONE of these changes whether in my own life or our home would have happened to such the degree that they have had I not heard and answered God's call for my life, to follow Him. This is why I review the memories and see certain places and things as memorials/monuments to God as He has/is working miracles in/with my life.

This leads me to a second memorial/monument or place that I stop to praise and be thankful to God for right here on our very street. It's a place that I walk past every time I exercise or for that matter, go anywhere. This is the very place that I had that life changing motorcycle accident on April 27, 2007 ... just over 10 years ago now. Every time I walk past this spot I'm always baffled at how at that very spot, somehow, for some reason or another, someone had dropped a 5 gallon bucket of white paint in the road. I assure you all it was not there before the accident. This 5 gallon bucket of paint spilled out from where I hit that dog to approximately where the bike stopped on the pavement. This splattered paint serves to remind me of what the Lord said in, **Isaiah 1:18, "Come now, let us settle the matter" says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."**

Nearly every time I pass by that spot I lift my voice and out loud praise Jesus for His grace and enormous love that He continues to pour into and over my life. Every time I walk past there with my grandson's or even pass that way in a vehicle I make special notice to this spot. So much so that all I have to say is, 'Do you see that paint there on the road? Well let me tell you what ...' and before I can even get the rest out of my mouth my youngest grandson, Anthony, says, "I know grandpa, you tell me this every time we come past here! Hundreds of times already!"

As we look back, at the end of **Joshua Chapter 3**, we read that the entire new generation, those that weren't grippers and complainers crossed over to Jericho, through the Jordan River, on dry ground. After the whole nation had crossed, in **Joshua 4:1**, the LORD said to Joshua, in **Joshua 1:2-3, "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the very place where you stay tonight."** As we read further, in **Joshua 4:5** it says, **"Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of tribes of the Israelites,"** Why? **"To serve a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, "What do these stones mean? tell them ..."** First of all we see that God wasn't instructing them to carry pebbles. No! He instructed them to carry these stones on their shoulders. **"These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever ... And they are there to this day."** (**Joshua 4:7c, 9b**)

This is exactly why I tell my children and grandchildren the meaning of these memorials/monuments in my own life. So that they know ALL the great and mighty things that God has done for all of us. You see, even though I had two grandsons at the time of this new life change it was only my oldest grandson, Frankie, who remembers the 'ole guy' that used to hangout and live in that shop. That in itself is a blessing. It was also Frankie that was on behind me when we had that motorcycle accident in 2007. Frankie witnessed the accounts of how this second place became a 'memorial' first hand. He has also watched and experienced the life changing events that continually take place in both of our lives. God not only got my attention but He as well has Frankie's attention. Frank has called me in the wee hours of the night saying to me, "Grandpa, I think God is trying to get my attention that I need to make some changes in my life just like He did you when

... continued on page 9

Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done **Philippians 4:6 (NLT)**

Prayer Requests

I've been focusing on this 1983 civil suit I'm in the process of. Narcotics officers allowed their K-9 to attack me while I was in my cell face down on the ground with my hands behind my back. Since then, I have some type of PTSD because I have very bad nightmares of a dog attacking me and I wake up and can't go back to sleep for days until my body is so tired that it shuts down. It's crazy I have to go through this and press the issue. The psychiatric people don't want to call me in; the meds they are giving me are not helping. I don't know man; I hope I don't go crazy before I leave this place. I do continue to pray and ask for guidance. I'm just waiting for a holy response. I know the Lord will assist me in this ... **E.B.**

Our church service was so awesome, we had 7 volunteers including a guy named Monty "Montana", the author of 70x7. What a powerful testimony. If any of you have noticed all the stuff in the newspapers regarding the error discovered with 25 to life sentences, please commit this to prayer ... **C.L.**

Please pray for me. This is my third time down. I've done a total of 16 years and I have 11 months left to do. Most of my family members have died, 6 total, and getting out scares me to death. So again, please pray for me ... **S.B.**

If it is possible I have a prayer request to ask you to put in the newsletter. I'm asking everyone to lift up my family and I be reunited. I've been down here for close to 4 years now and I haven't heard from my brother and his family. They are the only family that I have left other than my wife. Please pray that I hear from my wife whether she has gotten off of drugs yet. These are the things I ask you all to lift in your prayers.
Thank you ... **R.G.**

Please pray for all of us in here and the CO's. Pray that we all will stay on the right path and get home to our families and friends that love us. Also pray for the CO's to be safe as they do their jobs and for safe travels to and from work. I'd also like to add prayer that soon the **D&S** find resources for those of us about to be released. That way we would have at least a chance of succeeding upon our release ... **J.M.**

I recently lost my husband of 17 years to cirrhosis of the liver. His passing left behind 2 minor children we have. I pray that he rest in peace in one of God's many rooms. I ask for prayer for our 2 boys, Peter and Julian, for peace for our adult son Alex who is fighting an addiction. Prayers for my son Jose who is doing 11 years. That God would help him with his hate and anger. For my son Adrian and daughter Stephanie to have peace and patience. Prayers for all those fighting addiction, loneliness, hatred and bitterness to find God and feel the peace He brings ... **J.R.**

Praise Reports

I can sing praises to God without limitations. I can remain worry free through the Grace of God. I can rejoice in the good gifts entrusted to me. Someday I will receive an inheritance, which I look forward to daily. I am so thankful for the family I have found in the **Overcomers for Christ ... G.B.B.**

Thank you for the wonderful birthday letter. I came to prison thinking I was alone. Telling myself that for the next 5-8 1/2 years I am the only person to be here for me, until I received my Bible from the chaplain. I looked down at the Bible in my lap and started to cry, realizing then, how blind I had been. I was never alone and will never be alone for my God, my Lord and the Holy Spirit have always been with me, guiding me, teaching me, protecting me. My sentence was a blessing, not the end of my life but the beginning. A few weeks later, I received the first newsletter from **Overcomers for Christ**. After reading the newsletter, my spirits were lifted even higher. I look forward to the monthly newsletter, I enjoy the readings, Bible verses and joining in the prayers for the prayer requests. Thank you **Overcomers for Christ** for being with me on my walk with Jesus Christ ... **J.P.**

I received a very uplifting card from you guys and I would just like to say thank you very much. It came at the perfect time. I've had to spend the last nine months in solitary confinement for my own protection. Due to this I have not been able to attend any worship services or fellowship, so I've been feeling a little down and out. Your card lifted my spirits and made me feel like I was in fellowship. Praise God for His perfect timing and God bless your ministry ... **M.O.**

Thank you for the lovely card and beautiful prayers. I just received good news, God willing I reclass to a minimum yard in ten months. Also, my grandmother is going to visit me in September. I have not seen her in four years. I pray she stays in great health. She will be 86 this year and is going blind. This will also be the first time she sees and holds her 3 year old great-granddaughter. Some ladies and I have been making daily handouts with Bible verses on them. We pass them out every day to anyone who may want one. I enjoy doing this every day. My life is very blessed and I am very grateful ... **J.P.**

Thanks for all!! I won my case in Arizona Supreme Court for a sentence reduction. God bless ... **D.G.**

I just heard from my mom that I'm going to be blessed with a granddaughter soon. Praise God, for my daughter was told she may never be able to have a child but as we know with God anything is possible ... **S.F.**

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From the Inside

Games of Life

By G.B.B.

When my four children were young, we enjoyed many fun board games like Candyland, Cooties, Monopoly, Operation, Scattergories, Jenga and Checkers. I have realized how the names of several games apply to peoples walk through life.

Before giving our **Life** to God, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we were taking a **Risk**, allowing the enemy to blind us and **Boggle** our **Cranium**, believing the lies of the enemy that we didn't need to be born-again. But when **Trouble** would arise we would cry out to God with a loud "**Sorry**" and expect God to come to our rescue.

The **Charades** continued until finally, one day, because God wants no one to perish and His Spirit continues to call out to our **Hearts** we realized it was time to accept the **Truth or Consequences**.

John 14:6 Jesus declares, *"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life and that no one comes to the Father except through Me."* That very second we gave our life to the Lord, asking for His forgiveness, **War** was declared in the spiritual realm, and the enemy was out to steal, kill and destroy you like never before, but Jesus came that we may have real life, and to the fullest. (**John 10:10**)

The enemy cannot sink our **Battleship**, for God promises that no weapon formed against us can prosper (**Isaiah 54:17**) and if He is for us, no one can be against us (**Romans 8:31**). As born-again children of the Most High God, we must **Connect 4**; Father, Son, Holy Spirit and us, allowing that same Spirit that rose Jesus from the dead, that very power that parted the Red Sea to have His way in us. Then when **Trouble** comes our way we can focus on the promises of God and not the problem. We believe **Philippians 4:13** and put it into practice *"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."*

We put God's Word to **Memory** and know that *"greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world"* (**1 John 4:4**) and focus on kingdom work rather than the things of this world. We understand that our days of **Hide'N Seek** are over, as we believe the words of God in **James 4:8**, *"Come near to God and He will come near to you, wash your hands you sinners and purify your hearts you double-minded."* We know there will be victory when we obey **James 4:7**, *"Submit yourselves then to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you."*

As highly favored children of the King of kings and Lord of lords, we have intense **Concentration** on who we are because of whose we are. We believe God's Word is active and alive. We have faith in all of the promises of God and have a true desire to **Go Fish** and fulfill the Great Commission in **Matthew 28:18-20**, then Jesus came to them and said *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me, therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you, and surely I am with you always to the very end of the age."* We no longer focus on what **Simon Says** but on what Jesus says. **John 10:5** says, *"But they will never follow a stranger's voice."* Each day we are willing to take a **Risk** and share the "too good to be true" message of salvation with those around us. May our day-to-day attitude reflect who God is and may it cause others to want "what" we have. Showing all those around us that we have a **King On Our Corner**, a King that will never leave us or forget about us (**Hebrews 13:5-6, Psalm 118:6-7**). A good positive Godly attitude is a choice, you must choose to allow your attitude to be based on the Word of God and the promises it contains for you. We pray your attitude reflects joy, thanksgiving and hope because of who God is in your life. Allow **1 Thessalonians 5:15-19** to be the foundation of your daily attitude, *"Make sure nobody pays back wrong for wrong but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. Be joyful always, pray continually and give thanks in all circumstances for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirits fire."*

The enemy does not want you to have a **Clue** about a victorious life as a Christian. The enemy wants you **Puzzled** about how much God loves you, he does not want you to believe that anything is impossible with God (**Luke 1:37**). The enemy wants you to stay focused on your situation and problems, have a bad attitude and just curse God and die. But God wants you to remain focused on Him and all that He has for you. Meditate in the Word (**Ephesians 6**) and the full armor of God. It explains how you should **Dress Up** each and every day in the spirit realm. It will help you understand how to be guarded when the enemy is enjoying a mind game of **Dodge Ball** with you or trying to kill you with sickness and disease. Don't **Catch** what the enemy hurls at you. Put up your shield of faith and know that your only weapon in the full armor of God is

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From the Inside

the Sword, which is the Word of God. **Follow the Leader**, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Study the New Testament **Book of John** to better understand how Jesus acted and reacted in His daily walk. Invite the Holy Spirit into your life so you can walk in the power and authority He has for you (**Ephesians 1:18-22**). Cry out to Him daily, "Lord I trust you, I give You my problems and I'm not going to worry about it, for I know my worry and stress will cancel out my faith. (**Philippians 4:6-7; Matthew 6:25-33**) Lord I repent of the blame game, mind game, fear game, drinking game, gambling, **Cops n Robbers, Family Feud** and always saying **Sorry** when I don't really mean it. Because You live in me, I refuse to allow the enemy to play **Twister** or **Scrabble** with my thoughts, words and actions. This day forward, I declare to live for You, I will trust and obey You, I will live a life of praise and gratitude unto You, because You alone are worthy. I love You Lord; have Your way in my life, in Jesus' name, Amen.

In closing, know that we love each of you and pray **Ephesians 4:20-32** over you, "**You however did not come to know Christ that way; surely you heard of Him and were taught in Him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires, to be made new in the attitude of your minds and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor for we are all members of one body. In your anger do not sin, do not let the sun go down while you are still angry and do not give the devil a foothold. He who has been stealing must steal no longer but must work doing something useful with his own hands that he may have something to share with those in need. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen, and do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ, God forgave you.**"

I hope and pray this finds you all in great health and blessed spirits. I have honestly found the opening, I love what Jesus has done in my life. I hope your readers like this, and trust that God touched me deeply when He gave it to me. The light of the gospel always breaks through the darkness. Moving on each day with the love of Jesus Christ.

The Bible is a Slice of Heaven

By D.C.

Thank you and God bless you all. I just received your greeting card and response to my letter I wrote from the county jail. I am serving a 4.5 year sentence, I am blessed to have gotten 4.5 years, I could get out in two years if I program and prepare to go in front of the parole board. I'm not focused on that, I'm focused on God, His Word and giving His Word to the world. God's will is going to be done regardless of my actions, this I've learned.

God gave me a piece of heaven when He put my wife and three step kids in my life. I want to teach people how easy it is to have hope, peace, happiness and love and to be free from worrying when they give their life to Christ and trust and believe in Him and walk His path. I've been through so much in my life and tried so hard to get it right, doing it my way. The day I gave my life to Christ, He sent me a piece of heaven (my wife and kids). I don't know about you all, but I want more of what God has to give me; I'm hungry for more of God's love and blessings. The Bible says in **Matthew 7:7**, "**Ask and you will receive ...**"¹ I didn't know what asking meant until I fell to my knees in a dark cell and asked God with all my heart. I received and want more of God's love, but most of all I want others to have it more. I want to bring the world a piece of heaven.

I, my wife plus kids are doing good, we're still in a little struggle, but we're thankful for it because it's bringing us closer to God and each other. It was hard to trust and believe but once we did God started working amazing works in our lives. I am starting a college Bible course and hoping to get in touch with other brothers and sisters of Christ to help me become a pastor. God is real and is amazing. I want the world to know, I want to bring the world a piece of heaven. Jesus says in **Matthew 17:20**, "**... faith the size of a mustard seed and we could move mountains ...**"²

If I could bring others a piece of heaven the size of a mustard seed our brothers and sisters will want more and want others to have the same. The Bible is a big slice of heaven, but too many read God's Words and don't understand; don't

... continued on page 9

2 Chronicles 21:1-25:28

Although it is wise to seek advice, we must also carefully weigh the advice we receive. Ahaziah had advisers but they were wicked and led him to ruin. When you seek advice, listen carefully and use God's Word, as stated in **1 Thessalonians 5:21**, "... **test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good.**" (22:4-5)

Although it could have cost him his life, the priest did what was right, restoring the temple worship and anointing the new king. There are times when we must correct a wrong or speak out for what is right. When such a situation arises, gather up your courage and act. (23:1)

Don't underestimate people's desire to be faithful to God. When challenged to do God's work, they will often respond willingly and generously. (24:10)

Money must never stand in the way of making right decisions. The Lord's favor is priceless, worth more than any amount of money. (25:9-10)

Romans 11:13-12:21

Continue to trust in His kindness refers to steadfast perseverance in faith. Steadfastness is a proof of the reality of faith and a by-product of salvation, not a means to it. (11:22) God owes nothing to anyone of us. Isaiah and Jeremiah asked similar questions to show that we are unable to give advice to God or criticize his ways (Isaiah 40:1.3; Jeremiah 23:18) God alone is the possessor of absolute power and absolute wisdom. (11:34-35)

Healthy self-esteem is important because some of us think too little of ourselves. On the other hand, some of us over estimate ourselves. The key to an honest and accurate self-evaluation is knowing the basis of our self-worth through our identity in Christ. Apart from Him, we aren't capable of very much by eternal standards, in Him we are valuable and capable of worthy service. Evaluating yourself by the worldly standards of success and achievement can cause you to think too much about your worth in the eyes of others and thus miss your true value in God's eyes. (12:3)

Psalms 22:1-31

God's loving concern does not begin on the day we are born and conclude on the day we die. It reaches back to those days before we are born and reaches ahead along the unending path of eternity. Our only sure help comes from a God whose concern for us reaches beyond our earthly existence. How can anyone reject such love? (22:9-11) David would praise God among the people because his private deliverance deserved a public testimony. God may wonderfully deliver us in the quiet moments when we are hurting and we must be prepared to offer public praise for his care. (22:22)

Proverbs 20:7-10

We all aspire to 'walk with integrity', as we read and begin to live God's Word our 'integrity' will naturally become better and better, we will no longer continue to do selfish things that would question our integrity. And since our children are students of our behavior they too will be blessed when they follow us. (20:7)

No one is without sin. As soon as we confess our sin and repent, sinful thoughts and actions begin to creep back into our life. We all need ongoing cleansing moment by moment. Thank God He provides forgiveness by His mercy when we ask for it.



"Foot" Notes

Hello brothers and sisters, may God's blessings shine through you all. Just felt like sharing with you all that I just passed my 12th anniversary of walking in the faith and would like to say that every thing gets easier, stick with it. When I first began my walk I was pretty much off the rails with all the 'trying' to be a Christian and I am glad to report that now-a-days there's no more trying, there's just being. I've reached that point where my walk is like a habit. Everything comes naturally. I spend my days talking with God all day, along with my waking thoughts and last thoughts of the day. The anxiety of returning to who I was has been gone for years which just allows more room for peace and joy. I guess I just wanted to tell you all to keep stepping out in your faith, continue to trust God, things will get better. As long as you have faith there is hope. Look to **Hebrews 12:1** (NIV), "**A huge cloud of witnesses is all around us. So let us throw off everything that stands in our way. Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. Let us keep running the race marked out for us.**" Love to ya'll short and tall. Vaya con Dios!!

Do You Still Remember? - Part 2 *continued ...*

we had that accident." You all have no real idea the joy that fills my heart when my children or grandchildren receive such revelation and remember the things that they have witnessed God doing in my life, and then in their own lives as well.

When these things happen I use them as teachable moments. I assure them of Jesus' words in **John 10:2-5**, *"The gate-keeper opens the gate for them, and the sheep listen to His voice. He calls His own sheep and leads them out ... His sheep follow Him because they know His voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice."* I simply have to say to them, "You've seen the great things that God has done in grandma's and my life. You said you believe you're hearing from God so I recommend that you listen to what He has to say and be obedient and you too will experience the full goodness of God in your lives as well." None of it has to do with us except for the fact that we do our best to take them to church and live the best life we can that reveals Jesus to them. By living this new life, to the best of our ability, we are ultimately giving them a road map back should they happen to get off course with their own lives.

To date, both of my daughters, a son-in-law and ALL four of my grandsons know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. The time that I now GET to spend with them is precious and I always want it to be memorable for all of us. In fact, Frankie has just graduated high school and has enlisted in the Air Force. Dylan super excels and plays both offense and defense in football. Caleb and Anthony both are 'A' students in school and play sports at every opportunity.

Michelle and I went to Ohio to be there for Frank's graduation ceremony at the end of May and we also took Anthony along with us. As cousins, they all love each other so much and we never allow distance to separate their relationships. We ALL had a wonderful time together. Anthony was able to establish new relationships with other 'relatives' he had never met before and see other memorable places I lived as a child. We also introduced Anthony, for his first time, to fishing! And yes he became not only great at it but like all fisherman (smile) he quickly became full of direction and wisdom to Michelle after catching his first four fish. Are you wondering why I'm telling you all of this? This is why.

Now as I watch my family I am easily able to see the things that God is doing in each of their lives. With that I'm reminded of what Joshua said, in **Joshua 24:15** (Message Bible), *"If you decide it's a bad thing to worship God, then choose a god you'd rather serve - and do it today ... As for me and my family, we will worship the Lord."* I say these things in hopes of encouraging you all to look for the goodness of God in every area of your lives. Powerful things happen in our lives when we praise, and honor God by remembering the great things that He has done in our lives. I'll close with this.

"Praise the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens. Praise Him for His acts of power; praise Him for His surpassing greatness ... Let EVERYTHING that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord." (Psalm 150:1-2,6)

The Bible is a Slice of Heaven By D.C. *continued ...*

feel God's love, teachings and plans for us. I want others to read and understand so they see God's works in their lives. I'm sorry I went off in this letter, I'm excited, I'm happy and I want others to feel the same, no matter what is going on in our lives.

I've learned to put my trust and belief in God, He is amazing and will always love, protect and provide for us when we trust in Him. God is always going to be knocking at our hearts, we just have to open up to Him, and even at times when we've done wrong (sinned) God loves us and always wants to give us His love.

Dear Jesus, thank You Father for Your love, thank You for never giving up on us, thank You for being patient with us and not leaving us. Thank You Father for Your blessings, in Jesus' name. Amen!

Last Month's Crypto Gram Answers

It's your aptitude, not just your attitude that determines your ultimate altitude. - Zig Ziglar

The difference between a moral man and a man of honor is that the latter regrets a discreditable act, even when it has worked and he has not been caught. - H.L. Mencken

This country has come to feel the same when congress is in session as when the baby gets hold of a hammer. - H.L. Mencken

I am prepared to meet my maker whether my maker is prepared for the great ordeal of meeting me is another matter. - Winston Churchill

Overcomer's Testimonies

I am a federal inmate, I am serving a 126 month sentence for conspiracy to distribute meth. The Lord knew what it would take for me to turn to Him. Once again, He has given sight to a man who was walking through this world blind. I see I had been worshiping a false god (meth). I believe it and satan are one and the same. I have seen this drug destroy life after life, including my own. Conspiracy is labeled as having no identifiable victims, but I believe it should say, "Too many victims to identify."

It has such a domino effect. It starts closest to home then it affects family, neighbors, communities and whole cities. I am from Kansas City, Missouri and that whole area is just plagued by this drug. It sickens me to know that I played a part in that. I was doing the devil's work. Praise the Lord, He has broken the chains that it had on me. Like I said, I believe meth and satan are one and the same and there is only one thing more powerful than satan and that is our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only way I will stay free from the grips that it had on me.

I gave my life to Christ on March 31, 2014 on my knees on the floor of the county jail. Even being locked up I am more free than I have ever been. I can honestly say I would rather be in prison with Jesus than on the streets without Him. This doesn't even scratch the surface of the things He has done in my life since that day. I have a new peace and I feel a calling on my life. I want to turn my mess of a life into His message. I want to help others who are plagued with the same demons that I was, but hopefully before they have to take the same detour in life that I have.

One of the things He has placed on my heart is to start some type of letter writing ministry. We have a good family of Christians in here and a lot of different backgrounds and experiences that have been overcome through Christ. I was wanting to try and put something together where if there was someone (kids or adults) that might be struggling with things like gangs, drugs, peer pressure, porn addiction and so on. A letter from someone who has faced the same things and is now here might help open their eyes to some of the consequences of those things and maybe offer some encouragement in changing.

I really think that a letter to me from someone in prison for the things I was doing would have helped me change the direction my life was taking. - **E.P.**

What Others Are Saying...

"I truly appreciate you're blessing for my birthday from all of you. It places a smile on my heart. I enjoy the newsletter and all the beautiful front covers. The pictures I have all cut out and place them in my family album, of my family at *Overcomers for Christ*." - **A.B.**

"I thank you all so much, you don't know how grateful I am for all you do. I still have seven years left on my sentence, your services, your magazine have brought me closer to God. Keep up the good work, thank you to all your staff. May God bless you all." - **M.R.**

"I was so surprised to get your family's birthday card to me, it really was special. What I thought made it great was your grandson, Caleb, signing it for me. So, please thank him. I love all of you there in the name of Jesus. Thank you all for your newsletters, they really give me hope. I share the newsletters with my friends and they love them, too." - **D.M.**

"In the chapel, we have a lot the VSR music group CDs and Pastor Jason Anderson's CD sermons available to listen to. I borrowed my Christian brothers CD player and listened to the first CD of the Doors series. I loved it. My friend has been moved and I have been praying that God would provide a way for me to get a CD player." - **T.D.**

"Thanks a lot for the newsletters that I've been receiving. What's written is the living waters that is, for those who thirst. How it is designed is so inspiring, just as it was when I first laid eyes on it. I pray this letter finds you all in the highest spirits and smiles as well. Thanks for all your hard work out there and all that you do in secret. I love these newsletters I receive. I hope to hear from you all soon. May God give you all the strength, knowledge, wisdom, and courage to overcome any and all obstacles that are laid upon your path. Love you all. Never give up because that's all we have at the end of the day." - **R.V.**

"I want to thank *Overcomers for Christ* for believing in myself and others, and for being here for us. God is good. Thank you for running my story in the *Overcomers for Christ* newsletter, I am excited to get it, there's always amazing life changing love in your newsletters. I will be passing the newsletters on and getting the word out of *Overcomers for Christ*'s love for God and our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you, God bless us all and God bless you." - **D.C.**

When You're Angry, Slow Down and THINK

From Daily Hope with Rick Warren

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." - James 1:19 NIV

We save ourselves a lot of pain and heartache if we follow one simple rule: Slow down when we're angry or hurt.

The Bible says, **"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." - James 1:19 NIV**

Yet, usually we do just the opposite. We're quick to speak, slow to listen, and swift to become angry. That's backward! But if you do the first two - be slow to speak and quick to listen - the last part will be automatic. You'll find yourself becoming angry less often and less naturally.

There's an important rhythm to this idea, which the Bible reiterates over and over again. For example:

Proverbs 14:29: "Patient people have great understanding, but people with quick tempers show their foolishness." (NCV)

Proverbs 15:28: "Good people think before they answer. Evil people have a quick reply, but it causes trouble." (GNT)

Proverbs 15:18: "Losing your temper causes a lot of trouble, but staying calm settles arguments." (CEV)

How do you slow down and think before rushing to anger? Consider these five questions before speaking when you're angry.

T: Is it truthful? Is what I'm about to say the truth?

H: Is it helpful? Or will it simply harm the other person?

I: Is it inspirational? Does it build up, or does it tear down?

N: Is it necessary? If it's not necessary, why do I need to say it?

K: Is it kind? Will it encourage or discourage?

It's not enough just to slow down when we're angry. Take extra time to **THINK** about what to say or do next.

Talk It Over:

Describe a time when you spoke quickly in anger and regretted it.

If you were to speak without thinking, which part of the **THINK** acronym are you most likely to skip, and why?

How have you seen a rush to anger affect someone you care about?

Quote Worthy

"Once you have thoroughly examined your values and articulated them, you will be able to steer your life by them."

- John Maxwell - an American author, speaker, and pastor who has written many books, primarily focusing on leadership.

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.

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Most Dear to Me

By A.B.

**Most dear to me are those I love,
Who share and bless my life,
Who fill my heart with countless joys
Despite days touched by strife.**

**Most dear are friends I cherish most,
As Overcomers for Christ whose loyalty
is true ...**

**Whatever my lot, whatever my pain,
They're faithful, through and through.**

**Most dear eaching blessing that the Lord
Bestows with loving grace
No matter if sometimes err,
I'm safe in His embrace.**

**Most dear, indeed, the Voice within
That guides me night and day,
And gently chides my questing soul
Each time I chance to stay,
Overcomers for Christ lifts me
within prayer ...**

**Most dear of all, my faithful Lord,
Who died to set us free,
That we, one day, might find true joy
With Him eternally.**

***"Then all who take refuge in You will be glad and forever shout for joy. Protect them
that You may be the joy of those who love Your name." - Psalm 5:12***

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

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