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Overcomers for Christ

November 2019

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Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

December 2018



Wrestling With the Promises of God

By Rodger Whisman

Through my recent study of Scriptures I began to group the written promises of God offered to all of us. As I considered the depth of all those promises in our behalf, I rehearsed all the promises the Holy Spirit had given to me personally also. The unique fact and truth was; all those promises had come to pass and or were still active in my life. I call them jewels, and realized how many other sons and daughters must have received the same equally. These thoughts led me to **Philippians 4:19**, "**But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**" (our Jehovah Jireh)

I considered Jacob as he was given great promises. One time in particular Jacob wrestled with an angel sent by God. Afterwards God said to him, in **Genesis 32:28**, "**And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.**" Now Jacob, according to **Genesis 32:24**, wrestled with that angel a full night. Within that Jacob was given a new name that means 'God rules and God heals' (Jehovah Rapha, Israel). Within this promise not only was Jacob changed, but he began a complete new experience in and with God. This experience influenced the way Jacob lived and his lifestyle for the remainder of his days.

I call that a personal relationship with God, in which every child of God, son or daughter, must absolutely have to experience. And that through Christ our Lord. That is covered in **John 15:5**. Let's read it together. "**I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.**"

What really begins a revelation is a single word common to us all called change. Which in a manner we do as we begin to accept those Scriptures of promise and begin to realize they can be and are applied to us also as sons and daughters of the Most High God. What we relate to as change is instead, really becoming whom we were always intended to be, in Christ. Yes, according to **Romans 8:29**, we are foreknown. Listen. "**For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.**" Therefore, our change is really bringing us about to whom God intended for us to be from the very beginning. Again, we must realize the real change is from the ways and deeds of this world to doing that which pleases God. In fact our deeds are in representing the Kingdom of God; also reaching out to a lost world of souls. While we're speaking on change let me add this; Be all you can be in Christ because when you do, this has become the true/truthful you ... the true intent of our life here on earth. As we grasp these simple truths of who we are supposed to be this will create quite an uprising of the flesh and or our humanity. Such understandings, or personal revelation can create quite a crisis in us and lifestyle at times.

In this we may begin to wrestle with all those revelations and promises of God. Things such as; "I am not good enough. It's too late for me now. Forgiveness. God couldn't be talking to me. Really?" We take so much on ourselves by thinking; "How do 'I' quit doing this or that? How do 'I' change these bad habits? How do 'I' lay so many desires to the side?" We begin to wrestle with those things and issues that seem to challenge our promise of what? WHOM WE REALLY ARE IN CHRIST?! Until that promise breaks forth as a revelation we alone can do nothing. Listen to what Paul has to say about this in **Philippians 4:13**, "**I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.**" WOW!

Let's step back a paragraph. We have tended our own needs, wants and desires for so long that when we realize the promises of God are in effect in our lives our humanity raises the challenge to a pro-wrestling match. Who would you think should win? Let me ease your heart and your trials. We simply live each day before God. The fruitful tree that the Lord has planted in your soul has to grow as it is watered by the Word of God. Yes you must do your best and that by Scripture, well doing and the Holy Spirit does the rest with you. That is the Holy Spirit's job; to teach, guide and direct you in righteousness. And my dear friends, one cannot stop the fruit tree from producing the fruit it was designated to produce. It's true you can destroy a fruit tree from producing by cutting off all the water and nutrients. But a peach tree will always bare, peaches.

It's important to remember that all of God's promises are Yes and Amen. AND, God is not slack concerning His promises. In fact, **2 Corinthians 1:20** states, "**For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.**" All of God's children must simply live to be all you can be in Christ. And all the promises of God will lead you to the person/soul you were designated to be. Yes, there most definitely will be a wrestling match. But the promises superseded your challenges. It was set aside for you to be a victor in Christ, and that before you were even conceived. And if I may say so, that means that you are wrestling with your past 'self' anyway.

So in all of this that I have shared, by now you know there is an eternity at risk. And not only your own soul but many others you may have to reach out to, to help as you yourself had been helped. Let me end with this Scriptural promise in **1 John 5:4**, "**For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**" ... AMEN (So Be It) and God Bless

Beyond a Shadow of a Doubt

By R.G.

To my brothers and sisters at OCS, well, I think it is about time to share a true story with you, that I hope you can put in your newsletter. Okay, here goes:

I want you to understand that this story that I am sharing is a true fact, and it happened just as I am sharing it with you. Back in June, 2010, very early in the morning I got a phone call from my mother's best friend, and when I looked at the screen on my phone I felt it in my bones that something was wrong. As soon as I answered the phone, Cindy started crying, telling me that I needed to get to the hospital ASAP. I was like, "What happened Cindy?" She just said, "Roger, hurry and get here, I don't know if your mom is going to make it."

I then went silent; I didn't know what to do. I was shaking, and I started crying. Then my wife was like, "What is going on baby?" Then I told her what I had just been told, so she told me to, "Pull myself together and get dressed so we could go see about my mother."

Now let me tell you a little secret, I had just relapsed on crack and morphine, so I was not in any shape to be dealing with something like this. If you can relate, when someone goes and relapses after being clean for a long time, the drugs seem to really take a toll on your body. I had the runs, a terrible headache; I could not eat, etc.

But I immediately asked the Lord in prayer to give me the strength to do this. I was then able to get up, get dressed and get to the hospital. Upon getting there, I found out that my mother had been found in a very bad state, she was very pale and she was also delirious. They then told me that she had a blockage in her rectum and she needed to have surgery immediately. Well, to make matters worse they had me sign the permission papers. They then informed me that she could die as a result of the surgery.

I've got to tell you, this didn't go over too well with me, and I was really really scared. So, I called my sponsor in N.A. at the time, and the first thing that he told me was that we needed to pray, so we did. I must say, I started to feel better after getting off the phone with him and going back into the hospital. I was really on edge, but I kept talking to the Father, asking Him to please, please save my mother.

So, the following day we were told that she was due to go into surgery that morning, so I was really doing well and trusting in the Lord. My wife and I had been praying non-stop, along with all of the rest of my family. Well, she went into surgery and we were in the waiting room. I was going crazy waiting on her to be out of surgery.

While I was standing in the hall and after stretching, all of a sudden, they had some kind of emergency code go out over the intercom, and then a nurse came and told us everything was going to be all right, not to worry. Well, you can guess what was going through my mind. What in the world was this lady talking about?

Then standing with my wife in the hall, the elevator opens up and they proceed to rush by us, but hey, that was my mom they just ran past me with, and she wasn't breathing or nothing. And I flipped out; I fell to the ground and started crying like a baby. Then here comes another person and they want me go sign some more papers so that they can give her electric shock and try to revive her. And once again, they tell me that she can die from this. Then my wife says, "Don't you mean she is dead and you are trying to save her?" The person says, "Yes, but they are required to tell us that when we sign the papers."

When she went away I started praying harder than I had ever prayed before, I even started praying in tongues. I had never done this before. They were able to save her, and then she was to go and finish the surgery ASAP. A day or two later she went and had the surgery, and it was good. She made it out all right. She ended up without most of her digestive organs after the surgery, and she was not too happy about that, but at least she was going to be around for a while longer.

I was beyond grateful to the Father, for He had answered my prayers. So, what I am telling you is that God can and will answer all of your prayers, if you just trust and believe on Him. With that experience, God gave me the ability to trust in Him, and I now believe *beyond a shadow of a doubt*.

I pray that this may help someone somewhere. It helped me when it happened. I also would like to ask all of you true prayer warriors to pray for me. My mom is gone now and I find myself missing her like crazy. Always smile, it makes the enemy so, so mad!!!!

To all of you there at OCS please keep doing what you do. I pray for the day to meet each and every one of you!!!!

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

Thanks for all you do, I know I need me a big dose of some Jesus. I withstood the storm and fought the good fight even though all is falling apart around me, nothing I can't handle. I want my son to be restored and healed from that brain injury and they quit the chemo, it's not working. He hasn't eaten in weeks, down to 110 pounds. I pray in Jesus' name to heal him and rebuke all that cancer. Give him relief for that pain, allow him to eat and be at peace. I'm in pain due to our up and down relationship and I'm in here and unable to care for and comfort him. I'm strong as an ox, but this issue is hurting my heart and saddens me. Please lift him up for me. I know how powerful your prayers are. I'm shut down, no rap for anybody.

I'm just on auto-pilot. I have no one I run with, talk to or confide in. My mom is the only one who visits or I call, besides talking to my Lord and Savior all day, every day. I ask Him for His grace to be showered upon me and to touch my heart and give me understanding and teach me how to walk again and restore all I lost. I need help ... **B.E.**

Dear Father in heaven, I pray that you come into my life and bless my life, heal my children of any sickness, anger, pride, depression, addictions, lust, fear, worry etc. Thank You Father, I pray that my mother Mariann gets a new kidney; she has worked all her life and doesn't have proper insurance. Thank You God, I pray that you keep my children safe and bring us together. Lord, I pray that I become an active member of *Overcomers for Christ* and have a good church in Mesa to go to when I'm free. I pray for any job to help me support my family and self. I pray for a sponsor to help me in my life long recovery from alcohol. Thank You Father, I pray for people to see a man who has love in his heart and wants better for his life, and who doesn't want the old life. I'm not perfect Lord, but I'm trying and more than ready and willing. I pray for the brothers and sisters of *Overcomers for Christ*. I pray that You Lord keep brother Wade focused on You, he is very blessed and a very important overcomer and role model. I want to pray for the men, children and women helping at *Overcomers for Christ*. Thank You Father for Wade and these women and men, and I also mostly would like to pray that Your peace flood my mind. Thank You Father. Amen! God Bless ... **R.W.**

Please keep my wife in your prayers. She is not currently saved, but I know that the Holy Spirit is working on her. Her and our four kids are going through a very hard time right now. I don't get to speak with her much, so most of my information comes through my mom and dad ... **S.P.**

I'm still fighting my case and I'm about to send off my next motion, so I'm asking all of you to please pray that the outcome will be in my favor and God's will!! Take care and keep me in your prayers, as I will keep praying for you as well ... **G.G.**

Praise Reports

How are you guys doing? I wish the best for you guys, I really do. I got your newsletter that you guys sent me, it was a blessing to me. I been reading my Bible and praying for you guys. I am going to tell you guys a little about me. I was into drugs and in street gangs. When I was on drugs, I was lost in the streets, I was doing all kinds of crime. The drugs had a hold on my life, I was doing meth, it messed me up in the head. I was fighting demons in my mind. I would pray to God for help to take away the evil spirits. God answered my prayers. It was very sad to go through, I kept doing drugs, it had me messed up. I had a broken spirit of full darkness in me. My family did not raise me up like that, I know right from wrong. I am in prison, the judge gave me four years, it is not my first time. When I was in my cell, God came to me, woke me up out of my dreams, it was a miracle to me ... **G.F.**

Hello, how've you been? For me, I've been incarcerated since May 28, 2013. I spent four months in county lock up, got out on lifetime probation. By the grace of God, I had a job the day I was released from jail. I used to sleep on the asphalt at the Central Arizona Shelter Services. That was one place where you and I, and the rest of the congregation passed out food and clothes. I wasn't even "using" at the time. I was going to church. I still remember one sermon about Jesus and Him calming the sea. I was told, and believe that this is "just a storm". I was looking at 11-16 years, if aggravated. I prayed in county lock up, asking for 7 1/2 years. When I got caught on May 28, 2013, I was just "so out of it". Looking back on it, it seems like I was right at death's door. I got sentenced to 7 1/2 years. You and I know this wasn't an accident.

Throughout my stay here in prison, the Lord has always provided me with a job, and favor with the powers that be. I got here on Thanksgiving 2017. Two weeks later, out of the blue I got a chrono stating I was assigned to the kitchen. D.O.C. policy states that I had to wait at least six months to get another job. God blessed me, let's keep it simple. All these years I've been going to services and nobody has heard of you. Then out of the blue, my native brother has your address, Praise the Lord. Many people have probably given up on me, and at first, even I gave up, but God didn't give us the spirit of self-pity. I still believe in my heart that Jesus Christ died for you and me brother ... **J.H.**

Praise the Lord and God bless all of you guys at OC4C. God has a real big blessing for all of us. I am just waiting to receive mine ... **J.C.**

I am still learning and loving our God Jesus. I am going through some hard times, but I am trusting in God and walking strong with Jesus. Me and my dad have been able to write each other, he's in prison, too. He is a Christian, so he was really happy to hear that I turned my life over to Jesus ... **M.G.**

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Accept God's Liberation ... Let Go ... Surrender

By U.S.

A little child playing, one day with a very valuable vase put his hand into it, and couldn't withdraw it. His father too tried his best to free the boys hand but all in vain. They were thinking of breaking the vase when the father said, "Now my son, let's make one more try. Open your hand and hold your fingers out straight, like you see me doing, then pull."

To his astonishment his little son said, "Oh no father, I can't put my fingers out straight like that. If I do I'll drop my penny."


Smile if you will, but thousands of us are just like this little boy. So busy holding on to the world's worthless penny that we cannot accept His Liberation. So I beg you, drop that riddle in your heart. **SURRENDER!** Let go and let God have His way in your life. Remember, **IT'S ALL OR NOTHING!!**

Rejoice on ALL Occasions

By M.M.

Let us pray, *Father we come before You humbly and in thanksgiving. We honor and give You all glory for all things and we are just so grateful for all that You have done for us. The things we ask for are to bring Praise to You! Thank You for continuing to mold our hearts and minds into the men and women we are meant to be. We Love You Father!! In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen!!*

Thank you for the beautiful card. **"Rejoice in the Lord always!"** What a powerful statement for us to apply to our lives, not just some of the time but as the Word says, "Always!" If we all could just do that without our self-centeredness we would glorify our Lord in much more powerful ways, but as men and women we tend to get in our own way at times. But yes, I love that short but powerful verse **Philippians 4:4, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"**

Now, onto other things - **Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend."** Amen!! I love you and the  family very much and I know in the past my accountability fell short, and I do and have prayed on this. What it was is that I was a child and immature in my growth, I will be accountable and to my position in God's church. My complete desire is to be the godly man God intended me to be, I love Him with my whole being. I am beyond grateful that our Lord is giving me another chance in life out there. In just four years, these gates will open up with God's hand leading the way!

I will have 20 years of my life behind these gates of prison, and my desire is to share this with others, how our Lord's hand has been with me throughout it all, sharing our true hope that is in our Lord!!

But on that note I've taken it upon myself to do N.A and A.A meetings, also I am doing my steps and continuing in my recovery. I know my friend that by His stripes, I am healed, and that I have overcome drugs and alcohol. I am willing to do whatever it takes to stay on the righteous path of Christ. I've already done over 80 classes, this is not something that was court ordered, but something I felt I need to do. I had a problem with drugs for far too long and I'm done with it. There is also Bible studies and sermons that are here, and of course the men on the yard that need to hear of God's Word.

The Light of Our Hearts

By M.R.

"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ" - 2 Corinthians 4:6.

Isn't it amazing to think that the same light that illuminates the universe resides in our hearts!? Paul goes on to point out that, the fact that God chose to have the light of Christ shine through "jars of clay" is a demonstration of His power. Christ's light in us enables us to endure every trial and difficulty because we know Him and are comforted in the knowledge that He is in control.

Jesus told us that we are, **"The light of the world,"** and that we are to let our lights shine so that those in darkness will see the Lord. Do you realize that as you live for Christ, as you allow His light to shine through you, others can see Him at

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From the Inside

work in your life?

The next time you face a problematic task, or have a hard day, or have your patience truly tested by a difficult person, remember Christ's light is in you. Allow His light to illumine the shadowy times of your life. Not only will you be blessed, but so will those around you. "Let there be light!"

God Loves Me and Wants Me to Live

By R.W.

I've been meaning to write this letter for three years now, sorry it took so long.

Well, I want to thank you so much for the visits while I was in the county jail. You helped me get through some tough times. I remember talking to you through that glass window, looking at you and speaking to you as you listened. I remember the first time you came, I said in my mind, "This big bearded dude don't care, he is probably looking for information." Then I started to open up to this person I hardly knew, and I felt a sense of understanding.

I didn't tell you, but things were, well they felt like they were never going to get better. I had my mind made up that God did not love me anymore; I was ready to take my life. I asked for a sign and two hours after asking for that sign I was called for a visit. You were there smiling at me. The first thing you said was "Let's pray!" A tear fell from my eye as I said, "Thank You." Every time a newsletter comes under my cell door, I remember that God loves me and wants me to live, Amen.

I still have flaws about myself that I'm working on. I've been doing time since a teen and I'm so tired. The gang and street life is not for me. Anything you can think of that involves the street life I've done it. I have a mother with kidney failure, my sister Robin died while in county jail, my other sister is heavy on pills and my brother can't stop drinking. I have had my share of alcoholism, and through God's help, I don't want to touch it anymore. I'm kind of scared of being released because I have so many talents. I just don't know if anyone would want to give me a chance.

I love making music, I feel I can touch many young lost souls that way, but I also love to do construction, cut hair and cook. But I feel I work consistent and hard, but the way I look, I feel all my tattoos and criminal record will draw people away from me. I just want to get out of here in seven months, have a church to go to get involved and work to support my children and family. I'll be staying in Mesa, I don't know too much about Arizona because I'm from California. But this is where my mother, brother, father and sister are. I wish me and my wife were on good terms; I want to move my kids close to me. Following this I would like you to pray for me. Thank you so much for everything. Amen!

Psalm 91

By J.S.

Thank you for your words of encouragement and your thinking of me to send me a birthday card. Thank you very much. God has caused many days to shine with a smile on my face. Regardless of where I am, and never mind my circumstances. Praise and honor and thanks and glory to God, in Jesus' name!!

For what can man do to me? I am under the shadow of God's wings, I am forever in the palm of His all powerful hands!!

Psalm 91 says ... "Because I have set my love upon God, therefore God will deliver me. God will set me on high, because I have known God's name. I can call upon God, and God will answer me. God will be with me in trouble. God will deliver me and honor me. With long life God will satisfy me, and God will show me His salvation."

I am strong yet I thirst. I am a babe in Christ, yet I hear my Master's voice. I hear my Shepherd when He calls me. I can hear Father's voice now.

"Father" means - point of origin. Isn't that cool? Knowledge we gain in reading our Father's Word makes us grow and makes us grow in a good way, and we grow stronger! Whew!!

May God bless you all with the passion to know Christ Jesus, our for real for true Savior.

Isaiah 22:1-28:13

Today, we still see people living without hope and there are two common responses to hopelessness: despair and self-indulgence. But, we need not act as if we had no hope. As we face difficulties, our proper response should be to trust God and His promises. **(22:13-14)**

Pride separates people from God, and He will not tolerate it. As we examine our life, we must remember that all true accomplishment comes as a result of our Creator's help. We have no reason to take pride in ourselves. **(23:9)**

We can never avoid strife in the world around us, but when we fix our thoughts on God, we can know perfect peace, even in turmoil. As we focus our mind on God and His Word, we become steady and stable. Supported by God's unchanging love and mighty power, we are not shaken by the surrounding chaos. See **Philippians 4:7**. Do you want peace? Keep your thoughts on God and your trust in Him. **(26:3)**

To 'thresh' means to judge. God's purpose in judging the earth is not vengeance, but purging. He wants to correct us and bring us back to Him. God does not punish us for our sins just to make us suffer, but to make those who are faithful better equipped for fruitful service. **(27:12)**

Galatians 2:17-3:22

We must realize that we grow spiritually because of God's work in us by His Spirit, not by following special rules. **(3:2-3)**

Trying to be right with God by our own effort doesn't work. Good intentions such as, "I'll do better next time," or "I'll never do that again," usually end in failure. Paul points to Habakkuk's declaration in **Habakkuk 2:4**, "**See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright, but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness.**" But by trusting God, believing in His provision for our sins and living each day in His power, we can break this cycle of failure. **(3:11)**

Psalms 60:1-61:8

The closer we get to God, the more our enemies will attack us because we threaten their evil and selfish way of living. **(60:1)**


God said the cities and territories of Israel were His and He knew the future of each of the nations. When the world seems out of control, we must remind ourselves that God owns the cities and knows the future of every nation. God is in control. With God's help, we will gain the victory. **(60:6-10)**

Even when we are among strange people and surroundings, God never abandons us. His all surpassing strength is always with us. **(61:1-2)**

Proverbs 23:15-18

Would not we all rejoice when our children become wise in the Word and ways of the Lord? **(23:15-16)**

How easy is it to envy those who get ahead, unhampered by responsibility to God's law. For a time, they do seem to prosper without paying any attention to what God wants, but they have no future. To those who follow Him, God promises a hope and a wonderful future, even if they don't realize it in this life. **(23:17-18)**

 **"Foot" Notes**

Hello fellow Overcomers, just a little reminder that we need to pay attention to our words that we speak, for what we put out there is what we get back. So, if all you put out is, "Woe is me," negativity. Well, guess what you'll get in return?

So, let's try to focus on speaking out in a positive manner. So, you'll get positivity in return. Keep growing in your faith. There is a line in one of my favorite country songs on the radio by David Lee Murphy and Kenny Chesny *Everything's Gonna Be Alright*.

Love to ya'll short and tall ... Vaya con Dios ... Don't ride faster than your angels can fly!

Overcomer's Testimonies

From my last letter you all already know that I AM an Overcomer for Christ. I thought that I would write you all again to share this life changing testimony.

Several years ago, I suffered from severe alcoholism and drug addiction that further led to porn addiction. These things only brought me temporary satisfaction. I pretty much lived in the adult book stores, high out of my mind, lusting over all that nakedness and sex.

I ran the streets stealing from people, stores and drug dealers just to score another hit. I had gotten so bad with the drugs that I started shooting up in my veins. I even stooped to picking up dirty needles to use because I was homeless and had none. Without shooting up, I wouldn't have gotten the high that I was chasing. I believe that the devil kept me blinded by telling me that I was an addict, and the drugs were what I needed.

Finally, on March 23, 2016, God said, "Enough is enough!" and I believe He placed an officer of the law in my path who later arrested me for parole violation and drug possession.

After sitting in the county jail for a few days sick, depressed and starving, medical had drawn my blood and told me that I had Hepatitis C. Sadly I really wasn't shocked seeing as how I had been using dirty needles. I praise God that I didn't catch anything else that isn't curable without God's healing power in the process! I sat there every day lost. It wasn't that I didn't already believe 'in' God, but for some reason I didn't trust Him.

It was then that I requested a Bible and started reading it. Several months later, after giving my life to Christ, I found myself doing full Bible studies, and preaching God's Word to other inmates in my pod. I guess it was at that point that I started to believe that God was going to bless me with my release. When I went to court and my prayer wasn't answered, in anger and rage, I threw my Bible across my cell and cursed God. RIGHT THEN, I felt a nudge from God to go and look at my Bible. So I did. When I picked it up it was opened to **James 1:2-4**, where it says, **"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything."** Right then I felt hot all over, I was shaking, my ears were on fire and I began crying uncontrollably. It was though I felt the full power and presence of the Lord and I sure counted it joy because even in my anger and rage He showed that to me. Praise God! Please stay with me here as I continue.

That night, I had a dream of Judgment day. In this dream, I seen that all the people hit in the back with two burning arrows were the ones chosen by God. I was standing inside of a burning building where a wall was missing. I was standing where I could see that the sky was black and the city was on fire. Suddenly, I was hit in the back with two burning arrows. I literally felt it as my body jolted even in my sleep.

Then, I saw an angel in the same building. His wings turned to suit as he approached me and said, "I'm Gabriel, you've been chosen by God so I'm going to take you some place safe." As he pulled the arrows from my back, I felt it as my body again jolted. From there he took me to a temple of some kind where I could see people walking the streets making obscene gestures. It was as though they were trying to act like they weren't scared of going to hell but regardless, you could see the fear on their faces. They were walking towards an orange ball of fire.

Gabriel then asked me, "Who are you looking for? If you are looking for your family they aren't coming, they never received Jesus to obtain their salvation." Then I heard some man say, "You all are covered in the Blood of Jesus, fight the good fight ... you will win this battle!" As I woke up I was freaked out, but I did start sharing the message that God had given me.

Back in prison this time, I've been healed of those addictions and I was cured of the Hepatitis C. God took it out of my body without medication. God's gracious mercy healed me! I've been so blessed ever since.

Today, I minister God's Word to others here on the yard. God is using me to help change lives. I can hear God speak. I feel the presence of His Holy Spirit and I have completely surrendered my life to Jesus so that I can complete God's assignment and fulfill His purpose for my life. This is why I wanted to share this testimony; to let others know that God will NEVER leave us. He loves us so much that He gave us His only Son, Jesus, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. (**John 3:16**) - M.D.


What Others Are Saying...

"I would like to thank everyone for the birthday card. I really appreciate it, I would also like to thank all of you guys for all the time you take out of your day to make the newsletter you guys send out to everyone that is locked up along with the birthday, father's day and mother's day cards you send out. God bless all of you guys and your family for everything you guys do. Thank you guys for everything, I am really looking forward to next month's newsletter." - **J.C.**


"Greetings, first and foremost, I would like to say that you all are doing an amazing phenomenal job. A good friend and brother in Christ passed me some of your extraordinary literature. I must say that I was inspired by everything I read, and would please like to start receiving your monthly scriptures. I truly and gratefully appreciate your time and help. The real thanks goes to The Man up above, our Lord and Savior, for making it all possible, amen!! You all are in my prayers. Keep up the good work. God bless you all" - **F.L.**

"Thought I would write and say hello. I want to thank everyone for the cards and the love they show. I wanted to tell you all that my birthday just passed and the brothers on this yard were great. It was the best day for me in a long time. I love you all at Overcomers. Thank you all for your love and support." - **M.G.**

"I thank you so much for your monthly newsletter that I have been receiving all these years. You've been a blessing and I confess that I have used the artwork to decorate my locker, cell, chapel bulletin board and even the hole at one point. Whatever it takes to get the gospel message out, right?" - **A.K.**

"Another inmate on my run gave me July's  newsletter which turned out to be very encouraging. I currently have 11 years left on my sentence. I came to know Christ in April of 2017, He led me to turn myself in that following September, and I have been in ADOC since June of 2018. I would like to receive your newsletter. I love your newsletter. You guys have an amazing ministry, thank you so much." - **S.P.**

"Thank you so much for the birthday card, it was unexpected and gratefully accepted, thank you so much. Please send my regards to everyone there. God bless you all! You all are a blessing." - **G.G.**

"Thank you all for continuing to send me your newsletter. I love it so much and it's such a blessing. Thank you also for the cards. Please tell all of my  family hello." - **V.H.**

"Thank you and God bless you all for encouraging and guiding so many of us. Your newsletter is always a blessing to me. I'm being released this month, so I wanted to notify you and ask, if possible, could I please still receive your newsletters outside of prison?" - **D.R.**

"Hope this finds you all blessed and doing well. Thank you for the card. Thank you for all you do for all of us on the inside. Please accept this tithe to assist you in continuing God's work in here." - **R.W.**

"Hello and blessings! I hope that you are well and my letter reaches you in the very best of health and spirits. I first wanted to write and thank you and Maria, Trina, Julie, Heidi, Joseph and Deb for all signing and sending a birthday card for me. It means a lot to be thought about and acknowledged on my birthday. I appreciate all of you and thank God for the blessings of friendship and encouragement in His name! All of you at Overcomers remain in my continued thoughts and prayers." - **R.B.**

Faith

By Steve Arterburn

Desperate to find a home, an orphan girl in India asked a missionary teacher from a nearby village for help. The missionary had no money or room for the girl but promised she'd pray and ask God for His help. She told the girl to do the same.

That evening, the teacher received a letter from an American friend, containing enough money to provide for the orphan girl. She summoned a messenger the following morning and asked him to go to the neighboring village, a day's walk from her home to find the girl.

To the teacher's surprise, the messenger returned with the girl in half the expected time. When asked how she traveled so quickly, the girl reminded the teacher, "We both prayed to God for help, I thought I might as well start walking."

Faith is active. Thinking and praying are necessary elements, but the true test of our faith is when like the little girl, we start walking.

"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

THANK GOD THEY CAN STILL MAINTAIN THEIR SENSE OF HUMOR OVER THERE!!!

Don't cha Just LOVE 'EM!!!!!!



Quote Worthy

"Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved."

- William Jennings Bryan (1860 - 1925) - an American orator and politician from Nebraska. Beginning in 1896, he emerged as a dominant force in the Democratic Party, standing three times as the party's nominee for President of the United States. He also served in the United States House of Representatives and as the United States Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson. Just before his death, he gained national attention for attacking the teaching of evolution in the Scopes Trial.



Living Word Bible Church Locations

Mesa - 3520 E. Brown Rd. Mesa, AZ 85213 Ahwatukee - 14647 S. 50th St. #165 Phoenix, AZ 85044
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 Florence - Florence High School 1000 S. Main St. Florence, AZ 85132



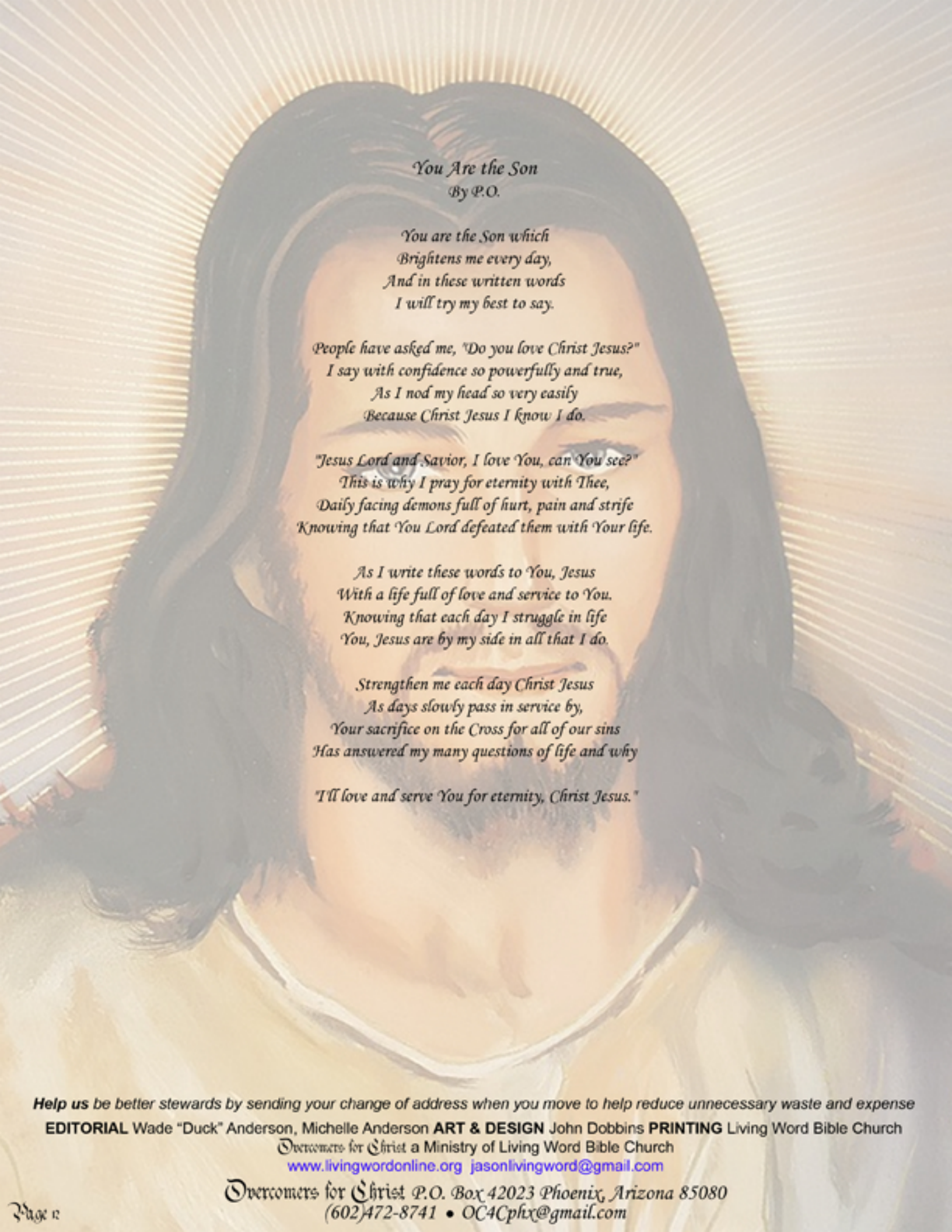
Ministry Tithes & Offerings

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

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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You Are the Son

By P.O.

*You are the Son which
Brightens me every day,
And in these written words
I will try my best to say.*

*People have asked me, "Do you love Christ Jesus?"
I say with confidence so powerfully and true,
As I nod my head so very easily
Because Christ Jesus I know I do.*

*"Jesus Lord and Savior, I love You, can You see?"
This is why I pray for eternity with Thee,
Daily facing demons full of hurt, pain and strife
Knowing that You Lord defeated them with Your life.*

*As I write these words to You, Jesus
With a life full of love and service to You.
Knowing that each day I struggle in life
You, Jesus are by my side in all that I do.*

*Strengthen me each day Christ Jesus
As days slowly pass in service by,
Your sacrifice on the Cross for all of our sins
Has answered my many questions of life and why*

"I'll love and serve You for eternity, Christ Jesus."

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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