

Overcomers for Christ

August 2015

THE LORD IS MY SHEPARD
HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN **IN GREEN PASTURES**
HE LEADS ME BESIDE QUIET WATERS **GOD** **HE** GUIDES ME ALONG THE RIGHT **FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE**
HE REFRESHES MY **EVEN** **SOUL** THOUGH I WALK THROUGH **THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH**
I WILL FEAR NO EVIL
FOR YOU ARE WITH ME
YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF
THEY COMFORT ME
PSALM 23:1-4

Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

April 2015



Petition for Prayer ...

"They all joined together constantly in prayer ..." - Acts 1:14

Editor's Notes: *Almost every letter that we receive has a prayer request in it. This month we are running many of those prayer requests. We ask that you join us this month and read over all the prayer requests and meditate on them and come into agreement with the Word of God and us that these prayers will be answered. "This is the confidence we have in approaching God; that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." - 1 John 5:14. Prayer is powerful and by joining together we are taking a stand and standing in the gap for all the needs of these prayers.*

Please pray for my cousin, Kevin Payne. In July, he had to have an emergency surgery. He had to have a stent put in because he had 100% blockage. He is 36 years old. The doctors also say he has a leaking valve which could lead to another heart attack. Please pray for his complete healing of this and that his valve becomes whole again. Pray that his wife, children, mother, brother, and anyone else that is affected by this be comforted and touched by the presence of God. That they all know without doubt that Kevin is healed and he is being made into a new man. I pray that all of their needs (financial, emotional, and physical) are met during this situation ... **Michelle Anderson**

I have a prayer request; actually, I have a few of them. I'm going through so much in my life right now. My mother is going through treatment for lung cancer and recently suffered a heart attack. She's doing ok now, but I ask the Lord to heal her. Also, I have two children, I haven't seen or heard from in years and I pray for them to somehow come back into my life. I'd also like to pray for my girlfriend who was recently sentenced to 20 years. Please give her the strength to make it through the hard time ahead of her. Thank you so much for your prayers and concerns ... **D.P.**

Please pray for my family to visit me. I've been down almost 8 years and I've lost my father and grandmother, which were the only ones there for me. Now, I am starting to feel lonely with 2 1/2 years left to the gate ... **D.D.**

I've been sitting here praying and asking the Spirit to guide me through this letter simply because I'm going through a terribly sad time in my life. My mother passed away on her 64th birthday. Although there's comfort in knowing she is in paradise, it has been very tough and I've had to be very disciplined and stayed very busy to ensure I stay on point and on this narrow road. I cannot let my thoughts wander because they go directly to missing her and things unsaid, etc. I've managed to handle it as best as I can under the circumstances, leaning on Him and claiming His promises. I would appreciate prayers from the Overcomers on behalf of my family in our time of loss. We are all grieving and none of us were prepared. I wanted her to see what the Lord has done with me so badly. I just tell myself now she gets to see it from heaven with the Lord saying to her, "Look what I've done with our son, see how he shines as he helps others come to know My love." ... **M.D.**

"You also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many." - 2 Corinthians 1:1

Well brother, we continue to march forward here in our Lord's wonderful "Grace and Mercy". There have been great trials and tribulations for the body of Christ, so please keep us in prayer and hold us up in corporate prayer. We need thorough intercession prayer, we are spiritually under attack and most of these brothers are babes in Christ and they barely know Christ, much less their identity in Christ. So we continue to call brothers to a deeper relationship with much urgency, and those who hear the call we are equipping them with the full armor of God (**Ephesians 6:10-18**) and calling them to Prayer,

Fellowship and to study the Word and teaching them to stay in step with the Spirit. Anyway, praise the Lord, I am so thankful for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; I wouldn't trade it for anything else. I am so pleased to be able to serve Christ ... **C.B.**

I worry about my kid's mother; I haven't heard from her since Christmas, can you pray for reconciliation, at least for a friendship? Not only do I still love her but that will bring my sons into my life more. Now that I know the real definition of love (**1 Corinthians 13**) ... patience, kind, not rude and a whole bunch of things that I was not living by. The last time together, a matter of fact I was opposite of that, all in God's hands though the same with my appeal. I want it to go my way but all my trust is in Jesus, and if He wants me in here the whole time then, **Romans 8:28, "It's for the good."** ... **J.H.**

Please pray that this will be the year that I hear from my daughter. She just turned 25 in April and I haven't heard from her since 2009. My two boys are doing good, growing like weeds. I keep telling them I am almost home, just hang on, but it breaks my heart every time we hang up the phone. I will say that I am now almost 7 years sober. I never want to see drugs again. I hope that my experience will be able to save someone else ... **S.J.**

Please add me to your prayer list. God bless you and have a great day ... **S.L.**

"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them." - Acts 16:25

Please pray for me and my only child, Vanessa. Pray that we have that closer walk with Christ ... **B.M.**

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Please keep me in prayer, praying that I get moved out of this prison because it is time for me to leave. I shall have you and your family in my prayers ... **T.F.**

I am almost home please include me in your prayers. I also ask you to pray for my family, only God knows that I have learned my lesson ... **M.V.**

Please keep the church here in prayer, we lost our pastor and I am praying we will get another one soon that knows and will preach the gospel of grace ... **C.L.**

"And if we know that He hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of Him." - 1 John 5:15

Very hard times in my life right now, my mother needs all the prayers in the world possible right now, please. She has been in the ER three times and waiting to be scheduled for heart surgery, triple bypass. We all are very scared, any prayers help ... **M.R.**

I go home this year and was hoping I could ask for some prayers to help me put my life together. Please pray for me as I return to the real world. I will need help with living arrangements and hopefully keep my marriage intact. Thank you for taking the time to encourage men like me. God bless you ... **J.S.**

I used to get your newsletters, last time I was in prison. I got out and ended up falling short once again. I have had such a hard time following the right path once I am released. It's been the hardest thing to overcome for me. I do great until I am off parole then I end up backsliding to my addiction and that evil life it brings us to. I struggle every day with my fleshly desires, but I am finally to the point of giving up my own will to the Lord, no matter what my flesh wants. So I ask you to pray that I finally get it right and stay on this path God has given me to follow, to be the man I want to be inside and out. I am no longer living my life for me, but for Christ in Him alone. So, I ask you to keep me in your prayers and to please put me back on the mailing list to receive the newsletters ... **B.C.**

I pray that the Lord continues to show me His will. That He takes the control over my mother's visitation and she becomes reapproved. I pray that God puts His love around me and my fiancé keeping us strong and our love and our hearts focused on Christ Jesus for the many blessings He has given us. That the Lord guides me in my clemency packet and gives me favor in being eligible for a commutation in my sentence with the governor. If it's in His will, it shall be done. Healing of addictions throughout my family. I am so blessed for all you have done Lord ... Amen ... **B.W.**

"With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints." - Ephesians 6:18

Please can you keep my child in your prayers, he is on the streets, maybe in jail. I am not for sure. Pray for my mother, Artie, because she has bone cancer and she cannot walk, but other than that she is doing well ... **R.E.**

I am in a 6-month treatment center now, I hope to be home around the end of October, and we'll see what happens. This is a lot harder time than I am used to. You see, I have been at a work release camp for the past two years. I was able to go outside to work for the city department. So, I was free, as free as free can be while your locked-up. When I wasn't at work I was in my room watching TV or reading. I didn't have to deal with a lot of people. Now I am in the same wing with 60 other people, the bad thing is you are in an open bay. So, it's a big change for me. But I'm going to do my best. So, if you have time to say a little prayer of encouragement, I would really be thankful ... **R.K.**

I've been in prison for 19 years for being an ex-con with a firearm under California's three strike law. I'm getting close to going to the board and I ask that all of you pray that they grant me parole. I have good parole plans. This isn't my first time in prison; my first time was back in 1977. I am a Christian with a strong faith in my Lord and Savior. May God continue to hear all your prayers and bless you accordingly ... **R.E.**

I will ask that you and the other Overcomers keep me in your prayers, as a little divine favor with the parole board would certainly be welcomed ... **A.A**

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." - Hebrews 4:16

I'm blessed to see 41 years; my wish was to go home to my children. I know it's in God's time. I keep getting sick at this job and I have a terrible cough. I have to work in order to support myself because I have no outside support. However, I have God, which makes everything alright. God bless you! I've been incarcerated eight years and I have two years remaining, so will you please pray for me because I am so tired and overwhelmed by things I have to face once I'm released. Thank you so much ... **D.D.**

When I first came to prison I used to hear from my kids a lot. For the past year, I haven't heard from my kids at all. I love my kids so much. They mean the world to me. I have faith in God and I know that He is going to bring my kids back to me soon. Can you please pray that they are okay and that they still love and miss me ... **A.H.**

What Others Are Saying...

"Thank you for not forgetting about all of us in here. There have been many days when I was feeling alone and lost when low and behold your newsletter shows up and lifts my spirits. Again thank you for the many smiles your love brought to my face." - **D.J.**

"Hello, I am a newcomer in Christ! I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior in my heart last year and read my Bible daily. When I was in building #3 somebody kept putting your newsletter out in the dayroom for the taking and I've fallen in love with it. Best newsletter, by far, than all the rest!! I'm no longer in that building, so I don't have access to it any longer. Could you put me on your mailing list? Please!!! I need it!! I've got to have it! God speaks to me loud and clear through it." - **R.C.**

"I receive your monthly newsletter which I am very thankful for. It is truly one of my Bible studies. I look forward to it every month and I want you all to know I am very spiritually moved by all your hard work it takes to get these newsletters out to all of us inmates. I also wanted to let you know me and my bunkie read all the prayer requests and pray for every one of them. And thanks so much for the prayer cloth/paper. I passed it around to a couple of the girls and believe that all who reads and touches this paper will be blessed and healed!! You all are amazing at *Overcomers for Christ*." - **S.T.**

"I have been locked up for 4 years. I have been getting your newsletters for almost the whole time. I really enjoy reading all of it. The prayer requests and praise reports are always nice to read. Foot's Bible study notes, What Others Are Saying, the testimonies, and the poems ... I enjoy all of them. I just got my April issue and I enjoyed the poem on the back - Victory - Jesus is the Answer. It is so true, if we always dwell in the past we'll never know the future. But like I said I enjoy reading it all so thank you all for your hard work in getting it to all of us. I know I'm not the only one who looks forward to reading out of it." - **R.K.**

"God is good isn't He? I received your card, the words on the card were words of confirmation that God knows our situation and He uses all of His children to communicate His feelings, love and cares for us. The words on the card gave me clarity to some small things I was going back and forth with. Your newsletter as you know is a blessing from God, and it assists so many in finding their way to the Lord, helping others not lose their way, and assists even others in building their faith. The Spirit of God is in the prison system world-wide and I'm a witness to that and your newsletters contribute to growth and I thank you, along with all the others who will find the Lord through your newsletter. I enjoy reading the testimonies, encouraging words and thoughts, and most important the truth." - **R.E.**

"The thoughts of you all brighten my days. I want to thank you all for the beautiful birthday card. I'm happy my friend encouraged me to write to you some time ago, because the newsletters and frequent cards always lift my spirits when I'm down." - **D.D.**

"One of the inmates in here gets your pamphlets every month. I really enjoy them. They are so inspirational and from what I have read in them, you really care about how the inmates feel and what we are going through in here. I really enjoy the Scriptures, every time I read them I am like ... Amen!!! You always talk about exactly what I am going through and you always say the right things. Can you please put me on the mailing list for your pamphlets? I would love to have my own so I could read them all the time." - **A.H.**

"Thank you all for the kind words of encouragement in the birthday card you all sent me! Encouragement of the brethren is so vital in this age where the world bombards and belittles the faithful! Thank you for standing strong and faithful to the Word of God. I appreciate all that you do for our Lord behind these walls. May He continue to bless and grow your ministry." - **P.B.**

"I have been getting the monthly newsletter for going on two years now. It is something that I look forward to every month. I always find myself sharing with everyone who will listen. I also always enjoy the artwork. This is the first time I have actually sat down to write and express my gratitude. So, thank you for all of your guy's time. I know that with you all I'll never be forgotten even though I don't get normal mail. I receive mail from the Lord through you. People will ask who wrote me and I simply tell them, God wrote me!!" - **N.L.**

"I want to thank all of you at *Overcomers for Christ* for remembering me on my birthday. That touched my heart in a wonderful way. And in here getting just a small memento of affection changes our day a great deal. Thank you for sending me the newsletters every month. I enjoy reading them and find helpful material inside. Plus they also are written from people who are also behind walls, fences or in a cell too. So, please thank Michelle, Julie, Sophia, James, Wade, and all the others who signed the card." - **J.M.**

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

The Chairman and the Thief

By C.B.

Ephesians 2:8-10 – For by grace ye are saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is a gift from God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

To fully understand **GRACE** we must distinguish what makes it different from Mercy. Imagine being an employee of a bank. Through the years, you have figured out a way to secretly embezzle small amounts of money without being caught. Because you have gotten away with the crime for so many years, the amount you have stolen piled up into the millions. It is at this point that an audit reveals what you have been doing.

After the investigation you are called in by the chairman and presented with records proving without a shadow of a doubt that you are a thief. You wait for the pronouncement of the verdict and imagining the dire future before you, only to hear the chairman say, "My son, I forgive you."

MERCY - to be absolved of the punishment you deserved and the stigma that comes from being guilty for your wrongdoing.

JUSTICE - is when you receive the punishment for your wrongdoing.

MERCY is when you are pardoned and the punishment that is due you are not meted out. As you attempt to catch your breath, you are given yet another shock when the chairman says, "You are free to go home, and I forgive you." All of this is incredible, but **GRACE** is much more.

GRACE is when you came to the office the next day to collect your belongings and find out that the chairman has moved you up to the executive floor and made you not just the vice chairman but has offered to adopt you as his son. That is **GRACE**, when you start getting privileges you don't deserve. When you reach the penthouse, the chairman ushers you into your new corner office. Flabbergasted by the turn of events, you don't know how to react.

As you look at your new surroundings, the perks and privileges, the chairman leads you to the glass window and points to what's happening in the street below. Just then you see the chairman's son handcuffed and being led to the police car.

Because the chairman was Just and Holy, he would not short circuit the righteous process. Sin must be atoned and paid for. But because of His great love, His son offered Himself as a ransom for me, the thief. This is what God has done. At great cost we have been **GRACED** by God.

The dumbest thing to do at this point is to go down to the old office and start stealing again-or worse, to steal even more because now we have the backing of the chairman. This is what we do when we flash grace as a license to sin against God and our fellow man. We have been promoted to sonship, but we choose to live like slaves.

But **GRACE** is not just access given to us by God; it is also the power to live out that relationship every day in this present life and not just in heaven. **Acts 1:8 - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you ..."** For the Grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "NO" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. The right response to this Grace is for Your Mercy, and the **GRACE** to be Your son. What a privilege, in fact, I am so overwhelmed by Your kindness, I would like to dedicate every day of my life to learning to be just like You. The fact is, I have not met anyone like You. Again, thank You very much. And may I say, I love you so very much too.

GRACE is not a license to sin against God. **GRACE** is the pass card to a relationship with God.

Overcomers for Christ

From the Inside

My "Wilderness"

By R.E.

My name is Reggie and I've been in prison here in California, this time, for the last 18 years. I'm a lifer under the California 3 strikes law. I'm also a very devout Christian. One of the guys in my pod always shares a copy of your newsletter with me. As a matter of fact he always lets me read it first. Your April 2014 edition had a story called God's Perspective on Suffering by D.G. That story was only another confirmation for what I know my calling is in life, and why my life was what it was, and how I had to endure what I did in order that I could be a strong soldier for Christ. All these years I've spent in prison have been my "wilderness", and as Paul had to go to Arabia for 3 years, this is my "wilderness".

I am 56 years old and have had one heck of a life, but God is my life and I do know why my life was what it was. Your newsletter is a very positive instrument for the believer and for those soon to be believers.

I Need to Trust the Lord

By N.L.

God is always willing to help whenever we call upon Him. I have been finding solace in my Bible. I have actually read quite a lot of it, and will continue to read it every day. There have been days where I feel very alone and I've just grabbed my Bible and hugged it close to me. Believe it or not, that action alone has brought me comfort.

There is a lot that is going on in my life right now. First and foremost, I'm trying to remain strong through this situation with CPS having my babies. Then I'm trying to build a relationship with my father, whom really has no understanding of the trials and tribulations of prison life. Then I'm trying to strengthen my faith with my heavenly Father, and to not let it be a 'sometime' type of relationship. It should never be only when it's convenient; however, we get so caught up in the day to day life. But I am seriously trying.

Lastly ... me. There are so many things I'm trying to change within my own personal life. I don't know where to start. But I do know one thing, I want to be able to look at myself in the mirror and love what I see. Now, I know the list I just made wasn't quite in the correct order. It's just hectic and yet I feel like I won't ever get started because I can't or won't put complete trust in Him. I'm still stuck thinking, "I got this." Silly me.

Share the Truth

By R.E.

I just received your newsletter; I'm pleased that you felt my writing deserved to be added to one of your coming newsletters. Your responding to me personally only authenticated that you are truly guided by the Spirit of God in reaching out in your quest to share the Word of God with others and for that I thank *Overcomers for Christ* for all you do and all you will do in the future for Christ and in the name of Christ.

I've learned in life that people would prefer a lie over the truth. I've also learned that it takes a special person to share the truth and reach a person that don't know the truth or who has been in denial of it. The special person I'm talking about is any of us who put God first in our lives and the truth I'm speaking about is "His Word" and of course the lie is the devil's temptations. Your newsletter is the truth and I encourage you to continue reaching within these prison walls, because the Spirit of God is within these walls and a lot of lost souls are being found each and every second by those like yourselves who understand that within these walls are the ones God wants the most. Those with nothing that want something, and that something can only come for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Foot's Bible Study Notes

1 Kings 19:1-21:29

Elijah experienced the depths of fatigue and discouragement just after his two great spiritual victories, the defeat of the prophets of Baal and the answered prayer for the rain. Often discouragement sets in after great spiritual experiences, especially those requiring physical effort or involving great emotion.

To lead him out of depression, God first let Elijah rest and eat. Then God comforted him with the need to return to his mission, to speak God's words in Israel. Elijah's battles were not over; there was still work for him to do. When you feel let down after a great spiritual experience, remember that God's purpose for your life is not yet over. (19:3)

When we are blinded by envy and hatred, it is almost impossible to see our own sin. (21:20)

Ahab was more wicked than any other king of Israel (1 Kings 16:30; 21:25). But when he repented in deep humility, God took notice and reduced his punishment. The same Lord who was merciful to Ahab wants to be merciful to you. No matter how evil you've been, it is never too late to humble yourself and turn to God, and ask forgiveness. (21:29)

Acts 12:1-13:15

We can trust God's leading because He has promised to destroy all evil eventually. In the meantime, we know that God will help us use our suffering to strengthen us and glorify Him. (12:2-11)

Prayer changes things, so pray often and with confidence. (12:5)

We must never exclude anyone whom Christ has called to follow Him. (13:1)

There is a time to be nice and a time to confront. Ask God to show you the difference and to give you the courage to do what is right. (13:10)

Psalms 136:1-137:9

God deserves our praise because His endless love never fails. God's love includes aspects of love, kindness, mercy and faithfulness. We never have to worry that God will run out of love because it flows from a well that will never run dry. (136:1)

God destroyed Babylon and its offspring for the proud assault against God and His children. The Medes and the Persians destroyed Babylon in 539 B.C. Many of those who were oppressed lived to see the victory. The phrase about the infants is harsh because the psalmist is crying out for judgment "treat the Babylonians the way they treated us." (137:8-9)

Proverbs 17:14-16

If we know that starting a quarrel is only going to open the door to a huge argument, do we ever stop to think that whatever the point is, is it really worth all the stress and drama? Many people will start an argument just to prove they are right. When you step back to look at it, who usually ends up looking like a fool? So if you already know that whatever you are going to talk about will start a quarrel wouldn't it be better to just drop the matter all together before a dispute erupts.

It is senseless to pay tuition to educate a fool who has no heart for wisdom. It would be foolish to throw away hard earned money to educate someone who has no will for it. Would not our money be better spent on someone who is true to the search for wisdom, or someone who could be a great worker for God given the opportunity to gain more wisdom? Use your money where it will do the most good, don't just throw it away. (17:16)

“Foot” Notes

Hello, brothers and sisters, this time around I'd just like to remind everybody to remember those in your life you may not have had contact with in awhile. We all do get either caught up or locked up or ...? Take time to let them know that no matter the situation the love is always there for them. I'm sure we all know loved ones who may be alone and possibly going through tough times who could use a friendly word or voice, just as validation they are loved and never alone. My prayers for ya'll! Love to ya'll short and tall ... Vaya con Dios!

Believers all over the world have been praying for the Lord to intercede in my appeal. However, my recent appeal was denied. You wrote of hope and I can say the Holy Spirit has filled my heart with hope and peace, knowing that the Lord still has work for me to do here. It may not be what I had desired, but we are to be faithful unto the calling, no matter what it is. I'm not sure if you know, but group church services have been banned at my unit. But God always provides a way, recent policy changes have allowed up to ten inmates at a time to go to individual recreation cages that are linked together. So the Lord led me to start group Bible studies. They went well until I was written up for preaching. This was all later dismissed and we are allowed to have Bible studies at recreation. Through this, we have seen a fire lit in many lives here and the Word heard by guard and inmate alike. So please pray for us here as we stand on the foundation of Christ and deal with the spiritual battles against the devil. We may not understand the will of God, but we know He will never leave us and the Holy Spirit will help us overcome the trials and tribulations we face in this life ... **P.B.**

Right now, I would really appreciate it if you all could keep me and my three oldest in your prayers. In April, I received a petition from the courts informing me that my children had been removed from the home of their father and paternal grandma due to some serious physical abuse, and that it was reported to CPS by their school. Thanks to the Lord someone cares - they are both facing criminal charges. It all hit me like a ton of bricks, I'm 5 years in with 5 left and I feel so powerless. However, one good thing has come of the situation; it has built a relationship with the Lord. It is not perfect yet, because after being a control freak for going on 29 years, it's hard to give the reigns over to someone else. But I'm actually enjoying my Bible time every day, thirsty for knowledge and understanding. This situation has made me fall to my knees, and be humble asking for advice from the CO's, the counselors, even some of the girls. I ask almost everyone to pray for me and my children. I love to be told Scriptures to turn to, I love all the positive feedback I have received, most of all I've seen that even the gangstas in here care. They're really softies. Well, if you could all keep me and my babies in your thoughts and prayers, I would be very thankful ... **N.L.**

"But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt ..." - James 1:6

Please pray for me that when I get out of prison this time that I get healed of my addiction, please ... **A.P.**

Thank you for your card and most importantly the way you show me love and acceptance. The way that you signed your card actually made me cry because that's something that I never had in my life, a family. Yes, I had parents, but they didn't care anything about me or what I did. They were hooked on drugs and forced the same upon me and taught me all the wrong things, like how to hustle on the streets, sell drugs, and criminal ways. Instead of sending me to school like they did my brother or show me love as they did him, I was sold to a drug dealer and his two whores to be raised to protect the females. Well anyways, that's enough about the evil in my life. But I do pray that I will someday find someone that will love me and treat me as good as I will treat her. But only a miracle can make that prayer come true. Please keep me in your prayers and that I find someone special that I can enjoy life and the Lord with. I can't keep doing this alone, I need an angel. Please pray for my new cellie and his wife. Also, pray that we find peace in our cell and I can learn to like him and tolerate him for he acts ignorant and young and wants to be seen as hard ... **J.M.**

Please pray for all of the guys in here and their loved ones that are on the streets. Pray for those inmates that are short to the gate and hope that they find peace and security upon their life in the free world, and that they may get employment and a place to live and whatever else they may have trouble finding or getting in order to remain free and sober. And please pray for me, that the Lord will keep me safe and bless me with someone special in my life ... **J.M.**

I'd also like to request a prayer said for the yard and the families of everyone in here. And I'd also like for you guys to say a prayer for me, my visitation and phone situation to improve so I'll be able to see and talk to my family members again ... **B.B.**

"Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." - Jeremiah 33:3

I wrote my mother; please pray that she will write me back. It has been two and half years since I have talked to her. I really miss her and love her ... **R.M.**

I am going through a separation with my wife right now. I'm missing her and my kids. Could you please pray for me, my kids, and my wife? I feel lost and lonely at times. Well, could you please pray for us? ... **G.S.**

The powers that be (ADOC) are not happy with all the Christian services here and they are putting pressure on our chaplain to remove some of them. This looks like a tactic of the enemy and we could use all your prayers to come against this. I thank you in advance for putting the Word out and give God the glory for the victory ... **R.W.**

"Rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Praise Reports

I recently read the March 2015 issue of the *Overcomers for Christ* newsletter. Loved it! I have to ask please, put me on your mailing list. I have been here since 2010. How this newsletter never crossed my path, I don't know. I've devoted my time to getting to know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. I'm in love with Him; He answers me in everything I ask of Him. I believe it is called ... **FAVOR!!** Glory to God for His marvelous and wonderful works. I thank God for His salvation He gives us. I am grateful for this second chance to prove my faithfulness in this walk with Him. I can only hope and love it! May God continue to bless you and your ministry ... **L.R.**

Well, I want to tell you guys that I have been extremely blessed in my relationship with God. I want to say that I have grown in Christ. I know God has a lot more in store for me. I trust Him with my life. I pray always for His guidance. I will continue to do my part and abide in Him by reading His Word. God is amazing and He **CAN** do all things ... **R.E.**

Thank you so much for the heartfelt birthday wishes. That was right on time and was just the boost I was needing. As of lately, I hadn't been reading the Good Book as much and I was telling myself I really need to step it up. Then I received your words of encouragement. Praise to our Most High God for the clarity and for shining His light so we are able to see. God truly does hear our thoughts and prayers, Amen!! You are all in my prayers. Take care and God bless you all ... **R.Q.**

I was walking back from chow at Hualapai Unit and the sunrise over the Hualapai Mountains is beautiful, even from this side of the barbed wire ... **M.L.**

I wanted to tell you how uplifted I was by your testimony regarding your battle with cancer. Praise the Lord!! His works are the same today as they were 2,000 years ago. It must have really strengthened your faith to have gone through that experience, believing that God would deliver you, only to have Him confirm that belief by healing your body. You are a walking, breathing testimony of the grace of God in the lives of His children. Your testimony also helps to put my own difficulties in perspective. It has not been easy these last six years, but I have so much to be thankful for that it hardly seems right to complain about anything. Besides, I'm getting close to my first parole date, October 2016 and I am certain that the Lord has many good things planned for me ... **A.A.**

God has truly blessed me this month; I have received two letters from my sister who I haven't heard from in over a year. I was really glad to hear from her. She's the one person in my family that I'm close to and due to various health issues I worry about her a lot. She's 363 days younger than I am so for 2 days every year we're the same age ... Ha!Ha ... **Foot**

I am very happy to be close to my daughter. I just haven't been able to be in the same bay with her. But it's okay because God brought me this close. And that means I'll be closer pretty soon. I trust Him with all my heart ... **M.G.**

You may not remember me, but last time you saw me, you came to pray for my girlfriend at John C. Lincoln Hospital and right after you laid hands on her and prayed to Jesus, she was healed. The doctors at the hospital could not believe how quick she was healed and was released with a clean bill of health. God is amazing ... now Becky and I have a beautiful baby girl ... **A.P.**

I got my early release ... Praise the Lord! It's not what I had in mind, but nonetheless it's more freedom. I work for Wildland fire, I'm a fire fighter and I just got back from a 6-day camping trip doing forest abatement, thinning out trees so if a fire hits the area where we work it will slow the fire down. Also, I went out and fought my first fire for 2 days. So, all in all, I got to eat out ... when we are out in public we wear black shirts and green pants with big heavy logger boots, so I'm free for some very precious moments. So, Praise the Lord Jesus Christ, for He is good and His mercy endures forever ... Amen ... **R.D.**

I have not picked up a Bible in 7 years. There is a CO that has been reaching out to me. I have been told that I have the gift of prophecy back when I attended a Pentecostal church. Well, I decided to open up a Bible and read Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost. I did like what I read. So, I decided to ask this CO about this scripture - come to find out this CO had actually got done reading and meditating on that scripture that same morning. I believe that was a confirmation from the Lord. So, I began reading the Bible again. I got on my knees and prayed to God and repented of my sins and asked Him to come back into my life ... **S.F.**

Overcomer's Testimonies

As I sit and have a Bible study through a small vent with my neighbor, I finally truly understand that the Holy Spirit works in mysterious ways. Being in the hole is truly a dark place. But it took this to finally turn my life over to Him and to get out of the driver's seat and be a passenger for once.

My neighbor started talking about your ministry and I was so intrigued by what he was saying. The kindness, love and help you guys offer to people amazed me. He gave me a pamphlet and I started to read it, I loved it and by the end of it I submitted my life over to God and told myself I would attend your church. When I saw what church it was ... LWBC ... it blew me away. It was the same church I attended for years; I even went on several retreats when I was a teen. I'm 27 now and although I feel like I'm 17 still, I will never forget the times I had at LWBC.

I will be attending upon my release and am very blessed to have been enlightened to hear about you guys. God works in mysterious ways and I am thankful to be brought back to the right path by a situation like this. - B.P.

Mobilize By Steve Arterburn

"A man's steps are directed by the Lord ..." - Proverbs 20:24

Rudy Giuliani was named Time magazine's Man of the Year in 2001, and the reason seemed quite clear. In the aftermath of the horrific attack on our country, he gave directions to save the city where the twin towers of the World Trade Center once stood. It seemed right to give him an award for clarity and compassion under pressure. He mobilized millions when the impact of his own personal losses would have immobilized many.

What do you do when you lose a job? A dream? Hope? Do you freeze? Are you unable to move, think, or function? Maybe you spiral downward into destructive self-pity.

I recommend you take steps to make your disappointment and pain work for you. These emotions have energy behind them; so direct them into something positive in your life.

Over fifty times in the Bible people are told to "get up!" So do something, anything—clean the house, mow the lawn, gather friends together to pray, go help someone else, the possibilities are endless. Start with the easy tasks and work your way to those that are harder.

Get up! If you spiral down, you only compound your loss. If you move amidst and through your situation, you can turn your disappointment and pain inside out. It's the first step in the right direction.

"There's no half-singing in the shower, you're either a rock star or an opera diva." - Josh Groban

Quote Worthy

"A miracle is an event which creates faith. That is the purpose and nature of miracles. Frauds deceive. An event which creates faith does not deceive; therefore it is not a fraud, but a miracle."
- George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) - Irish playwright and co-founder of the London School of Economics

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.

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A Crystal Ray of Hope
By M.L.

The skies were dark and ominous yet,
Through a Crystal Ray, out shined God's Love.
My heart was then filled with encouragement,
As I saw silver linings surround the clouds
above.

It reminded me that the storms are always
passing,
And that the sun will shine again,
And there's no need for any of life's worries,
For there's always a beginning and an end.

So the moral of this story is
There's a time for everything under the Son,
So let your mind be filled on this,
In Your time Lord, Your will be done.

(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, 11)

Lessons from Creation
By M.L.

Today as I watched the sunrise
I learned patience as I awaited the sun.
The lessons we can learn from creation
Are God's gifts revealed by His Son.

As I watched the silver linings form
Gracefully across the top of that hill,
It reminded me of the Power of our Creator,
And that He controls all things by His will.

He commands the sun when to rise up,
And tells the precious moon when to fall.
He controls the stars and their twinkle,
His splendor he demonstrates to us all.

Since the beginning of all creation
His invisible attributes are clearly seen,
Understood by the things He created,
To reveal to us how much to Him we mean.