

Overcomers for Christ

November 2014

Thanksgiving

O Lord, with humble hearts we pray
Thy blessing this Thanksgiving Day
And ask that at table place,
Where grateful folk say words of grace,
That Thou will come to share the yield
Thy bounty gave to farm and field.
We pray thy love will bless, O Lord,
Each hearth, each home, each festive board;
And that Thy peace will come to stay
Where candles glow, Thanksgiving Day.

- Brian F. King



Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

June 2014



From Death Row to Paradise Row - Part IV

by W.R.

Recently, I had another encounter of a spiritual nature in the form of a vision in which the Lord took me back to Death Row, but before I get into the vision itself, I want to share with you some events which I think were a factor in my having received the vision. Several weeks before I received the vision, I was seeking God's counsel in prayer and how I could be a better witness to others and better serve Him. On January 12, 2003, a group of brothers and sisters came into the prison to worship and fellowship with us. One of the women was laying hands on some of the guys. As they were being empowered by the Holy Spirit, tears were flowing from their eyes. The Holy Spirit was moving with great power that day. When the woman laid her hands on me, I felt a surge of electricity go through my body that took me to the floor. I tried to get back up but couldn't, I just laid there and wept. I could feel the Holy Spirit all over me, and I couldn't stop weeping and praising God. That night the Holy Spirit woke me up from a deep sleep. It was early in the morning, and I was wide awake. The Holy Spirit began to reveal things to me in a vision. He told me that today was January 13th, and that 31 years ago on that date, I was sitting in a cell on Death Row in the Ohio Penitentiary waiting to be executed, and I was supposed to have been executed on January 13, 1972. The Holy Spirit was taking me back in time to Death Row.

The prison was 150 years old, surrounded by walls forty feet high. Upon entering its gates, I saw engraved in the stone, "All who enter here leave all hope behind." When I entered the cell block where the Death Row prisoners were confined, I had to allow my eyes to adjust to the dim lighting. It was like walking into a tomb. I could feel the darkness of death and evil hanging in the air like a dark shadow, and I could see it in the faces of the men condemned to die as I walked by their cells. I could see the hopelessness, the fear, and the despair that was reflected in their faces. They looked like ghosts, like they were already dead. There was no life, no light in them. All I could see, all I could feel in my spirit, was the darkness of their lives. It hung over the cell blocks like a dark cloud.

Then the Lord showed me a vision of the world, and it was surrounded in darkness, and I could see people walking around like dead men. They had no life, no light in them. They were like the men I had seen on Death Row. They looked like corpses walking around, dark figures walking in the darkness, in despair, in hopelessness in a dark world. The Holy Spirit was telling me that men loved the darkness rather than the Light. That He has called us to come out of the darkness, that the wages of sin is death, and the Holy Spirit was telling me that, just as I was under a sentence of death under man's laws when I was on Death Row, so was the world under a sentence of death, and it would be carried out. His judgment was coming upon the world. I could feel sadness in my spirit when the Lord was revealing these things to me. The Holy Spirit was grieving also, because men had chosen darkness over Jesus Christ. They had chosen death over life. The Holy Spirit also told me that just as I was under man's judgment and laws and sentenced to die for murder, so was the world under God's impending judgment, and that under His laws, men murdered in their hearts every day. They, like me, were murderers. For murder takes root in our hearts and that anyone who hates his brother is a murderer. **Matthew 15:19** states, "For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander," and in **1 John 3:15**, "Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him." Then I was shown my death warrant that the state uses when it executes people, and I saw the seal of the State of Ohio stamped at the bottom of it with a big gold seal. The Holy Spirit was telling me that the Lord had sealed me with His Holy Spirit.

Then I was shown the Book of Life and was told that my name was written in it. All the names of those who are saved were written in blood. Then I saw an arm extend out from the heavens over the earth, and it was holding a leather scroll with the word "Pardon" written in big letters at the top, and it was dripping with blood. The Lord was telling me that He was offering a pardon to all men for their sins. It was sealed in Jesus' blood, and it was free. All men had to do was accept it. He told me when I witness to others to ask them if they were sitting on Death Row waiting to be executed and the governor came to them and offered them a pardon, a new life, and their freedom, would they accept it? It was at that point that the vision came to a close, and in closing my testimony, I just want to say that there is a pardon waiting for you. All you have to do is reach out to Jesus and take it. It's free. He paid for it with His blood. He died for you!



The hands that created the heavens, that shaped the mountains and painted the rainbow, were nailed to a cross for you. Those same hands that reached out to the lepers two thousand years ago are reaching out to you today, to all the broken

and discarded vessels, people whose lives have been marred by sin and life. To the prostitute, he is saying, "Come to Me, so I can wipe the tears from your eyes and the pain from your heart." Those same hands that held carpenter's tools and fashioned the stars wants to hold you and make you a star in His kingdom. To the addict and the alcoholic, He is saying, "Come, drink from My cup of the living water and be set free." Those same hands that quieted the storm on the Sea of Galilee can calm the storm that is raging inside of you. Those same hands that gave life are reaching out to those who have taken life and are extending to them a pardon, not from the governor but from the King of kings, sealed with mercy and written in His own blood! Those same hands that reached out to the lepers are reaching out to "the untouchables" of society today. To the gang members and gangsters He is saying lay down your guns, pick up the Cross, and be a soldier in His army, a soldier of the Cross!

He knows your heart and He knows that you've been tried and tested on the battlefield of life and He's looking for men and women just like you, who like the untouchables in the movie, cannot be bribed by the riches of the world who will not compromise or surrender the truth! Those same hands that reached out to the untouchables two thousand years ago are reaching out to you today, to all the broken and discarded vessels (people) in the world and He is saying, "Come to the Cross. I have a future, a hope, and a plan for you."

The Broken-Cup

*It seems that I've been searching for a very long time
For all the right answers that I never seem to find
So I went through life searching around
Chasing a rainbow that I never found*

*Then one day in my travels I encountered a stranger
Who told me about a King who was born in a manger
I'm sure you've heard the story a number of times
But this story is different as I'm sure you'll find
For this story is yours and this story is mine!*

*One day I was traveling down life's road
When I came to a house on Paradise Row
It looked like a mansion with gates made of gold
Then a stranger came out to invite me out of the cold*

*"You look tired and hungry," He said with a grin
Then He extended His hand and invited me in
I was taken by surprise by His invitation to me
For the clothes that I was wearing had patches on
its sleeves*

*But I was tired and weary from my travels abroad
For I had lived a life that had left me scarred
So I accepted His invitation when He invited me in
For I was cold and hungry and needed a friend*

*When I entered His house He had a meal prepared
And He gave me a clean robe and led me upstairs
I could see into each room as I passed by
And they all held treasures of every shape and size*

*He said it had been chosen a long time ago,
But that it had gotten lost along life's road
He told me it was broken and cast aside
But it was truly a treasure and oh what a prize!*

*All these vessels that you see on display
Were once broken and discarded along the way
But each one is special with a story of its own
And each deserves a place within my Father's home*

*I found these vessels scattered along life's road
And each has a story as their lives unfold
Some were homeless and living out on the street
And people passed them by and it made me weep*

*I saw vessels of gold in all colors and hues
Aligned on the shelf and looking brand new
They were embedded with diamonds and jewels, I was told
And off to my right I saw crowns of gold*

*I knew they were priceless, these vessels of gold
So I asked the stranger, "Where were they sold?"
"I bought them in Jerusalem," came His reply,
"And the price I paid was very high*

*My Father redeemed them a long time ago
And there's a story behind each one," is what I was told,
"I used to be a carpenter a long time ago
But now I'm in the business of building vessels of gold."*

*So I took Him to be a merchant who traveled around
Gathering lost treasures wherever they could be found
Soon I found myself at the end of the hall
Where I saw the most beautiful vessels aligned on the wall*

*Some were made of silver and crowned with gold
Embedded with diamonds and jewels that glowed!
I saw a smile of satisfaction come across His face
As He reached for a cup that looked out of place*

*It was cracked and corroded in three or four spots
And the handle was broken at the top
So I asked the stranger about the cup
And why it was so ugly and all broken up*

*And their hearts were hardened with the passing of time
Others lost the honor that they had amongst men
Rejected by their families, they even lost their friends*

*But they all are treasures as I think you'll see
Chosen by My Father to glorify Me!
And this old cup that's sitting on my shelf
Is more precious to Me than all the world's wealth*

*It's marred and broken as were all My cups
But all that it needs is a little cleaning up
I will mold and shape it, so that all may see
The beauty within it which glorifies Me!*

... 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 want to ask for your prayers. My 11 year old daughter, her name is Hope, has a bad liver. She is okay most days but when she does get sick she is really bad. She goes to the doctor every three months and they don't know what's wrong. For the past five years, we've had no answers. My mom takes care of her and

I trust God whole heartedly ... **S.P.**

As of now I'm still awaiting for a halfway house date. I sure can't wait. I want to get out and be with my loved ones so bad. The two dates that I'm looking at are July or October. I'm ready! I don't believe that I'll be back. I can't, I'm needed too much out there. I've put my kids and family through so much. So keep me in your prayers ... **D.L.**

I would like to ask for prayer for my family, Varerie, Erica, Derick, and Mark. They do not know the Lord and have built up hatred and bitterness towards me for my crime. Please pray for their salvation and that God would soften their hearts towards me ... to see me through Jesus' eyes ... **R.W.**

Will you all please pray for my wife and my children? That they come to know the Lord and that my wife finds forgiveness for me, and peace from the pain that I've caused her ... **T.A.**

Can you ask the family to pray for my friend, Amanda? She has rheumatoid arthritis and it is basically in overdrive, so she has to go to treatments. I told her that I would write and ask for more strength through prayers. She is only 27 with this awful disease ... **J.P.**

Please keep my dad Joseph Wise in your prayers, and all the people fighting cancer ... **J.W.**

It's taken me some adjustment to this new yard after being in solitary confinement these past four years. But I am adapting quite well amongst all of satan's playground. Indeed the Word of God needs to reach the hearts of at least 80% of the population here. I see satan's work exploited everywhere here. It really is a grievance to witness all the drugs and disillusioned souls who are corrupted in the devil's workshop here. I realize this because I too was once one of the puppets of satan, before Christ entered my life. I was reborn in 2003. Praise the Lord! Indeed a lot of work needs to be done for the lost souls here. I pray and ask the Lord to help me spread His Good News daily. Please pray with me ... **A.M.**

Please, please, please pray for me, my children Jeni and Aiden and my precious mother ... **J.E.**

Praise Reports

I started my number in 1995 at Fort Grant. That's where I gave my life up for Jesus. But after getting out in 2008 and leaving Alongside Ministry, I back-slid back into that crusty old monster I used to be. But the Good Lord saved me once again from myself and brought me back here to remind me, it's not about me. It's about Him. He says He'll never leave us or forsake us. I guess His work isn't done in me. Since I've been back in here, I once again surrendered to His will. I am asking for forgiveness in straying away. Now ... I'm back ... even more on fire to serve in this war, putting back on that spiritual armor and serving Him and others humbly. God is Love! Even in my weakness, that's when He is His strongest. So, now I just stand still and take my position and watch the deliverance of the Lord ... Amen! ... **K.R.**

I accepted Jesus into my life and heart on March 17, 2013. Since that time my walk with Christ has been the best thing that could have happened to me, though it has been difficult at times. Being in prison, it is not easy to get away from the negativity, the wrong type of discussions, the off color jokes, etc. But I strive each day toward a better walk and relationship with my Lord and Savior ... **T.A.**

Things have been crazy lately in here for me. But I can see God's hand in all of it. I just got moved, which has turned out to be an amazing blessing. Not only are the Chaplain and his wife precious, but I am now enrolled in Seminary College working on my associates degree and a plethora of faith based classes such as "Maximized Manhood", "Celebrate Recovery", "Thoroughly Furnished", "Running the Race" and "Men's Fraternity", not to mention a Saturday Bible study and three church services on Sunday! So, yeah, it's apparent that God has moved me here. Thank You Jesus ... **D.G.**

Yes, I'm 58 years young this July. At one time—or rather—numerous times in my life, I never believed I would make it to this young age of 58. Without accepting Christ as my Savior 11 years ago, I seriously doubt I would have made it to live this wonderful life that I have today. My life has been saved in many facets by the Lord. Currently I've been in deep study of the Lord's Word and am working a college scholarship degree from Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. I have no idea how I received a scholarship from this college. All I know is I've been blessed. Not to stare a gift horse in the face ... Ha! Ha! Prior to this, I finished my B.A. from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln (UNL). I suspect I was submitted for an academic scholarship by the Nebraska Student Union at the UNL campus once I received my B.A. degree. Only the Lord knows ... **A.M.**

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

By C.H.

Hello Overcomers in Christ! I just want to reach out and say hi, because while I have been sitting in my Maximum Security Cell here in Lane County Corrections Facility, I came across what looked like a single page of a magazine from 2010. I have been sitting in here and I have had some time to reflect and search my soul. I've spent some real quality time with the Lord of my soul and your neat color picture, with every kind of cover art between 2008-2010. It has been looking me in my face telling me to write you all and see what I could find out about you and the Overcomers for Christ, because you see, I'm just learning to overcome my issues in life and for the first time in my life I have been actively seeking sobriety, even when I'm not here in jail, but being homeless with serious addictions and so many frightening circumstances, just one after another with no support or encouragement from family as I haven't got one, except my mom, but things are looking up.

My mother and I are finally connecting after over 20 years or more of estrangement. When I saw this wordless yet picture filled flyer it made me feel what I'm so desperately needing – a circle of love, support, guidance and family, from a group of people who have been there and done that. Even though there was only pictures – they say it all about your groups closeness and it appears, a very special bond. I don't know what you guys are all about but if you would like to show me or send me info on what Overcomers for Christ is all about I think I would like that very much! Maybe if you would pray for me to be where God wants me to be and to go where God wants to see me go and to become whatever it is I can become with Him as my Captain and Christ as my Lord and Savior, I would really be grateful.

I know you don't know me or owe me anything and I won't be mad if you don't get back to me but I just want to tell you how beautiful it is to see whatever it is I'm looking at in these pictures. It looks a lot like Hope. I'm not sure because I have seen little hope so far in my life, well, from other humans. There is just something amazing about your energy that my heart is aching for.

Well, be well and I'll pray that your ministry prospers. In a world devoid of love, family and reason for hope it seems as though you all have a beautiful foot hold on the kind of reality people only dream of.

Freedom

By T.G.

Yes, praise be to God and the blessing of all who follow. Our prayers go to the lost souls, for finding the Lord will bring them the peace and happiness that they are looking for.

First of all, thank you for printing my piece about my mother in the newsletter, It really touched my heart. Also thank you for the card and the encouragement you send.

This is the year that I have a new beginning to the rest of my life. After 5 ½ years, I walk through those gates. I have no fear. For while I walked in here alone, I am not leaving alone.

God has given me hope. My soul is no longer lost and my heart no longer empty. It is His Love that has gotten me through these years behind the fence, and it is His hand I will be holding as I walk through those gates.

To all of my brothers and sisters, thank you for your love. In your words, I found the strength to continue on and in your newsletter I feel the freedom that one day we all will share. I am counting the days until I can stand beside you and worship our Lord together.

We cannot hold a torch to light another person's path without brightening our own. God does bless us all by the people He brings into our lives.

Formula for Spiritual Success

By D.G.

If you want to be distressed – look within

If you want to be defeated – look back

If you want to be distracted – look around

If you want to be dismayed – look ahead

If you want to be "delivered" – look up

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

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

Forever Grateful and Blessed

By J.W.

God bless you, bless your house and bless all those around you. I pray this finds you all trusting in Jesus with all of your hearts. Thank you so much for answering your call and allowing Jesus' love to fill you. What a blessing to me it is to see love in action by your letters and the words of encouragement. The joy and enthusiasm in your words is so awesome, blesses my spirit, thank you.

Things are great. Blessed on Purpose (B.O.P.) ... Not Bureau of Prisons, forever grateful that God hears and uses me and that none of my past matters to Him. He shows me grace so I can show others that grace. I gave my life to Christ in May of 2009 and have been dying every day since getting out of the way. I'm constantly reminded that "It's not about me." I have to get out of my way. Being still, studying, listening, praying and seeking His face, practice, practice, practice is what I have to do. It don't matter where we come from or where we've been, it's about where we're going. Come what may, faithful to Christ I will stay.

I start Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary on 27th. The first book is an introduction to the New Testament by D.A. Carson and Douglas J. Moo. I'm praying for understanding and above all that His will be done. They have all kinds of programs here to better me for the world. I'm not discrediting education or programs, I'm just saying that for me ANYTHING to do with Him and His righteousness is what I'm after with everything in me. Because apart from Him, I am nothing and can do nothing. I need Him more than I need my next breath of air. About talking to all the ones gone before us, walking with Jesus in His glory and our Father, that's the word that comes to mind ... AWESOME ... soon and very soon He is coming back, come Lord come.

There is a brother here whose name is Ernie, he's been here 18 years on a life sentence, the Lord is using this brother in such a way, "Soul Patrol" was something I came into here and Ernie refers to himself as a Jesus Freak. Let me tell you he is not a bit bashful, he has a zeal for the Lord and he believes he's going to give this life sentence back, all glory to God. Please keep him in your prayers. He has a powerful testimony; his passion is for people NOT to be deceived like he was for so many years. The Lord blessed us with a meal for Father's Day and we got permission to have it out on the yard. All of the Christians pitched in whatever they could, we went to pray over it and I counted 70 brothers in the circle. The lieutenant came and called Ernie and took him inside. They told him that they have been working here 30+ years and they have never seen a circle with blacks, whites, browns and tans holding hands and praying. Ernie told them he was just blessed to be a part of it.

I tell everyone, I was a nut for the devil and now I'm a nut for the Lord. At least I'm attached to the right bolt. Bless you-all there, know that you're in our prayers and we love you.

Receive Love ... Give Love

By M.G.

When we see people who are obeying God, let's take time to affirm them and to thank God for what He's doing through them.

The greatest love that we receive is the love of God. After we experience God's love we then can learn to give love.

God's love enables us to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. We teach, encourage and rebuke, we weep and rejoice. The love we give is tender and tough and supportive. We are taught by Jesus even to love our enemies, do good to those who hate you and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.

A good plan for our lives today ... receive love ... give love.

One aspect of God's glory is His almighty power, but how does He show His strength? He doesn't do it by rearranging the galaxies before our eyes, instead, in His love and compassion for needy people like ourselves, God has chosen to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.

Foot's Bible Study Notes

2 Samuel 9:1-12:31

Are you able to forgive those who have wronged you? Can you be generous with those less deserving? Each time we show compassion, our character is strengthened. (9:7)

Often we respond angrily and defensively rather than admitting our mistakes, apologizing and trying to defuse the other person's anger. Instead of fighting we should seek peace. (10:6)

Once sin gets started, it is difficult to stop. (James 1:14-15) The deeper the mess, the less we want to admit having caused it. It's much easier to stop sliding down a hill when you are near the top than when you are halfway down. The best solution is to stop sin before it starts.

The qualities we condemn in others are often our own character flaws. Which friends, associates, or family members do you find easy to criticize and hard to accept? Instead of trying to change them, ask God to help you understand their feelings and see your own flaws more clearly. You may discover that in condemning others, you have been condemning yourself. (12:5-6)

John 15:1-16:33

When things are going well, we feel elated. When hardships come, we sink into depression. But true joy transcends the rolling waves of circumstances. Joy comes from a consistent relationship with Jesus Christ. When our lives are intertwined with His, He will help us walk through adversity without sinking into debilitating lows and manage prosperity without moving into deceptive highs. The joy of living with Jesus Christ daily will keep us level headed, no matter how high or low our circumstances. (15:11)

Christ's death on the Cross made a personal relationship with God available to us. When we confess our sin, God declares us righteous and delivers us from judgment for our sins. (16:10-11) The world's values are often the opposite of God's values. This can cause Christians to feel like misfits. But even if life is difficult now, one day we will rejoice. Keep your eye on the future and on God's promises! (16:20)

Psalms 119:49-80

Many of us have thought about the direction our lives have taken us and eventually we get tired of being defeated time and again, and we turn to Christ for His unfailing love. When we hurry to obey His commands our lives can become simpler and happier and in turn we're not alone as we face any troubles.

Here the psalmist is acknowledging the Lord for keeping His promises and also being here for us all the time to guide us. Also, acknowledging how the Lord's commandments and laws are more valuable than any silver or gold.

Proverbs 16:1-5

There are different ways to fail to commit whatever we do to the Lord. Some people commit their work only superficially, they say the project is being done for the Lord, but in reality they are doing it for themselves. Others give God temporary control of their interests, only to take control back the moment things stop going the way they expect. Still others commit a task fully to the Lord but put forth no effort themselves, and they wonder why they don't succeed. We must maintain a delicate balance ... trusting God as if everything depended on Him, while working as if everything depended on us. Think of a specific effort in which you are involved right now. Have you committed it to the Lord?

Evil is a temporary condition in the universe. One day God will destroy it. (16:4) Pride is the inner voice that whispers, "My way is best." It is resisting God's leadership and believing that you are able to live without His help. Whenever you find yourself wanting to do it your way or looking down on other people, you are being controlled by pride. Only when you eliminate pride can God help you become all He meant you to be. (16:5)

"Foot" Notes

Hey everybody! This time around I'd simply like to ask you all to think of and pray for all those Christian refugees hiding in the mountains of Iraq. There are men, women and children still being persecuted for their beliefs in 2014. Consider what you would do if the only choices you were given were: 1) Convert to Islam ... 2) Leave with only the clothes on your back ... 3) Be killed ... ? And the bad part is the one's choosing to leave are still being chased and killed. Yet we think we've got it bad when some fool on the yard says something stupid about you being a Jesus freak or Bible thumper. Even in here we as Christians are very fortunate. I'm just saying so maybe when you're speaking to God tonight how about adding some prayers for those being persecuted. This brings to mind one of my favorite Scriptures, **Matthew 10:22**, "And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved." You know, delivered out of persecution. Love to you all short and tall. And don't ride faster than your angel's can fly ... Vaya con Dios!

No one saw the beauty hidden within
 For no one took the time to be their friend
 No one cared enough to pick them up
 So I have chosen these vessels to be My treasured cups

Some were addicts and strung out on dope
 For life had made them weary and they could not cope
 Others became prostitutes and walked the streets at night
 Scorned by society and rejected in this life

Some came to prison for various crimes

I saw His hands move gently across the corroded spots
 And soon it began to sparkle and shine across the top
 Then I saw a jewel begin to appear
 Hidden by corrosion throughout the years

Reflected in the cup was the image of a man
 I was dumbfounded and could not understand
 Until I saw Him turn and I saw His scarred hands
 Then I saw Him smile as He turned to walk away
 And I knew I was that old cup that had gotten lost along the way.

If you are that vessel that has been battered and broken by life, by drug addiction or whatever your situation may be, know that God loves you and that you are a treasured possession in His eyes ... **Deuteronomy 7:6** ... **"For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession."** He values you so much that He hung on a Cross and died for you. I pray that you will pick up the Cross and live for Him. While writing my testimony, it opened a lot of doors into my past, and in doing so resurrected a lot of ghosts and a lot of memories. As a result, my thoughts began to drift (dwell) upon all of those who had died without knowing Christ, and for them there can be no pardon, no chance to come to the Cross for they are all in hell with no hope of redemption. In bringing my testimony to a close, I would like to pose this question to you, "If you were to die today, where would you spend eternity? And if Jesus were to come back tonight, would you be ready?"

The Night Jesus Came

It was the night that Jesus came and all through the house
 No one was praying as I laid on the couch
 Their Bibles were lying on the shelf without care
 For no one was expecting Jesus to come there

The children were dressing, getting ready for bed
 And no one was praying or bowing their head
 Mom was in the rocker with the baby in her lap
 And Dad was watching TV while I took a nap

When out of the East there arose a clatter
 So I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter
 I ran to the window and threw up the sash
 Gazed up into the heavens and was blinded by a flash

I heard the sounds of trumpets drawing near
 Angels proclaiming that Jesus was here
 I saw the image of a Man as bright as the sun
 And I knew it was Jesus but there was nowhere to run

I knew in that moment that this was the day
 For me to accept Jesus without any delay
 Jesus had returned just like He had said
 But how was I to know that He'd catch me in bed

He held the Book of Life within His hand
 And written on its pages, the names of every saved man
 He spoke not a word as He searched for my name
 And finding it not, my head bowed in shame

Those who were saved had their names written in love
 For He had redeemed them with His blood
 He gathered them together and they were given a crown
 But I was left standing upon the ground

I fell to my knees but it was too late
 I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate
 How I longed to go with them as they vanished from sight
 O how I wish I had been ready that night!

Animal Enclosure

Place all the animals in the table so that no animal adjacent, horizontally or vertically, has any letter in common. Some animals have already been placed.

Animals: Wolf, dog, worm, pig, penguin, stoat, fly, emu, toad, rat, cod

Also:

- The worm is not next to the pheasant.
- The emu is directly left of the stoat.
- The pig is somewhere right of the penguin.
- The fly is above the rat.

Elephant			
	Eel		Puffin
Pheasant			
		Shark	

What Others Are Saying...

"I am writing to request to be put on the mailing list. I love your newsletter, the pictures are great. I love the Jesus and loud pipes save lives t-shirt! It would be a blessing to receive my own copy as my sister shared hers with me and I love it. I am a baby Christian still but our Father IS amazing and I am growing with the spiritual milk He provides." - **T.F.**

"Greetings to all of you at *Overcomers for Christ* ... I hope this letter finds you all well and in good spirits. I would like to let you know I received your card of encouragement you sent me. Thank you for sending your thoughtful words. I'd also like to thank the ones who put together and sent me a birthday card. It was a blessing to hear from you, and your thoughts and wishes are very much appreciated." - **B.M.**

"Hello again! I received the newsletter today and also a card. I thank you all, so very much. I enjoy reading the newsletters and no matter how down I am the stories from others like me, lift me up, thank you." - **D.L.**

"God bless you all and thank you again. I did receive your special birthday paper. It was a blessing and God allowed me to see another year and another birthday. I turned 49 years old on 2-6-2014 and as soon as I woke up I said thank You Jesus for allowing me to see another day and another birthday. I pray that my letter along with my love find all of you in the best of health and in the right state of mind. Well, as for myself, I'm blessed and I thank God for all of my blessings. God is good, all the time, God is Good!!" - **T.F.**

Overcomer's Testimonies

When I first received your letter I was unhappy with your words. I needed answers and I felt that you did not give them to me. Frustrated/ searching is what I've been doing. Well, it's more like I've been trying to prove God is not who He is said to be because He had not shown Himself to me.

When I stop to really look at my life, I see the milestones. God put a fork in my road and I was so darn prideful and blind to admit that. But deep down I knew. I've felt it. It brings tears to my eyes because I knew God was throwing me a rope to catch on to, a lifesaver to stop me from sinking into my anger under this black water. I refused to look to the surface because I would see the Life Saver there waiting. I had been receiving messages from God but would chalk it up to 'coincidence' or whatever.

I got a new celli like 4 days ago ... my last celli was ... let's just say that as soon as she moved I felt a weight off of my shoulders, a weight of responsibility for the youngster. My thoughts then were, "I don't want to get a celli that might cause me to lose more earned release time because of another 'assault ticket'".

My new celli is a real cool chick. Last night she and I talked about God. I told her how I was thinking and feeling. Man, her words were ... it was powerful how she spoke of God and how she knows without a shadow of a doubt that God IS REAL and GOOD and how she came to know that He was genuine. She is not at all fake like them Bible thumping 'foo foos' trying to come up on a square and a cup of coffee. You know? Well, her words really got me to thinking. So it's like God, yet again, sending me answers and lifesavers.

Last night I got a card from a woman that I don't know at all and she said her granddaughter asked her to pray for me and she let me know that she was. I started to break down. I was crying because I felt ... defeated. God won this game. I had put it into a notion of "prove Yourself to me". How many signs do I need? It's been one thing after another in the span of two weeks or so. God's telling me to take the blinders off. Maybe seven words of this card from a woman I don't know, who doesn't know me, informing me that she is praying for me, and that "God is able to work with our lives", with tears in my eyes I yelled, "I HEAR YOU! YOU WIN!" My new celli looked at me like what in the world is going on with you? I told her what I just received and she finished reading the card out loud. I can't even explain how I felt, how she and I both felt. My celli said that the presence of the Holy Spirit was in our cell! How I felt emotionally was insane; I was scared, happy, tired and felt relief in my physical body. My heart was in my throat and the tears wouldn't stop running down my face and overall I was overwhelmed with the experience.

I won't and I can't sit and say that I understand the Trinity and Jesus **BUT** I can and will say that, "God has shown Himself to me!" He really never had too, who am I to make demands on God? I'm thinking that He just loves me enough to do that. Feel me? I still feel as if I should do something but I guess read the Bible and pray is all I really can do right now.

Thanks *OC* for giving me this time to share this awesome experience with everyone. Keep me and mine, my celli and her family in your prayers. And let's ALL pray for people like me who are unsure how to believe in God. Thank you. - **C.P.**

Did you know??
Contributed by Courtney Dobbins

This item was found on the Internet and the facts have been verified, however, as you have seen on TV, if it is on the Internet it must be true ...wink, wink!!!

People who ride on roller coasters have a higher chance of having a blood clot in the brain.

People with blue eyes see better in dark.

Money isn't made out of paper, it is made out of cotton.

A tiny amount of liquor on a scorpion will make it go mad instantly and sting itself to death.

Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying.

A huge underground river runs underneath the Nile with six times more water than the river above.

The USA uses 29% of the world's petrol and 33% of the world's electricity.

Wearing headphones for just an hour will increase the bacteria in your ear by 700 times.

The animal responsible for the most human deaths worldwide is the mosquito.

Right handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people.

We exercise at least 30 muscles when we smile.

Our nose is our personal air-conditioning system: it warms cold air, cools hot air and filters impurities.

Our brain is more complex than the most powerful computer and has over 100 billion nerve cells.

When a person dies, hearing is usually the first sense to go.

There is a great mushroom in Oregon that is 2,400 years old. It covers 3.4 square miles of land and is still growing.

German Shepherds bite humans more than any other breed of dog.

The pupil of the eye expands as much as 45 percent when a person looks at something pleasing

Men's shirts have the buttons on the right, but women's shirts have the buttons on the left.

The reason honey is so easy to digest is that it's already been digested by a bee.

It cost 7 million dollars to build the Titanic and 200 million to make a film about it.

The sound you hear when you crack your knuckles is actually the sound of nitrogen gas bubbles bursting.

The only part of the body that has no blood supply is the cornea in the eye. It takes in oxygen directly from the air.

Quote Worthy

"Prayer is not a spare wheel that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a steering wheel that directs the right path throughout life." - Unknown

Ministry Tithes & Offerings

It takes the body of Christ working together to create, print, assemble, and mail this newsletter every month. We thank each and every one of you who have sown a seed into this ministry. None of this would be possible without the generous financial support from people who believe in this ministry. By sowing your financial seed into this ministry, you are helping us reach out to those incarcerated by offering them hope, love, and encouragement. You are investing in reaching lost souls, encouraging new believers, and spreading the Word of God. **"A man's harvest in life will depend entirely on what he sows." - Galatians 6:7**

Any tithes or offerings that you would like to make to the *Overcomers for Christ* ministry, please make your checks or money orders payable to Living Word Bible Church, in the memo section put 'For Overcomers for Christ'. Mail them to Overcomers for Christ P.O. Box 42023, Phoenix, AZ 85080. Your donation does qualify as charitable contribution on your taxes. If you have any questions, please call or write Wade Anderson.

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

Always Remember

By S.M.

Always remember ... each day that goes by,
To trust in God's love, no need to ask why,
Forget all your troubles that pass each day,
It's the devil's device to lead you astray,
Always remember ... to honor God above,
Cherish His blessings but most of all His Love.

The Lord Is Near

By T.G.

There is never a time when God is not near,
To share our hurts or help dry a tear,
He knows every thought, He knows every care,
He's as close as our heart; He's as close as a prayer.

Reborn

By S.M.

I awoke to see the sun so bright,
It filled my eyes with its warm light,
The clouds are gone now I can see,
The Lord has come and set me free,
No more wars or lives to cheat,
It's time to stand on my new feet.

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

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

Overcomers for Christ a Ministry of Living Word Bible Church

www.livingwordonline.org jasonlivingword@gmail.com

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