

# Overcomers for Christ

August 2021



Longsung Kim

# Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

July 2020



## Sanctification, The Next Step

By Rodger Whisman

In previous messages I have shared with you all; being saved, accepting all that God has to offer us, how to grasp the understanding of our redemption by invitation of Holy Spirit, that you are no longer living in a lost world by being accepted into the beloved body of Christ and walking in the grace and mercy of Christ because we all come in under the old song Come As You Are. And in all that, we die out to the old world and arise new in Christ. And to show publically in baptism, we are immersed in water showing that we've died out to the old world and deeds to be raised in Christ as a new man/woman.

Now, my brothers and sisters in Christ, we begin to allow the Holy Spirit the time, which is a process, to help us grow and mature. This Scripture in **Isaiah 28:10** (KJV) "**For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ...**" covers the process. The Holman Christian Standard Bible translates this same verse, "**For He says: 'Law after law, law after law, line after line, line after line, a little here, a little there.'**" This process takes time in your life and out of your life to learn. Here's what the dictionary has to reveal about the word process: A series of actions or steps taken in order to achieve a particular end. So, as God was/is patient with you in this process, you in turn must show the same patience with others. Always remember to be steadfastly patient with yourself most of all.

In this redemption process there will be exhilarating times and times of quiet and solitude. There will also be times that seem very dormant as the Lord is working in our lives to prepare a forward direction. At this moment in time it's important to submit quietly in consistent living while we remain focused in pressing forward in and for the kingdom of God. Here's a sound Scripture spoken by Jesus and found in **Matthew 6:33**, "**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**" Please believe this, in those times of utter silence the Lord is active in and on your behalf. Patience is your necessity at all times, as in **Luke 21:19** (NIV) where Jesus affirms, "**Stand firm, and you will win life.**"

The next step after redemption is sanctification. If you have allowed the leading of the Holy Spirit you are more than ready for this next step. And I personally can say, it may have been quite the trek to this next step. This is the point where we can hear the Holy Spirit far more clearly. I refer to this as the hearing ear. This is the point where we begin to see where God is at work. I refer to this as the seeing eye. As the Lord invited you by the Holy Spirit into redemption, He is also inviting you into His work.

In my younger days men spoke to me in this way; "Brother, you are saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Spirit! Are you living in victory?" These were the latter days of the big tent crusades that were held by all denominations. Many great men of God from many denominations represented these tent meeting days. In the statements these men spoke to me they were referring to my personal relationship with God, my daily walk with God in all aspects of my life.

The complete **Book of Acts** was written on the acts of the apostles but not all of them had become apostles yet. More easily understood, the **Book of Acts** was written on action. Which indicates 'doing' the leading of God via the Holy Spirit. In your personal relationship and walk with the Lord it is God who sanctifies you. There is a word for that previous sentence in the Hebrew - God in action on your behalf. Jehovah Mekoddishkem. "The Lord that sanctifies you or I AM the Lord that sanctifies you." In fact, **Leviticus 20:8** says specifically, "**And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I am the LORD who sanctifies you.**" Let's examine this more clearly. God has begun to set you apart for Himself to be a holy people. Let's look now at **2 Timothy 1:9**, "**Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, ...**"

Now we begin to observe the righteousness in and of Christ to gain a better understanding of who Christ is AND to have those attributes of Christ flow through us by the Holy Spirit. This is not only for ourselves necessarily, but for the Gospel of Christ towards others. To sum this up; we must not only be saved, but sanctified to reach out to others in the power of the Holy Spirit. This becomes one of the greatest experiences in our Christian life, to know that we know who Christ is and what Christ stands for in all aspects of our lives. This is also where we begin to stand up in all the promises of God on our behalf.

Taking this step forward in our Christian life is where we begin to allow the Holy Spirit to teach us our depth in Christ on a secure foundation, to become dynamic in our ability to present the Gospel of Christ while representing the Kingdom of God in scriptural truth and facts. Here, we are able to walk out our Salvation in everyday life and the changes in our lives begin to take on a permanent consistency. While living in the victory of sanctification others begin to see the difference in us and that causes them to want what we have in Christ. The Holy Spirit in you, working through you to draw others to Christ may be a better way to describe sanctification at work in you.

The attributes of Christ flowing in and through you has a major effect not only in your life but your complete lifestyle. It becomes a big enough change that even you are aware of the differences. In fact others may become aware of the change in you before you do. This is where everything begins to take on a far different meaning to you. You see things from a different view as the Holy Spirit counsels you to a greater understanding. Sanctification begins to open you up to the scriptural revelations to what were once no more than dark sentences. The **Book of John, Chapter 17**, represents a prayer of Christ worthy of study and consideration to cover all I have shared thus far. But let's look specifically at **John 17:17**, "*Sanctify them by the truth; your Word is truth.*"

Now you may see the needed next step after being redeemed and baptized. Maybe this is new to you or you never really understood there is more to being in Christ than just repentance into Salvation. Perhaps you are on a long trek across a desert place in your life. So were the Israelites when they were redeemed by God from Egypt. They were saved from the bondage of the Egyptians. As they crossed the Red Sea, which is a form or picture of baptism, they too began a trek to the mount of God across a very barren desert. The Israelites were being drawn by God, through Moses, to hear and understand the Word of God. To understand who God was and what God expected of them as a holy people. God was going to sanctify the Israelites. That is where the Hebrew word Jehovah Mekoddishkem came from in **Exodus 19:1-6** and explained in **1 Peter 2:9**, "***But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness and into His marvelous light.***" Those chapters explain the depth of sanctification.

I want to take a pause right here. In studies it is helpful to understand the names of God and what they stand for in depth. There is no gain to our Salvation to know the names of God, nor to simply receive them. Speaking them will not bring some big miraculous event in your life. BUT, it's knowing the attributes of God that brings great significance. Simply put this way; Love, joy, peace, kindness, gentleness, forgiveness and longsuffering are all attributes of God through Christ. And when we are saved those same attributes are already in our born again spirit and should flow through us. So the next time you say, 'I don't have the peace, patience or forgiveness for a certain situation or person simply dig a little deeper within. It's ALL already been packed in you when you received the Spirit of God to come live inside of you.

Right here I want to pass a little word or two worth study and consideration. There will be some times when you are in a silent barren trek across a desolate wilderness. When this happens, and it will, please do not feel as if the Lord has abandoned you. It's simple to stop, pray and rest in that present status. Please do not run as the Lord is preparing a new place for you to step forward in. God is simply grooming you as He prepares you for the next phase of your growth and maturity.

There may be a trek for you to cross from redemption to sanctification as was with the Israelites from Egypt. Just as God had prepared the way for the Israelites to meet Him in a special way, He has also prepared the way for us to know Him through Christ via His Holy Spirit. God has given us His Holy Spirit to better help us more clearly define Him in 'who' He is and 'what' He is to us and for us. As I've already mentioned, many times our trek may feel similar to that of the Israelites but keep coming.

A major attribute in being sanctified is the awareness and activation of a changed heart. This is where God will put a soft heart of love and understanding in you. **Ezekiel 11:19** attests to that statement, "***Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, ...***" Even though in context God is speaking through Ezekiel to the Israelites the very next verse, **Ezekiel 11:20**, shows God's heart and love for all mankind, "***that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.***"

You see, the Laws of God are engraved on your heart. And yes there are laws in Scripture that allow us to acknowledge our sin and repent of those wrong deeds. When we repent, we simply continue to press on as we live in and under God's grace instead of under the law. In a mirror we can see a pimple that needs to be cleansed off of our face. So we cleanse our face and go on. We don't cut off our head over a pimple or face bacteria do we? Listen how James describes this process, in **James 1:23-25**, "***Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.***"

Let me say this, in sanctification your heart will convict you if you are in error of the Word of God. The new Spirit in you will always check you with true right and wrong. So when something touches your heart it's critical that you pay heed to it and bring it in prayer to the Lord. It's God's Holy Spirit that guides you in these issues. The law can create confusion if you lack true understanding of the Word. So be careful of those that speak only of law. Remember, as Blood bought believers we live in and by grace and that through the Lord our Christ. You are no longer in debt to your past sins. Christ paid that debt in full! At the same time, the law is good for the purpose and intent of recognition of sin.

*continued on page 9 ...*

**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 pray right now, in the name of Jesus ... Father God, bless everyone that is a part of the **OC4C**. Bless them this whole year of 2021. Bless them abundantly in every area of their lives, and bless everything they put their minds and hands to ... **C.M.**

I would like for you all to join me in prayer for ... Gayle and Mark Lane's hearts and bodies to be strengthened and made whole, for revival in the hearts of the men and women in ALL the prison systems. Pray for all unsaved family members to be saved, for the body of believers in Christ EVERYWHERE to have victories with their hearings this year. Pray that this be the turnaround year for the body of Christ ... **G.M.L.**

I pray for your ministry all the time, and I ask God to bless all of you, especially in these trying times we all are living in. I pray our God will make a way where there seems to be no way ... **E.C.**

Please continue to keep my family in your prayers ... **V.I.**

Please keep my brother Anthony, a member of LWBC, in prayer as he has just undergone brain surgery this last month. Continue to remember my 80 year old mom's eye surgery and my nephew Michael as he is on dialysis and needs a new pancreas and kidney. I'm down to less than a year now and as you can see, my whole family is hurting. Please agree with me that I will get to spend time with them all before they go home ... **P.B.**

I was wondering if your church could say a prayer for me. I need guidance, healing and perseverance through this journey I'm on. I really do need your prayers. I have been going through a lot and I truly feel that I might not make it out of here alive due to my health. I've been constantly trying to get treatment here but no progress has been made ... **D.H.**

In your prayer time, when you all gather, I ask that you all agree with me that God keeps my wife's health to continue to be cancer free. That He also avenges her and sister Rosemary, according to **Luke 18:1-8**, of their adversities. AMEN! ... **R.V.**

I am praying for my mom to grow closer to Christ and to continue to be strong. She lost her husband on March 28th. A seemingly perfect relationship for over 25 years. Join me in prayer, for her to find peace ... **B.A.**

I do have a prayer request. Would you all pray for my family. We just lost our mother a few months ago and all of my siblings are lost, fighting and drugging it up. I do pray but again, I'd appreciate some more prayer warriors along with me ... **C.S.**

## Praise Reports

Hello, I am an inmate in a prison here in Texas. I recently ran across a couple of pages, two pages to be exact, of your **Overcomers for Christ** newsletter. One page had some group pictures dated February 2012, the other was an article called "Vantage Point" by someone with the initials D.E. I liked what I read and thought I'd write to see if I could get on your mailing list ... **S.M.**

I want to thank God for His continuous blessings I receive daily. I thank Him for the new set of lenses (His blood) that I now view the world and circumstances through. Today, I'm grateful to be able to show love and be a light for the Lord on this yard. I feel honored to be a child of God and to be able to trust that His plan for me is perfect. I thank Him that no matter what I'll be protected. I will continue to be a witness to everyone that it is possible to be transformed from the inside out. If this can happen to me, it can happen to anyone! All you need to do is believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and that God is good all the time ... **D.G.**

Hello. I've recently given my life to Jesus, after living in sin. I've come to know the truth, that Jesus died, rose again and today I know this happened because He loves me. Jesus broke the shackles that had me bound for so long in drugs, alcohol and pornography. Those shackles had me bound to all of the enemies' pleasures. God has given me the greatest Gift through His Son Jesus Christ AND eternal life! I now live for Him as He now lives in me. Because He lives, I can face tomorrow ... **S.C.**

A brother here, G.H., suggested that I reach out to you all as an amazing family in Christ. I'm currently incarcerated in A.D.O.C. with an expected release date of 2045. I have been here for a few years now and I love rejoicing in the Lord Jesus! I have been a man of faith for the last 8 years. I have gotten involved in church, led men's groups and love spending time with God. I continued to use God's gift of teaching when I came to prison as a tutor teaching Math, Reading and Language in the Education Department. I was leading a weekly church service on the yard, until the unit went on a CV lockdown. Now I use my time completing Bible correspondence courses and helping in my run. I am so grateful how God has been using me to share the Gospel and I'm very excited to live out His plans for me ... **R.M.**

**Overcomers for Christ**, I just wanted to thank everyone there for all the birthday, Christmas, encouraging cards and the newsletters over these past 8 1/2 years in prison. It has really meant a lot to me. I want to say to everyone reading this, you will get out of your relationship with God what you put into it. I personally wouldn't trade this experience for anything. Just know, there is power in prayer and fasting. God has answered every prayer of mine since I've been locked up. Glory to God! I look forward to what He is going to do in and through my life ... **D.S.**

# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

### Twenty Dollars

Unknown author/contributed by A.V.

A well known speaker started off his seminar by holding up a \$20 bill. In the room of 200, he asked, "Who would like this \$20 bill?" Hands started going up everywhere. He said, "I am going to give this \$20 bill to one of you - but first, let me do this." He proceeded to crumple the \$20 note up. Then he asked, "Who still wants it?" Still the hands were up in the air.

"Well," he replied, "what if I do this?" He then dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with the sole of his shoe. He picked it up, now crumpled and dirty, he asked, "Now, who still wants it?" And still, the hands went into the air.

He then responded, "My friends, you all have learned a very valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the money, you still wanted it because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20." Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled and ground into the dirt by the decisions that we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless; but no matter what happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value. Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, you are still priceless to those that love you. The worth of our lives comes not in what we do or who we know, but by ... WHO WE ARE. You are special - don't ever forget that!

### To Encourage Someone Today

By M.C.

The Lord's abundant blessings to the *Overcomers for Christ* family, wherever you are. My prayer/intent here today is that these words will encourage someone today. I want to tell you all that God is my Healer and He is yours too. Even though I'm sitting here in isolation, in my cell 24 hours a day, I thank God for everything that He does for me. Every day I pray for the *Overcomers for Christ* family and want everyone to know that God loves you all so stay strong and keep the faith. It always brings us joy and happiness when we pray and we should praise Him every day! Prayer makes the devil tremble and it blesses the Lord our Father when we do.

I want to encourage someone today to get to know God in an intimate way because He is real. Develop your faith and believe in our Creator in heaven and He will open up new doors in your life. John affirms that, ***"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind."*** (John 1:1-4)

I'm ready to live my new victorious life and follow this new path. He has designed a specific path for each of us, His children. It's really simple. Just give your life to the Lord, allow Him to come into your heart and soul, create in you a new spirit and allow the blood of Jesus to flow through your veins. Even sitting here in ad-seg I think about how much God has helped me change my life around. He will do the same for you, if you allow Him to.

### A Lesson Learned About Grief

By B.A.

When I was 14 years old, I lost my middle brother Frank. I was in bad shape. I had no idea how to live or what I could do to deal with the blow of it all. I had drugs, alcohol, sex and violence for coping skills. Due to that, I do not remember large chunks of my life from then until I was about 16 and ended up in a military school. Life went on. Years later, in prison for the 4th time, I lost my dad who I was not close with and had not really ever been. My mom's new husband, Pete, was my father and I loved and respected him. Anyways, this was 2016, in prison, in the mix while trying to know God AND live in the world. So I drank and tried my best to avoid feelings.

I started getting a closer relationship with Christ in 2017, got out of the mix and into the Word of God. Then, my closest friend and older brother, Wayne, took his own life in 2018. I cried and talked with God, read the Word and stayed sober and after a short time I was fine. I was worried that I had become so good at suppressing my feelings that I would have a grip of stuff to deal with when I get out of here. As life went on I continued to get closer to Christ and further from the world.

# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

Now we come to the present. My mom and pop's, Pete, are older and I worry a lot about them. I continue to pray and talk it out through the Holy Spirit. I just keep on lifting them both up and continue on in life. Well, I got word that pops is in the hospital overnight due to pneumonia. Then the next morning I find out pops is gone. Just like that he went into cardiac arrest at the hospital. I guess his time just came due. This time, I cried and prayed and started to praise God for the life Pete lived and the joy we all had with him in our lives. I worked the week through and spoke often to Mom and my son's.

I have peace and was a little confused about how I could be so okay, so very fast. So, I spoke to an Elder, who is knowledgeable in the Word, about my concerns of suppressing my grief. That was when he turned me to Isaiah 53. He encouraged me to read the whole chapter and see where the Spirit led me. Let me share what I learned. When we grow close to God through His Word His blessings pour out into our souls, even when we don't realize it. I have peace not because I've suppressed the grief, but because my Lord and Savior has taken care of that for me. PRAISE GOD! I share this with you, my brothers and sisters with a challenge rather than trying to teach or preach. The challenge is this. I ask you all to read these Scriptures that I read.

**Isaiah 53:4-5, "Surely He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed."**

**John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you [a]will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus."**

**Romans 8:18, "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." And Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."**

**Matthew 11:28-30, "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."**

**Philippians 4:6, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;" And Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through [a]Christ who strengthens me."**

These group of Scriptures, along with the peace I have in my heart as proof, has taught me that my Lord not only gave me Salvation through His death, burial and resurrection but as well He always helps me through life from His throne. Praise God! The Holy Spirit has filled me with this to share with someone.

### No Matter What Happens

By J.G

**"The Lord Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." (Deuteronomy 31:8)**

I've been incarcerated for 20 years now. I have a 40 year sentence for a terrible sin. It was hard for me to ask God into my life. I always felt like He wouldn't accept me. I've prayed so many times for my sins. I've cried and even told my family not to write to me. At one point I even stopped writing to them. I didn't know what else to do with my life.

Then in 2006, I asked Christ into my life. Since then I've got strong faith in God and I've let Him take over. Today I believe He has forgiven me and He loves me. If He can love and talk with Zacchaeus, I know that He can do that for me. I thought I wasn't worthy. I know today that I was worth it when He died on the Cross for me. In all of this I've grown closer to my family. Today I get to talk to my family over the phone, something I've never done in 19 years. I've never had a visit but one day I will. No matter what happens I will always have God on my side!

# Foot's Bible Study

## **Jeremiah 30:1-31:26**

Sinful people cannot be cured by being good or being religious. Beware of putting your confidence in useless cures while your sin spreads and causes you pain. God alone can cure the disease of sin, but you must be willing to let Him do it. (30:12-13, 17)

God still loves you despite anything you may have done, He will forgive you if you turn back to Him. (31:18-20)

## **1 Timothy 1:1-2:15**

People can feel so guilt ridden by their past that they think God could never forgive and accept them, but consider Paul's past. He had scoffed at the teachings of Jesus and hunted down and murdered God's people before coming to faith in Christ. (Acts 9:1-9) God forgave Paul and used him mightily for His kingdom. No matter how shameful your past, God also can forgive and use you. (1:12-17)

We, human beings, are separated from God by sin, and only one person in the universe is our Mediator and can stand between us and God and bring us together again - Jesus, who is both God and man. Jesus' sacrifice brought new life to all people. Have you let Him bring you to the Father? (2:5-6)

## **Psalms 86:1-87:7**

Sometimes our trouble or pain is so great that all we can do is cry out to God for protection. (86:2) And often, when there is no relief in sight, all we can do is acknowledge the greatness of God and wait for better days ahead. The conviction that God answers prayers will sustain us in such difficult times. (86:7)

Zion, the holy mountain, Jerusalem, and its temple here represent the future community of all believers. This **Psalm** looks ahead to the Holy City of God described in **Revelation 21:10-27**. The honor of living there will be granted to all whose names are recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life. (Revelation 21:27) It is God's grace that forms and sustains this wonderful community. How could anyone refuse God's offer to be part of this celebration?

## **Proverbs 25:17-19**

I had to laugh at this NLT translation of this **Proverb** for it tells us pretty much to not hang out at your friends and neighbors so much that you become a pain in the butt. Isn't it written to be moderate in all you do and everything in moderation? Well, that includes hanging around next door. (25:17)

Lying about someone is vicious. Its effects can be as permanent as those of a wound. The next time you are tempted to pass on a bit of gossip, imagine yourself wounding the victim of your remarks with a sword. This image may shove you into silence. (25:18)

## **“Foot” Notes**

Milestones, we all have reached them all throughout our lives and for me this month I've reached two, the biggie is I turned 60 on August 4th, the other is on August 23rd, 25 years will have passed that I've been locked up on this sentence.

As I was pondering these things I was tripping on the fact that God has known this path of mine and how I would travel it before I was even born. That being said I know that without God in my life and my faith in Him I probably would've been dead years ago from my past addictions or ignorant criminal behaviors. Which would've meant that I would never have the relationships that I treasure today in my life. I think it's good for us all to spend time reflecting on our paths and recognizing the obvious points where there's no doubt God has intervened on our behalf to keep us moving forward and not self destructing. Thank You Jesus, for looking after us when we obviously were beyond doing that for ourselves. Amen!

Love to y'all short and tall ... Vaya Con Dios ... Don't ride faster than your angels can fly!



In order to help us all better understand what I'm alluding to, it's always best to go to the Word of God. **"Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed (Jesus) to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one. Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe. Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian. So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."** (Galatians 3:19-27)

In this sanctification process, again, our hearts are being softened to both God and men. With that our desire is to hurt no one in any way. Isn't it true that when we truly love someone our greatest desire is to not hurt them? And yes, the Holy Spirit in you can be offended by willful sin. If we have truly been saved and when we truly listen and obey the Holy Spirit's nudging our desire to sin will greatly diminish. God has so much more to offer you beyond Salvation. He has so many great and wonderful promises made available to/for those who believe. In fact He takes great pleasure in sharing these things with us. That's why He gave us His very own Holy Spirit.

Sanctification is not to be an anchor around our necks or a stumbling block in our lives. It helps in adding to our life in Christ. It helps take the weight off of our shoulders in confusion and misunderstandings. Sanctification helps us all to live a victorious life in Christ while totally clarifying who God is and 'ALL' that He desires to be for us. This process allows us to see where God is working in and around us. And in case you didn't know, God doesn't sprint back and forth from heaven every time there is a need. Instead, He created each of us to be His hands, feet and mouthpieces in which He speaks and acts through. God has called, chosen and anointed every single one of us to speak and act christ-like in order to reach the multitudes of souls still lost in a dark world. This sanctification process allows us to hear even the softest, gentlest whisper of the Holy Spirit.


As I close I want everyone that reads these words to know that I send this in much care and prayer. That you are not just illuminated but very encouraged in your journey with Christ.

## **What Others Are Saying...**

"I was wondering where you went 'ole man', hahahaha! I've missed you a lot. This Coronavirus has seemed to really screw everything up. Things haven't been the same since I stopped receiving your visits at the county jail. No lie, our talks were truly deep and amazing. I did get the two newsletters you sent me and I'm grateful that I am in the family of God. I'm so glad that even though the visit's have temporarily been stopped, God is still leading us all to the people and places He has planned for us." - **C.A.**

"I am a whole hearted believer in Christ Jesus and would like to know if I could please receive your monthly magazine? I read it from a friend of mine and I really liked it. I pray that you all are well during this whole pandemic due to the Corona-virus." - **A.M.**

"Hey Duck! I was surprised when they called my space for mail. You all going out of your way to send me the newsletters is much appreciated. It's very seldom I get mail so thank you. I miss our county jail visits talking about our faith in Jesus as well as talking about motorcycles ;) At any rate, God has placed me on a good, low-politic yard where I can continue my spiritual growth. So, I am doing well! Once we open back up from this COVID quarantine I will get started on my educational growth as well. I have a decent group of men in my run. Because I was in the county for so long I knew a bunch of people when I got here. It was/is awesome to finally have some sunlight." - **J.Z.**

"May our Lord continue to work lovingly, mightily and mercifully through your labor of love, this powerful ministry. If people really knew how much love you all faithfully put into this  ministry that God has placed inside of you so many years ago it would amaze them, and God would be glorified." - **R.V.**

"Overcomers for Christ, I'm sending my tithe to you for the wonderful work you all do there with this ministry. God is blessing all of us on the inside with the hard work you all put in each and every month. You Are a Speaking Spirit, by Amanda Wolfe has helped me to understand, I am not my past mistakes. In Cory's Corner, The Storm of the Locust/There's Hope has given me hope that I too will get back the relationships that I have lost in that old life." - **A.R.**

# Overcomer's Testimonies

Brothers and sisters at the *Overcomers for Christ*. My name is B.V., and I want to thank you and let you know that God has been using you all as vessels to better my life and strengthen my relationship with the Lord. I also want to thank you for walking in obedience to God, for sharing the Good News and your testimonies. They have certainly been a catalyst for my discovering the promises of the Lord and living in abundance, even while in prison.

I'm excited to share with everyone just a part of my testimony and how you all have been impacting my life for nearly two years now. In September 2019, I was invited to church here at Red Rock. I had fallen away from the Lord and found myself in prison - again. Through many services and many, many tears, the men here at the Red Rock Academy helped me begin to re-establish my relationship with the Lord. Shortly after, on my knees, in my cell, I surrendered to God and I got real about doing things His way because my way clearly was not working.

On December 1, 2019, brother Wade 'Duck' Anderson came to Red Rock and I was one of many men he baptized that day. Truly, one of the happiest days of my life, and one I will cherish forever. Not long after being baptized I was handed a book called *God Wants You Rich*. I remember feeling a little bit weird just reading the cover. As I began reading, I quickly began to realize how true brother Scot Anderson's words were and that I was living with a poverty mindset that was holding me back from so much that God has for me and wanted to pour into my life. I began really questioning the way I perceived everything. I had to look at Scriptures, life, money, the words I speak, the actions I take and even the expectations I have of myself and my life from a different angle. Then, I began studying the promises I have as a child of the Most High. By the time I finished *God Wants You Rich*, I was pretty pumped up! I was excited and feeling positive. Immediately after reading that book I found *Think Like a Billionaire Become a Billionaire* in the chapel, and I grabbed it too.

At this point in time I was a shower porter making 15 cents/hr. I had no communication with my family, but I was no longer consumed by depression, God was truly starting to fill me with peace and joy, and I started receiving mail from ... *Overcomers for Christ*! I was going to church, doing Bible studies, reading *Think Like a Billionaire Become a Billionaire*, and my mind was truly working. I was discovering my most valuable asset - time, which I had a lot of, and reading how to make my money work for me (but I had no money). I started to really see God's favor in my life, and I was maintaining a positive attitude. I got to the 'First Fruits' or 'Tithe' chapter and I decided I was going to tithe my time, and volunteer in the Chapel and the Education Department. After a few months I was hired as an Education Aide which came with a pay increase to 40 cents/hr. Also, God was blessing me in the relationships I had with the students and bosses. I was specifically requested for certain assignments with different students, and I was told that I had the highest success rate of all the Aides/Tutors with students passing their tests and graduating. I was beginning to step into a leadership role.

So, at that time I was an Education Aide with double my income (about \$50 a month), I now had a good reputation on the yard and I was thinking about how to increase my income. I needed to, **"Give God something to Bless"**. I decided to start making brownies. I was nervous. I didn't have much money and I was about to spend it all on Vanilla Wafers, Chocolate chip cookies and a bag of Cocoa. I don't even eat sweets! Hahaha! Even though doubt, worry and fear tried to bombard my mind I knew I had to try so I prayed for the Lord to bless the work of my hands. Long story short; God is good! And men love brownies! It didn't take long before I was making more money with the brownies than I was teaching, a lot more. But I continued teaching because I enjoyed helping the men accomplish their goals. I also realized that it was a platform that allowed me to share God with the men and invite them to church. One morning while talking to the leaders of the church here, I mentioned that my 'tithe box' was full but not many men were asking/in need of anything, and **Malachi 3** was on my heart. It was then that I was informed that I could send out a tithe to a church if I wanted. There was only one place in my mind to tithe to, the church of the man who actually taught me the meaning and the reason for the tithe, Living Word Bible Church.

Listen here to **Malachi 3:10** (NKJV), **"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."** What an awesome promise from God whose Word never returns void (**Isaiah 55:11**)! As I continue to tithe, the Lord has continued to bless me far beyond what I could have even hoped for.

Since then the Lord has even been restoring my family relationships. I talk to my mom daily and my daughter regularly. I'll be honest, reading the *More Than A Dad* book was very tough at the time, but it clearly helped me realize where I was and where I wanted to be. I love Pastor Scot's quote from this book, **"A child is not likely to find a father in God unless he/she finds something of God in their father."** I have been striving to strengthen my relationship with God and to glorify Him in everything that I do. I pray diligently for my children and speak life and abundance into their lives. Through letters and phone calls I have been able to help my teenage daughter discover God's promises for her, the power of the tongue and to see the positive even in difficult situations. I recently received a letter from her thanking me for, **"Helping me see**

things in a better way, and that speaking God's promises into my life does work dad." Her mother is rewarding her for her positive attitude, extra help around the house and for her grades in school.

Last December, right before we got locked down again on the building restriction cohort plan, my boss, the Director of Education pulled me into his office and informed me that there was a sudden opening in the Persevere Computer Coding Program and that he thought that I should speak with the instructors. After praying with my brothers in the chapel, and asking that the Fathers will be done, I interviewed for Persevere and was selected over 800 other applicants. It required me to move to the other side of the yard and to step down from my Education job. However, it guaranteed me a coding job upon my release from prison. Although I was now in new and very different surroundings and circumstances I prayed and had faith that the Lord would continue to provide for me.

This was towards the end of 2020 and I knew that I wanted to begin the new year with a fast. I was in the chapel and found a book called *Releasing the Miraculous Through Prayer and Fasting* by Dr. Maureen Anderson. What an awesome book! The Biblical insight, the medical and physical insight, the prayers and speaking God's promises into my life and the lives of my loved ones, I was excited and ready to go! I decided to end 2020 with a three day fast with prayer and jump-start 2021! And it has been amazing!

I have also read *Becoming a Millionaire God's Way 1 and 2* by Dr. Thomas Anderson. I have since created a business plan for what I really want to do to produce assets with the income from my coding job. My life has completely changed over the last two years. And even though I don't know exactly what the future holds for me, I do know that God's plans are for me to prosper, succeed and produce good lasting fruit. By this, He is glorified. I'm working hard and I have a direction now that I know my identity is in Christ. I have been facilitating Bible studies for almost a year now, I maintain a position at the church here, school has been going great in the Persevere Program, I am continuing to educate myself for future business success, brownies are selling like hot cakes, relationships are being restored, prayers are being answered, tithes are going out and blessings are pouring in! God is good ALL the time!

I mean it with all my heart when I say, "Thank you!" Along with all the books and Bibles that all the people at Living Word Bible Church continue to contribute, I want to also thank all of you at the Overcomers for Christ for all of your cards and newsletters. And a special thank you to Dr. C. Thomas Anderson, Dr. Maureen Anderson, Pastor Scot Anderson and Pastor Jason Anderson for writing your books, and for your obedience to God. I am trying to follow in all of your footsteps and encourage others by sharing my testimony. **Romans 8:28** tells us, **"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."**

God can and will take our biggest mistakes and turn them into our greatest blessings! I love you all. I pray that the Lord continues to keep you and bless you, and that He fills your lives with abundance. I very much look forward to attending church with you. - B.V.

### *Quote Worthy*

*"Nobody will ever win the battle of the sexes. There's too much fraternizing with the enemy."*

- Henry Kissinger - an American politician, diplomat, and geopolitical consultant who served as United States Secretary of State and National Security Advisor under the presidential administrations of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.



### Living Word Bible Church Locations

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Scottsdale - 8551 E. Anderson Dr. #105 Scottsdale, AZ 85255    Gilbert - 202 S. Gilbert Rd. Gilbert, AZ 85296



### 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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**Never Look Back**  
**By A.B.**

This is what I'm going through presently, with many medical issues. I have faith in God's hands ...

Never look back on the past with regret, for the days that might have been,  
Nor the promises made that were never kept, and the goals you did not win.  
For life cannot always be perfect, and our days don't always shine bright,  
And promises are sometimes broken, and dreams may not turn out just right.

But no time has ever been wasted, nor did idle tears just fall  
That the dear Lord was not watching, and understood it all.  
For to everything there is a season, a time to reap and a time to sow  
And a time to laugh and a time to cry, and a time for us to grow.

So let the ghosts of past memories, fade and slip away  
For the promises of another season, begins with another new day.

*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

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