

Overcomers for Christ July 2018

And I'm Proud To Be An

**AMERICAN**

Where At Least I Know I'm

**FREE**  and I won't

**FORGET**  
**THE MEN WHO DIED**

Who Gave That **RIGHT** To Me.

And I Gladly Next To You And

**DEFEND**  
**STAND UP** **HER** *still* 

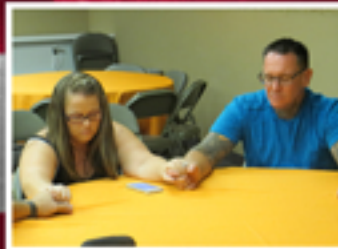
**Cuz there ain't** **NO DOUBT** *today*

**I LOVE** *this land*

**GOD BLESS** the **U.S.A.** 

# Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ

October 2017



## Let Us Set Down and Reason

By Rodger Whisman

*I was in study when I ran into an inspiration on 'markers'. As the children of Israel moved about and around they always left 'markers' of what transpired and where they had been.*

*As I too began a lifetime of 'markers' in my log I'd considered how many times and ways that God met me according to my needs, showing me a better path and had reasoned life with me. I had an outline I had started several different times. Within these logs I wanted to share a portion that always melted a growth in my heart and spirit, with all of you.*

*Know this, I'm one person that needs a lot of attention and time with God to just make life work out for me. And every time I had put any distance in that personal need for a close relationship, I had slipped away and into error. So let's get started and move into the article ...*

It remains a great desire that in prayer these letters offer fresh inspiration. Therefore, without the divine guidance of the Holy Spirit all of these words are no more than good words. Only the Holy Spirit knows exactly where God is at work in our personal lives and needs. God uses diverse ways to reach out to us through church, others in Christ and by the Holy Scriptures. May God be praised and glorified in all we say and do. Let's look at **2 Timothy 3:16** (KJV), **"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness ..."** Now look at how the NLT Version translates this same verse, **"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right."** The English Standard Version says, **"All Scripture is God breathed ..."** And now let's include **2 Timothy 3:17** to get the full understanding of the previous verse, **"God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work."**

Coming to the Lord, just as we are, in our current condition is simply the way to start. Yes we ARE accepted by Christ that simply. Listen here to Jesus, in **Matthew 11:28-30**, as He says, **"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."**

For those of us that are within our calling and or election, we enter His gates with thanksgiving and praise. Before prayer, prior to the group share and or prior to worship we see, in **Psalms 100:4**, **"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name."** Now let's add **Verses 3 and 5** to this, reading it in its full context. **"Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name. For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations."**

The Lord asks of us to be consistent and stable in our personal relationship with Him. These requests are not just to learn patience but as well to prepare us to work 'with' God in reaching others as the Holy Spirit works through us. We see, in **2 Timothy 2:19-25**, **"Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: 'The Lord knows those who are His,'" and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness." In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work. Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth."**

So, 'Let us set down and reason' with one another in Christ as it reads in **Isaiah 1:18-19**, **"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land ..."** We can reason on stability in Christ which is also a reasonable request, and more so as we minister to others in deed and word. Listen as Paul encourages us, in **Romans 12:2**, **"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."** Let me encourage you all to also read **Romans 12:1** and **Romans 12:8-11**.

There will be times that we may even ask ourselves, 'Who is this talking to me?' At that point are we in self made goals or have we entered into God's goals which also includes us; and that on the behalf of others? We find Paul saying this in **1 Corinthians 2:4**, **"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demon**

**stration of the Spirit and of power ...** " We will always have before us the ability to communicate with God, through Christ Jesus. Communication only deepens any relationship. We should consider communicating more often, knowing we can petition the Lord at any time for our needs of growth in ministry such as compassion and understanding to enter further in to the Lord's work, or His plans.

Entering into God's plans has always offered a goal for me larger than I was at that time. God always brings forth KING sized plans and goals. Yes, we can bring about a harvest in deed in good goals and plans. But if we begin to see God's plans and goals and we enter in to that, our harvest increases greatly and beyond our greatest expectations. In this consider confirmation in where you may be headed in Christ. God always confirms His plans for us. Or to simply put it ... 'Even as a Christian; let go and let God.' And as **Ephesians 5:1** tells us, **"Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children ..."** Stay within God's confirmation and as God is divine so shall your labor be in revelation and inspiration.

So as we reason with God, within our hearts, we now learn God not only gave us life, He is life itself. His Word is life. If He can speak to you, around you and through you ... you will offer that life to others through His Word. It's written, in **Acts 17:28**, **"For in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also His offspring."** Let me share these other two Scriptures, from **Acts 17:24-25**, **"God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that He is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, seeing He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things ..."**

Now, have we reasoned on these; Salvation, inspiration, consistency, communication by petition, stability and the greatness of God's goals?

So what was written? To reason is to share. To reason is not one sided. To reason is to better understand, to clarify. To reason opens avenues to reveal something or offer a new perspective. To reason with God is a divine right as a child of God's. A chance to not only be heard by Him, but an opportunity for Him to speak directly to us, by the Holy Spirit. It's like prayer. Prayer is not just what you do, it defines who we are in Christ. The ability to reason, to communicate both ways, begins to define more of who we are and will become in Christ, in our election and in our ministry. So let's be reasonable, allow the Lord the time to speak to us in whatever diverse manner the Holy Spirit reaches out to us.

I will share this and then close. I feel a new anointing has begun to flow on and around the children of the Kingdom of God. Through time God has anointed many great men and women of God. This time I feel God's glory will be revealed and fall upon ALL of us in a new way, the anointing of God's presence on His children as NEVER before.

May God bless you all. May He enlighten you. And if you are within a ministry, may He expand your borders.

### **Walking our Talk** **By Steve Arterburn**

***"So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time."* - Galatians 6:9 NLT**

If you're like most people, you seek the admiration of your neighbors, your coworkers, and your family members. But the eagerness to please others should never overshadow your eagerness to please God. And your desire to impress others should never cause you to compromise your beliefs or to defy your conscience. In short, you must be a "doer of the word" by putting God first. In other words, are you walking your talk of love, grace, peace, mercy and joy?

The words of **Matthew 6:33** offer clear instructions for managing your day and your life, ***"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you."*** Each new day presents countless opportunities to put God in first place . . . or not. When you honor Him by living according to His commandments, you earn the abundance and peace that He promises. But, if you ignore God's teachings, you'll pay a price, perhaps a very great price indeed.

Would you like a time-tested formula for successful living? Here it is, don't just listen to God's Word, live by it. Does this sound too simple? Perhaps it is simple, but it is also the only way to reap the marvelous riches that God has in store for you. Ask yourself if your behavior has been radically changed by your unfolding relationship with God. If the answer to this question is unclear to you - or if the honest answer is a resounding no - think of a single step you can take, a positive change in your life, that will bring you closer to your Creator.

***"Although God causes all things to work together for good for His children, He still holds us accountable for our behavior."***  
- Kay Arthur

**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

Please pray for me and my young 'disciple' as we embark on the Book of Revelation. We've spent this last year moving through the New Testament. I'm hoping that I can keep it simple for him. This is where I need the Holy Spirit to intervene. Also pray for my friend Bret who is trying to leave Mormonism. Pray that 'they' won't bully him and that he would find the strength to stand his ground. We've already found him an NIV study Bible which is far easier for him to read AND understand ... **B.M.**

Please pray for my friend Kim and my daughter Nichole, for God to look over them with each of their unique issues. And also pray for my brother, 'Dollar Bill', to get right with his girl Kim ... **Foot**

Dear Pastor and Prayer Groups, I was so happy to receive your card with words of love and encouragements coming from you, in which I need. Please pray for complete healing and deliverance in my entire body and especially in my stomach, lower intestines. The doctors can't find out what's wrong with me, but the Lord will show you as you pray for me. Also please pray for protection for my life and that the Lord will stop the host of enemies from spreading lies on me and taking my photo when they see me, all through my living room, bedroom and kitchen windows to destroy me. Also, I am deeply hurt over these satanic attacks on me in my neighborhood and also outside my neighborhood. Please pray for me that the Lord will destroy all of the pictures that the enemy took of me. Also, please pray for salvation for my loved ones. Please pray also for my youngest grandson's protection and that the Lord will return them back home to me now. They were taken away by lies and injustice. Please pray also for my son Robert's salvation and deliverance in his mind. And prayer for my grandson Diamond's salvation. He is in jail ... **I.A.**

I am praying for you and all of my fellow readers of this newsletter, that God bring peace, joy and health to each of you as only He can ... **R.A.**

Please pray for my sister Kay. She's all that I have left as far as family. She's always been there for me these past 47 years that I've been confined. She is having problems with her lungs, knee and kidneys. The Lord created her and I know He CAN HEAL HER! And I'm standing on His promise in His Word that He will heal her! Thank you, God bless you all ... **W.R.**

Heavenly Father, if You are really there, if this is all true and if I can believe Jesus, I am willing to come to You. I want to believe and I pray for a new life, I need help. Show me what You want of me. Be with me in life's struggles. Help me with my conflicts and help me to do Your will in this world. So, if You are really listening, I ask You to hear my prayer which I make in Jesus' name. AMEN! ... **A.N.**

## Praise Reports

Things in church here seem to be pretty good lately. Like you said before, I just pray that we continue to hit the mark that God sets for us as His ministers. God has made my time here really productive. I'm so glad that He has given me these opportunities and that I've met the people that are here, and you all out there (smile). God takes such good care of us and I'm grateful ... **B.M.**

I truly appreciate the newsletter and I'm sorry that I haven't submitted any of my poetry to you all for a good while. I have been suffering with an ineffective pace maker that has caused me to have a heart attack and later a stroke. I have since been transferred out of that medical center. I will continue with medical attention at Panama City Medical Center. God has blessed me with this transfer. I had a PT Scan there and there is cancer in my chest where the pace maker was. They say that the cancer is at stage 2 so I do have a chance with our Lord's healing. So please keep me in your prayers for my healing and to be granted my conditional medical release. I am still wheel chair bound and at 73 years old, I'm doing well mentally as the Good Lord leads me forward to freedom, soon ... **A.B.**

I pray that the Lord blesses you with His divine miraculous healing and that you continue to fulfill your calling as the Lord has been doing already to this period. Well, the Lord has really blessed me. I only got 3.5 years. With close to 2 years back time, I'll be able to know soon but at any rate I'll have about 1 1/2 years left. Praise the Lord! I'm extremely hopeful and so grateful that I will be out no later than May of 2019 ... **C.B.**

I was given one of your newsletters from one of our fellow brothers in Christ, Boogie. Me and him sit down together nearly every day and do a little Bible study. There is no doubt in my mind that it was the Lord's will on both our lives that our paths crossed the way they have and at the time that they have, in here. It seems that we are both on the same walk in life right now, ready to give it all up to the Lord and really start to live and enjoy life. In the newsletter that he gave me I read your message entitled Spirit, Soul and Body, especially the part where you said to listen to Paul and how he compels us to put on the new man in Ephesians 4:22-25. That is exactly the walk that we are both on right now, the walk that you are talking about in that newsletter. They say that God works in mysterious ways and I believe that the Lord meant for me to get that message in that newsletter. Like I said, your message really touched me in a very deep spiritual way. It really let me know that the Lord has me on the right path. I just wanted to thank you and say that I look forward to sharing more with you from the Word here in the future ... **P.H.**

# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

### Dealing with Daily Troubles

By G.B.B.

I pray that this message reach all of the O&C family, inside and out, living in the best of health and in all of God's promised blessings through our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus.

I would like to talk to everyone about how we deal with our daily troubles. The Bible tells us that we are to bring all of them to God first. I will be the first to admit that I struggle at times with obeying the Scriptures in this matter. I tend to want to fix my problems on my own. Let's see what the Bible has to say on this matter.

The very first passage that comes to mind here is **Proverbs 3:5-6** which tells us, **"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths."** The very first words we are encouraged to do here are very important. We are told to **"Trust in the Lord ..."** in our walk with Jesus. Again it is very important that we learn to trust Him first and foremost in ALL matters. We err greatly when we attempt to seek answers through the means of the world. All of our thoughts should go to God even before we act or react. If we feel depressed, sick, or worried we should go to God with it before we go to the doctor. Prayer should always come before pills to cure our ailments. This is not to say that God won't send us to a doctor but we need to learn to give God the opportunity to heal us BEFORE we let man get his hands on us. We are told, in **Psalms 37:5**, **"Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."** When what we want in life is in accordance with God's will He will bring it to pass. This is why prayer and Bible studies are so important. It's through these two avenues that we can learn what God's will is for our lives.

We read, in **Psalms 37:23-24**, **"The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand."** Jesus is the only one who never fell into sin during His earthly journey. All of the rest of us have fallen and will continue to fall numerous times before we get to be with our Heavenly Father. We are held by the hand of God and when we fall we fall into His palm. When we cry out and reach up for Him He picks us up. When Peter stepped out of the boat and began to walk ON the water he did so UNTIL he took his eyes off of Jesus and looked at the storm. At the moment that he looked away he started to sink 'into' the water. As soon as Peter cried out **"Lord save me"** Jesus immediately stretched forth His hands and caught him. Remember, God is no respecter of men so what He did for Peter He will do for any one of us when we cry out for His help.

Most of our problems come when we take our focus off of God and instead focus on the problems of this world we live in. In **Colossians 3:2**, Paul warns us against doing this when he said, **"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."** We err greatly when we lose focus on what is really important. I know firsthand how easy it is sometimes to lose focus with all of the worldly enticements the devil throws at us every day. That's why Jesus, in **Matthew 6:33** tells us to, **"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."** As children of God it isn't wise for us to be continuing to seek after the things of the world. When we keep our focus on Jesus and seek to do His will He will always be there in every aspect of our lives. God has already given us above and beyond our greatest need when He gave His Son Jesus. Our biggest problem is that we don't reach out and receive what has already been given to us.

Paul tells us, in **Romans 8:5**, **"Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires."** Quite simply Paul is saying that the best way we can receive all that God has for us is to walk in and live after the Spirit. Walking in the Spirit is not easy at first. Like everything else it takes a lot of daily practice. And I'll admit that sometimes it's really hard but God assures us that if we are obedient that He will direct our paths. We are told, in **1 Peter 5:7** to, **"Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you."** The Word clearly does NOT say to cast 'some' of our cares or just the ones we cannot handle. The Word of God commands us to cast ALL of our cares upon Him. Our lives will be much more peaceful and fulfilling when we learn to do this.

My closing prayer is for us to ask God to search our lives and point out to us any areas where we are NOT depending on Him. I pray that we never forget what the Apostle Paul said in **2 Timothy 2:3-4**, **"Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his**

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# Overcomers for Christ

## From the Inside

commanding officer."

"Father I thank You that You have already given us the victory through Your Son Jesus. In ALL of the battles that lay before us You have already supplied all of the answers to gain the victory over the world. Now I ask that You give us the wisdom to claim what is already ours and live in it. AMEN! AMEN!"

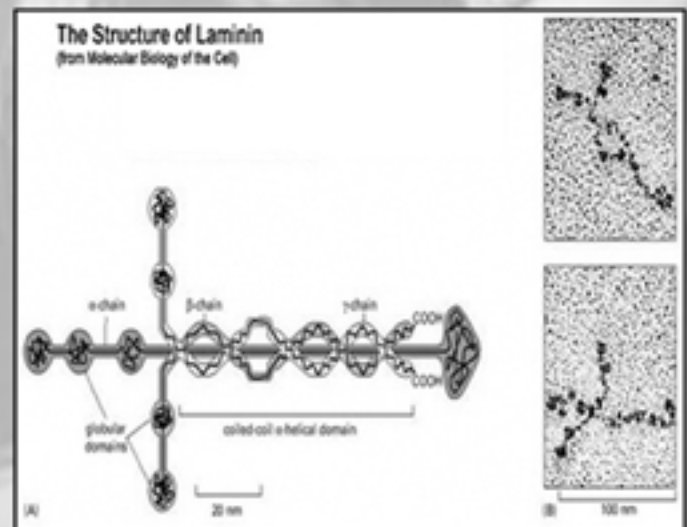
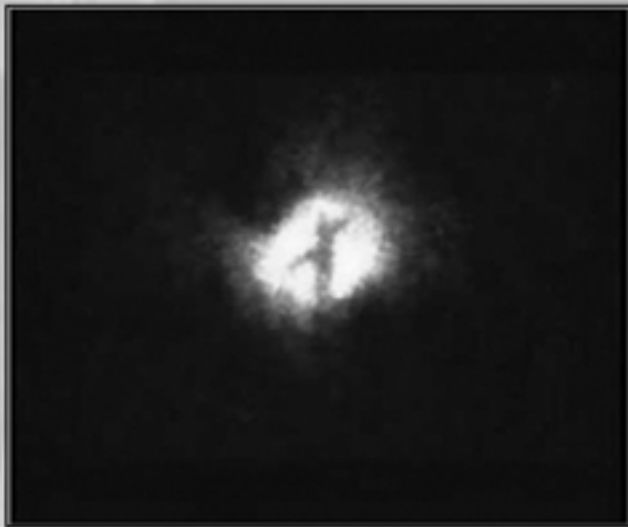
### How Great Is Our God

By C.B.

First I just wanted to thank you Julie for the reminder card, 'your special', because I know that you are correct, and sometimes I forget. So thank you so much, I really needed to hear that.

I also wanted to share with everybody about a video that one of the churches that come to preach God's Word, shared with us here. The name of the video was *How Great is Our God* by Louie Giglio. The purpose of the video is for us to realize that we worship a God of grace and glory and for us to have confidence that He is able to hang on to us and hold us together no matter what circumstances come our way in this lifetime.

This minister, Louie Giglio, then showed a picture from the Hubble Telescope that showed light, in the middle of the black hole, in the shape of the cross! WOW! The imprint of God is everywhere! God is huge! He is full of might, power, glory and awe. There is none like Him. This minister also talked about God's creation. About the stars, our sun, Betelgeuse (Beetlejuice), MuCephei (red hyper giant star), different stars, constellations, and galaxies (3 trillion of them). The star breather became the sin bearer, where the universe maker became mankind's Savior! That is, Jesus Christ! Awesome isn't it?!



Then he informed us of a cell adhesion molecule called Laminin. It's what holds us together. It's a picture of our cells in our blood, that holds us, (man) together and the cells are in the shape of a cross! It was amazing! I'm in awe! He will renew our strength AND He will NEVER let go of us! Praise God! AMEN?! I'm so glad that I'm a child of an awesome, wonder working, and all powerful God!

I'll leave you all with this quote from St. Augustine, "Men go abroad to wonder at the heights of the mountains, at the huge waves at the sea, at the long courses of the rivers, at the circular motions of the stars, and they pass by themselves without even wondering."

I just had to pass this on to all of you out there in the Overcomers for Christ family!

**Nehemiah 11:1-12:26**

All these Scripture give lists of people and priests and Levites who were chosen by lots to who returned to Jerusalem, which some may have not wanted to do because living in Jerusalem required stricter obedience to God's Word because of greater social pressure and proximity to the temple. **(11:1)**

**Job 12:1-15:35**

When we look for guidance for our decisions, we must recognize that God's wisdom is superior to any the world has to offer. Don't let earthly advisors dampen your desire to know God better. **(12:24-25)**

God's solution to believers who live in an unfair world is to guarantee life with Him forever. No matter how unfair your present world seems, God offers the hope of being in His presence eternally. **(14:1)**

**1 Corinthians 10:14-15:58**

As followers of Christ, we must give Him our total allegiance. We cannot, as Paul explains, have part in "The cup of the Lord ... and the cup of demons." Eating at the Lord's table means communing with Christ and identifying with His death. Drinking from the cup of demons means identifying with satan by worshipping or promoting pagan (or evil) activities. Are you leading two lives, trying to follow both Christ and the crowd? The Bible tells us you can't do both at the same time.

If death ended it all, enjoying the moment would be all that mattered. But Christians know that there is life beyond the grave and that our life on earth is only a preparation for our life that will never end. What you do today matters for eternity. In light of eternity, sin is a foolish gamble. **(15:30-34)**

**Psalms 39:1-13**

We all have complaints about our job, money or situation, but complaining to others may make them think that God cannot take care of us. It may also look as if we blame God for our troubles. Instead, like David, we should take our complaints directly to God. **(39:1-3)**

**Proverbs 21:30-31**

All our preparation for any task is useless without God. But even with God's help, we still must do our part and prepare. His control of the outcome does not negate our responsibilities. **(21:31)**



**"Foot" Notes**

Well brothers and sisters, I've gotten word from a couple directions of some folks struggling with things. So here's the deal. Life happens and it will continue to happen. Now, with us Overcomers, you know who you are with singed wings and tarnished halos, the liar comes after 'us' even harder due to the simple fact that we have once drank from his cup of poison and have finally cut loose from it!

Well the liar doubles his efforts and is always trying to get back what he figures was his at one time. So sure your cars will be broke down, some jerk at work will push you to the edge and yes the shine of those neon lights will seem to twinkle brighter in an effort to get you to backup. It's at those times the hammer of refining strikes the hardest. I will just say, the liar will never give up with his efforts and no matter how far we walk in our faith who we were will always be right there. It's our growing faith that enables us to fight and endure the tougher trials.

This writing started out to be specific, for a couple men I know who were struggling. But it now, instead, is for all of the Overcomers that may read it. Love to ya'll short and tall.

Vaya con Dios P.S. "Don't ride faster than your angel can fly!"



# Overcomer's Testimonies

To the family in Christ, *Overcomers for Christ*, I wanted to send you this short letter. I appreciate being on your mailing list and receiving that monthly newsletter. God has put it on my heart to share my testimony and I wanted to send it to ministries I hear from. If you choose to publish it in a future newsletter, I don't mind. I wanted to share with people what God has done in my life so far. As the Word tells us to go out to the nations and share His Word. I look forward to my next mailing that I receive from you. May God bless you all and everything you do.

I was born in a small town of eastern Pennsylvania in June 1974. I don't remember much of that time because my family moved out west to Phoenix, Arizona when I was 4 years old. Growing up, my parents said they raised both me and my sister the best they could, but I will discuss about that experience a little later. I was told I was loved, and even questioned that at times.

At around the age of 8 I started to act out. See, the love my family showed me was violence. My father had a terrible problem with anger. I remember times when he would have a bad day at work and would come home and take it out on my sister, mother and me. As I got older, I would purposely do things so he would take out his anger on me and leave my mother and sister alone.

I had gotten to the point of getting so tired of the abuse that I would fight kids at the school bus stop, smoke cigarettes, drink alcohol and even started finding drugs for an escape and pain. My drug and alcohol use expanded into me getting in trouble for stealing. I was out of control by the age of 12.

I used the juvenile system as a way to be free from my troubles at home. I started believing what I was being told, "You are a waste of life, and good for nothing." That stuck with me for a long time, even into my adulthood. I blamed everyone for everything that happened to me; never considering that, maybe I should blame myself.

In June of 2012, my life began to change. I was in prison at that time, as I am currently now. I got into trouble for having a cell phone. While I was in the lockdown unit, I used to pick on my cellmate, he was a Christian. At that time, I was following a pagan faith. The chaplain would come by my cell to check on us, but mainly to talk to my cellie. I thought they were weird! From hearing their conversations, I eventually started to ask questions. Keep in mind, I never have read the Bible yet. One day I asked the chaplain, "if your God is so good then why does He put us through situations like this?" He told me that "Some of us need to find our breaking point to then surrender our lives to Him." I thought about that statement and could see his point.

I then asked for a Bible and began to read it. I remember I read a story about Jesus giving a sermon, when He was done He was tired, so He told His disciples to get into the boats and go ahead, He would join up with them later, so they left. As they were on the water it was dark and a storm came their way. They got scared, looked out in the distance, and saw someone walking to them. At that time, the waters got calm and Peter asked, "Lord, is that You?" Jesus replied, "Yes," But they were in disbelief. Jesus told Peter to "Step outside the boat and come to Him," and so he did. Then something interesting happened, he took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink. Jesus then reached out to him and brought him to safety, and they got into the boat.

That passage meant the world to me, Jesus was talking to me I felt. It was like Jesus was telling me to "Come to Him." The next time I saw the chaplain I gave my life to Jesus and said the sinner's prayer, renouncing all the pagan gods out of my life and to follow Jesus. I continue to struggle with certain hang-ups at times, but I am sure most of us do daily. The most important thing is, I admit where I am wrong now, and ask for His forgiveness.

I got out of prison in 2013 and thought I was good. I was wrong. I took my eyes off Jesus and fell into addiction again. I went to court and was given a 10-year sentence for being a drug addict. Although my sentence might have been a little harsh, I accept it. Nobody made me use drugs again, I chose to! Jesus never wants us to do bad, but we are forgiven by the blood He shed for us at Golgotha. **Jeremiah 29:11** tells us, He has a plan for us to prosper, not harm us. Plans for hope and a future. He will reveal that plan when He is ready. It might not be when we want it, but He will reveal it to you and me. It is our job to be patient and listen to Him to tell us. He knows what we can handle and He gives us a Helper to guide us through that plan.

I will end with this. The author of Hebrews tells us this in **Hebrews 13:3**, "**Continue to remember those in prison, as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated, as if you yourselves were suffering.**" Next time you see someone and want to cast judgement on them, put yourself in their shoes. It is not our position to put that person down for their predicament, but lift them up, as God and Jesus did for us. I might not be the person I should be, but God made me. He loves us unconditionally. That's why He gave Jesus to pay the penalty of sin for us.

God Bless, your Brother in Christ - T.L.

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## What Others Are Saying...

"Hello there! How are you, all of your loved ones and ALL those at the *Overcomers for Christ* family doing? I sincerely hope all is well and this letter finds you all in good health and happiness. First I'd like to say thank you to all of you guys there for the effort and time you put into everything. I truly enjoy the newsletters and I've been transferred a lot over this past year yet it seems the newsletter finds me even before I'm able to get around to sending my updated address. I thank you for that as well." - **C.P.**

"Thank you for the uplifting and inspiring ministry that you send to me in my dark times. I have been blessed to be released to a halfway house as of June. I'm sending my new address so that you can please continue to mail me the newsletters, please. On my release I will be enrolled at Community Kitchen, a St. Mary's food bank culinary training facility. I thank you all so much and please know that I am trying to remember to let God handle my enemies. My favorite reminders are *Isaiah 54:11-17* and *Isaiah 49:22*. I've been told that my sons want to come live with their dad, me, after my release. Thank you for being a light in my life from 2007 to 2017." ... **A.W.**

"I want you all there to know that I have kept you all in my prayers and thoughts and I count my blessings for all of you being in my life! I pray that our Lord Jesus Christ causes all of the doors to be opened to assist you at the *Overcomers for Christ*! I pray that all of you are so greatly blessed that your heads spin because of all His goodness! You all there bless so many of us here behind these bars and walls. You may never know, until you get to heaven, how many tears of joy I've shed because of the blessings you've sent my way. My birthday letters, your newsletters, all of your prayers and kind words you all share in your cards truly makes my heart sing. I'm so blessed to be in the body of Christ with all of you - my new family in Christ Jesus! A million thank you's to all of you there on that end!" - **C.H.**

"Thank you for the birthday card. All of your mail means more to me than I could ever explain. I turned 50 years old this past birthday and it is only by the grace of God that I ever lived to see my 50th birthday. By the latter part of 2019 I should have this part of my life behind me, if all goes well. There is nothing like cards and letters from the outside while being locked up. I know that all of the things you all do are from your hearts and I truly love the warmth in your mail every time I hear from you." - **V.D.**

"Thank you for the birthday card, it means the world to know that someone cares. You all are as constant as my mom and that's saying a ton. Thank you so much for all that you do. God bless you." - **R.W.**

### Peter Word Search

Look for the **BOLD** words in the word search

**JESUS** called **SIMON** and his brother **ANDREW**, **WHO** were **FISHERMEN**, to **FOLLOW** Him and **BECOME FISHERS** of men. **THEY** and **TEN MORE** men **BECAME** the twelve **APOSTLES**. **WHEN** Jesus **ASKED** them **WHAT** they **DEEMED HIM** to be, Simon **REPLIED THAT** Jesus was the **MESSIAH**, **THE SON** of the **LIVING** God. Jesus **GAVE** him the **NAME** of **PETER**, meaning "**ROCK**," **SAING ON THIS** rock He **WOULD** build **HIS CHURCH**. Peter **DENIED** his **MASTER** **THREE** times just **BEFORE** the **CRUCIFIXION**. **HE IS CONSIDERED** to have **BEEN** the **FIRST POPE**.

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Ultra Tony is enjoying the fireworks on the 4th of July. He is celebrating the nation that was founded with God as the foundation.

*"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." - John 8:36*

### **Quote Worthy**

**"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly."**

**- Jim Rohn (1930 - 2009) an American entrepreneur, author and motivational speaker**

### **Ministry Tithes & Offerings**

It takes the body of Christ working together to create, print, and mail this newsletter. None of this would be possible without the faithful support of many people who believe in this ministry. The vision of this ministry is to offer hope, love, and encouragement to those who are incarcerated. You are investing in spreading the Word of God to lost souls, encouraging, mentoring, and discipling believers.

Here is how you can give to the Overcomers for Christ ministry:

By **check** or **money order** – Make checks payable to **Living Word Bible Church** and in the memo section put "For Overcomers for Christ". Mail your check or money order to PO Box 42023, Phoenix, Arizona 85080

We thank everyone who sows into this ministry. We pray all that your hands touch will be richly blessed, and that you will have abundance in every area of your life.

Your giving does qualify as a charitable contribution on your taxes. For donations of less than \$250, your cancelled check is sufficient proof for taxes. For donations of \$250 or more, you will receive a contribution statement from the organization. If you have any questions, please call or write Wade Anderson.

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## Heaven's Missing an Angel

By C.J.

Not only your smile but your spirituality is striking,  
And definitely to my liking.  
The sound of your spirit, so serene  
That it could only be a facet of a dream.  
Truly magnificent you are, brilliant as a shooting star  
Blessed and privileged with many qualities, enough to make this world envy

Angelic is your disposition, you're such a heavenly vision  
Just having your acknowledgment is so assuring,  
And unknowingly to you it's my loneliness you're curing  
You bring happiness to my dreary situation,  
And because of you, I have hope and inspiration.

You must be an angel, the Lord let the world barrow,  
A sign; that there will be a tomorrow.  
Heaven sent divine and translucent, a spiritual present.

Only you can lessen my misery, and make my solemnity history.  
Others will admire your spiritual attractiveness,  
Because you're an angel heaven will miss.

*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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