

# Glory Meeting of the Overcomers for Christ November 2024











#### Vision/Imagination - Part 12 By Wade Anderson

Let's pray: "Lord, I thank You for trusting me with this assignment. Let these words written on these pages be seen as Your guidance and not mine. I thank You that You partner with me to help me share only the truth in Your Word, through my own personal life's experiences. It's in Jesus name I believe and receive all of the promises that You have given me for my life. Amen! Amen! Amen!"

In the two other Gospels, Mark and John recorded these events as Jesus 'made' the disciples get in the boat, and He 'made' the crowds leave. The King James Version uses the word 'constrained'. Either way, I truly don't see Jesus being rude to the disciples or the crowd of people. I guess I look more closely at 'words', punctuation and how they are used, than some people. I've found, more times than not, the words that are written and placed where they are, especially in the Bible, are there to help us dig and uncover the deeper meaning than if someone just blows through a couple chapters with little notice at all. I also don't have an issue asking, or questioning God about some of the things that I do read in the Bible. In fact, I believe that He likes it when I have questions. He knows then that I simply don't understand, and knowing He always wants me to understand, He has ALWAYS shown me the true meaning, at the level I was right then. He understands that I'm not being egotistical or telling Him He must be wrong. Again, I KNOW He loves it when I'm truly seeking the wisdom and understanding of His Word.

Remember, I'm in my 'duck blind', in the front yard reading this and having real side effects from the pills I was taking. Now notice, of the several disciples that were in the boat that night, even when they 'thought' they'd seen a ghost, and Jesus assured them, "This courses, It's II be not be attrible" Peter was the only one with enough faith to ask, "Lord, if it is [really] You, command me to come to You on the water." Jesus wasn't out there trying to scare them or even test their faith. He told them, in my paraphrase, "Go on ahead across the lake, I'll catch up with you." Instantly I seen what Jesus spoke after Peter had asked the question, "Lord, if it is [really] You, command me to come to You on the water." Jesus simply responded to Peter's immediate faith and said, "Comes" (Matthew 14:29) The rest of Matthew 14:29 says, "So Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus." Right there in that one verse I saw, in the spirit, me saying to Jesus, "I don't want to take these pills anymore. All they seem to be doing is making me feel worse, I really want to stop taking them. What do You think?" Then, in the spirit, I saw Jesus motion me to step out of the boat. Jesus wasn't testing Peter's faith, nor was He testing mine. I asked Jesus a question, in faith, just like Peter. Instead, He saw 'our' faith and simply said, "Comes" Noticing the exclamation point after "Comes" helped me understand that Jesus saw my faith and was confident in His bidding. As sick as they made me, from that moment forward, I knew in my heart, that I would be just fine not taking them.

After a few weeks I returned to the doctor for a check-up on my progress. When I told the nurse practitioner I'd stopped taking the pills, she remembered what I looked like and how much pain I was in when I first met her, and said to me, "Mr. Anderson, please don't stop taking these pills! I don't want to see you in that kind of pain again. Please, continue to take them?" I told her that it was too late. I'd already resolved in my heart to stop taking them 3 weeks prior and was not going to take them again. In that moment I asked her, "Do you have faith? Well, I do. Instead of believing that I'm going to get worse without the pills, would you please believe with me that I'm NOT going to get worse without them? Would you do that with me, please?" She sat there for a minute, then answered, "Yes, Mr. Anderson, I'll do that with you." And we never revisited the 'pill' issue again.

Before we move on, I want us to look at these previous passages (Matthew 14:6-13), Where Jesus had heard that John the Baptist had been beheaded, and went out on a boat privately, I believe, to process this terrible act that had been committed against the forerunner of His ministry. (We'll get back to this part in a minute.) After Jesus' time alone in the boat, Scripture says, "When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick." (Verse 14) Jesus, hearing that the disciples wanted to send this multitude of people back to their villages to feed themselves, said this, "They do not need to go away. You give than samething to eat." (Matthew 14:16) The disciples, only looking at the physical things they had, responded, "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish." (Matthew 14:16) The Bible doesn't outright say this, but can you just picture the loave of bread and two fish." (Matthew 14:16) The Bible doesn't outright say this, but can you just picture the look on Jesus' face when He said, "Sing than have to the Jesus the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks (to the LORD) and broke the loaves. Then He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children." (Matthew 14:18, 19-21) Reading this, I was even more sure that Jesus NEVER turns us away, regardless of what we were when we first came to Him, He's always ENOUGH for any and all of our requests!

So many times, in our lives as well, we only look at what we have in the physical. Many times, we do this in panic or desperation, letting the visual circumstances cloud our minds, instead of reaching into where the truths of God are supposed to be stored, His Word and our hearts. But if we never read the Word of God, how are we ever going to reach in and grab

something that we don't know we have? It's important that we build an arsenal of Scripture promises that sound like this:

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:13)

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

"He Himself bore our sins' in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by His wounds you have been healed.'" (1 Peter 2:24)

"He made Christ who knew no sin to [judicially] be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God [that is, we would be made acceptable to Him and placed in a right relationship with Him by His gracious lovingkindness]." (2 Corinthians 5:21 AMP)

ALL of these Scriptures, and many more have become a rhema word to me. Why? Because I've gone to God, through His Word and in prayer, seeking His promises to stand on both in my study time and the different trials I've experienced. If you wonder what kind of trials and persecution come with the vision/mission of this newsletter ministry, pick up your own cross and follow what God has placed in your own hearts and see for yourselves. Even in that, I WILL guarantee you, God will be there right beside you when you do follow Him, just like He has been for me. But listen folks, these are rhema words that 'I' have searched for and received. You might get some direction while reading my testimonies and revelations, but my revelation won't sustain you as long as your own rhema word will sustain you. You'll eventually have to seek God and His Word for your own rhema word. That is EXACTLY why I write the messages that I do. Also, I understand that not everyone that reads these messages has a physical Bible in hand. So, I fill the messages with not only the addresses of HOPE, but also the contents of the address, hoping this will cause a deeper desire for a physical copy of the Bible for yourselves. Now back to John the Baptist.

God had called and anointed John, while he was still in Elizabeth's belly. Look closely. In Luke 1:44, Elizabeth said, "As soon as the sound of your greeting (Mary) reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy." Scripture goes on to say, "His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: 'Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come to His people and redeemed them." (Luke 1:67-68) Think about it, Scripture just affirmed that Elizabeth, Zechariah AND John were all filled with the Holy Spirit in this one event of Mary being pregnant with Jesus!! It's important to note here that the word 'redeemed', clearly refers to the forgiveness of the world's sins. There is no way to receive redemption apart from the blood of Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12 AMP shows us, "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among people by which we must be saved [for God has provided the world no alternative for salvation]."

In Ephesians 1:7-8, the Apostle Paul tells us, "In Him (Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that He lavished on us." It's equally important to note that 'redemption' was spoken of here in the past tense, even though this wasn't actually accomplished until the death, and resurrection of Jesus. The Greek word used here for "redemption" is "APOLUTROSIS," and it was used ten times in the New Testament (Luke 21:28; Romans 3:24, 8:23; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Ephesians 1:14, 4:30; Colossians 1:14; Hebrews 9:15, and 11:35). This word literally means "a releasing effected by payment of ransom ... liberation procured by the payment of a ransom" Salvation is described as a gift. Romans 6:23 states, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God [that is, His remarkable, overwhelming gift of grace to believers] is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." The American Heritage Dictionary defines gift as "something that is bestowed voluntarily and without compensation" Also, the American Heritage Dictionary defines wages as "a suitable return or reward." Sin has a wage that it pays, and no one can avoid "payday" without faith in Jesus. When someone gives you a present, you don't ask "How much do I owe you?" Your only response should be "Thank you very much for this gift."

Just yesterday, I went down to a cancer awareness event that was being set up by an acquaintance. At one point, the promoter asked me what size shirt I wore. Then I overheard him talking on the phone to his clothing people, ordering two black 2XL shirts. At first, I told the person I was there with, "Hey, if he's ordering me black shirts, I'd rather have a different color." But I stopped myself in mid-sentence and told him, "Never mind. He's giving them to me as a gift. It doesn't matter what color they are, they're a gift." In the old days, I used to refer to those kinds of remarks as, "Thumping a free water-melon." It's no different with many Christians, after receiving the gift of Salvation, they still think they must work to pay for their acceptance. We don't work to get it or keep it, it's a gift! Our work should be a direct result of the free gift. The only acceptable response to Salvation is gratitude and praise to God for His indescribable gift. Salvation is a gift to be received, not a wage to be earned.

Let's look further ahead in Scripture, to John 1:19-33 and read, "Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah." (John 1:19-20) Notice John's testimony continues on to also quote the words of the

continued on page 9 ...

## THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WE HAVE IN APPROACHING GOD: THAT IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. AND IF WE KNOW THAT HE HEARS US - WHATEVER WE ASK - WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE WHAT WE ASKED OF HIM. 1 JOHN 5:14-15 (NIV)

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Brother Wade, God bless you and I really took your words to heart. I needed that reassurance, and I feel better in my spirit as a result of your words. It's been a battle that's for sure and I think one of the reasons I've been under such a strong attack from the enemy is because for the past 20 years or more the Lord put it upon my heart to pray for the Jewish people and for Muslims. I pray as well for His persecuted church. I have a map in my Bible of all Muslim countries and the countries that persecute Christians, and I pray for them every day. After that attack on God's people, on October 7th, I pray all throughout the day for Israel. And since that time, I've been under strong attack from the enemy more so than normal for we're always under attack. But since October it's just intensified! Regardless of the attacks, I will continue to pray for those that God has placed on my heart. - W.R.

I pray that upon arrival of this message it finds you and all the OC+C brothers and sisters in the loving care and guidance of our Heavenly Father. Those are my wishes always. - I.S.

#### PRAISE REPORTS

This is definitely a praise report. At the farewell service of a dear friend of ours, out there, God brought a 'head honcho' from Alongside Ministry onto my dad's path. This gentleman has agreed to help my dad and I in our relationship. I believe that he will be able to help my dad better understand the person that I was when I was addicted to drugs and so lost. The cool part, and my praise report, even at this point, is that my dad has put in to now have visitations with me! Amen! God IS good all the time! - J.L.

Hey Brother, I'm sitting here after a fast and praising God for lifting the heaviness from me, lifting the thing that was causing me to be silent. I have a renewed strength, and my faith has been brought back to the surface. - J.T.

That's great news about Chaplain Thibodaux. I know his wife was not well when they were here in Arizona. Next time you speak with him tell him I love him, and his sermons still resonate within me. He's truly a one-of-a-kind man. I just finished lessons 9-10 of the first Andrew Wommack Bible Courses. I believe this one has 23 total lessons. In a way I'm kind of glad they shut me down on the secular schooling as it opened the door for me to get closer into the Word with the Bible Courses. Andrew Wommack offers so many resources besides the Bible Courses. I've gotten two books so far besides the course studies. A daily devotional and this last turn around a book entitled "Walking in the Spirit". It's amazing how humans will complicate something so simple. Basically, you act out whatever your focus is on. You focus on your troubles, and guess what? Your troubles multiply like rabbits. You focus on the Word and your life becomes less stressful. Run everything by God, what's the worst that could happen? lol! - Foot

I pray you are physically healed and that your Spirit man is twelve foot tall. By the Grace of our Father we are still able to fellowship in the day rooms of our pods and out on the rec field. School is going well, the workload is light this semester, so I am able to help in one of the day rooms on Friday night for Bible study. We will be going through the book of Peter. What we do is read the chapter and then by the Spirits leading I will break down the verses and then we discuss them in line with the Scriptures. I have never been in a Bible study setting other than here, so if there is any advice you can give me to keep the brothers engaged, where it is not just me talking, I'd appreciate it. We just had a worship service outside by one of the tables, and we had a couple of new guys come by and the Holy Spirit was working on them. These men, I believe four of them, were in tears, uncontrollable tears were flowing out of these men. It was powerful! Hallelujah to our Father! They were broken, you could feel them being broken and now they are blessed by the Holy Spirit. - P.G.

I'm like a proud father with five new students that I was able to get connected to the Bible College and give them all applications for scholarship, which they all passed the entrance exam and were granted scholarship. They are now all studying daily learning and obeying the truth of God's Word! Hallelujah! I'm enjoying this post graduate program with the 'Prisoners of Hope Ministry' where they partnered up with the profound author John Bevere, the author of 'The Bait of Satan', the book that changed my life by showing me the necessity of releasing all my resentment towards my father. - M.D.

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Blue



#### Perception By H.A.M

This short little study is for the entire Overcomers for Ofirist family. The topic I'm addressing here today is what some have called 'discrepancies' in God's Holy Word.

Everyone has their own perception of what they see, hear, taste, feel and smell. So, in that sense, everybody could be considered a liar, right? Listen to what Romans 3:3-4 (KJV) has to say about this matter, "For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar."

My point is that all of the apostles had their own viewpoints, or takes, on perceived events. And as we all know, by word of mouth, although unintentionally, distortions do occur. For example, in Matthew 20:20-23, "Then came to Him the mother of Zebedees children with her sons, worshipping Him, and desiring a certain thing of Him. And He said unto her, What will though She saith unto Him. 'Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on Thy right hand, and the other on the left, in Thy kingdom.' But Jesus answered and said, "Yo know not what yo ask. Are yo able to chink of the cup that I shall chink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him. We are able." And He saith unto them, We shall drink indeed of my cup, and he baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on My right band, and on My laft, is not Mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my Father." Here in these verses we see that the 'mother' of James and John asked Jesus for a special favor for her sons. Now look at Mark 10:35-40, "And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, come unto Him, saying, Master, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire. And He said unto them, What would yo that I should do for you?" They said unto Him, 'Grant unto us that we may sit, one on Thy right hand, and the other on Thy left hand, in Thy glory.' But Jesus said unto them, "Vo know not what yo ask can ye drink of the cup that I drink off and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized withf<sup>o</sup> And they said unto Him, 'We can.' And Jesus said unto them, 'Yo shall indeed drink of the cap that I drink of and with the baptism that I am bepfixed withat shall ye be bepfixed: But to sit on My dight hand and on My left hand is not Mine to give: But it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared." In these Scriptures the same topic is still addressed comparatively, but in Mark's account, it is James and John who request the favor.

Isn't it amazing how many believers claim they love the Lord, lift their hands and cry big tears of devotion when they're in church, then walk out the door and treat Him like he is a liar? Of course they don't realize that's what they are doing, but they ARE doing it just the same.

We ALL need to strive towards a godly change of perception, and stop trying to rationalize negative thoughts, actions, and above all, our words. I want you all to know that every once in a while, I submit an article that also preaches to me.

#### Something Has Happened in Me By J.J.

First, I'd like to thank all of you for the birthday card, it was a surprise.

I have stayed out of trouble, so my security level has dropped back to a level 2. I'm not sure what has happened to me, but something has, and this is why. Level 3 is cells, so the majority of the day is locked down. I liked being away from everyone because I shot tattoos as my passion. So, it seemed that everything was just working out that way for me.

Then, April of this year I had to go see my case manager. Going in there she says, "J.J. I'm lowering your security, instead of denying it." I just said to myself, "Okay, let's see where this will take me." At that point all of the stress left my body. Nine or ten days later I'm riding out this lower-class yard. Now, I've done a bit down here before and actually did really well. But honestly, I don't do change very well at all. But like I said, my stress was gone, and I didn't believe it myself.

So, I get there, after not being there for 14 years, I'm sitting in medical when a Lieutenant comes in. It was my old 3rd shift CO that I was a porter for. He looks at me and says, "You need a job?" I answered, "Yes!" so he gave me a job on the spot. And now I'm working for all of the 'higherups', like Captains, Majors, Sergeants and even the Warden! He also told me, "Listen J.J., I'm putting my neck out there for you because of this new record."



I guess I'm telling you this because of the dorm he put me in and the job he gave me. He kept me out of the riffraff. But why did this happen? Is my Karma finally over? Did I pay my debt to society to where I am finally able to have some good luck? Or did I just finally quit worrying and stressing and have just accepted what God is leading me to do?

I'm not sure what has happened to me, but I'm also reading these self-help books. These books came from an old friend of yours. These two things stuck out to me, "First you have to know who you are. Once you have figured that out you will be on your way. Then, you have got to be yourself, then customize yourself so you are like no one else."

#### The Body and the Blood By J.T.

Yesterday we took communion in Bible study. I went through it in 1 Corinthians 11:23-25, "The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way, after supper He took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new coverant in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.""

Afterwards we discussed what it means to examine ourselves. We examined the fact that Christ lives in us and only by that means are we worthy to take part in the body and blood of Jesus Christ. I told the guys that sometimes we still feel guilt and shame about some things in our present and past. We went through Hebrews 9:11-14, "But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, He went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!"

Yes, our past is our past and it serves a function for our testimony, however we are never to let our past get in the way of our purpose, to praise and serve the living God as children who have been set free from the powers of sin.

A few guys asked if communion was only for Catholics. I purposed the question: Was the Catholic church around when Jesus says this is My body and blood, eat it and drink it in remembrance of Me? No. The church as a whole is to take part in communion. So, we used the powdered drink mix from the store list and saltines. I asked God to bless them as the necessary elements of the body and blood of Jesus Christ. We went through the sacraments in prayer and had an amazing study in our little day room last night.

I'm so honored and happy that I get to serve in this way. There is a great song that Michael R. turned me onto called 'Nobody' by Matthew West. I relate to that song so well: 'I'm just a nobody, trying to tell everybody, all about somebody, that's saved my soul.' Thank You Jesus!

#### Are God's Crosshairs on You By M.M.

Dive into Jesus today. Take a prayer walk, get alone, leave work early, don't rush into the next meeting, slow down. God is interviewing your heart, and He waits for you to discover your true self. Take off the fig leaf and bear your heart to God. He already loves you. Receive His love! God interviewed David's heart, and He is interviewing ours. Like a divine stethoscope, Jesus listens to our heartbeat. God asks His questions at the heart level. God is always interviewing us through the motivations and intentions of our heart. God is wholehearted, and He is spotting the wholehearted. His crosshairs are on those who are wholeheartedly devoted to Him!!!

May blessings poor forth unto ALL of the Overcomers for Efrist family.

### Foot's Bible Study

#### Amos 4:1-6:14

God hates worship by people who go through the motions only for show. If we are living sinful lives and using religious rituals and traditions to make ourselves look good, God will despise our worship and not accept what we offer. He wants sincere hearts, not praise from hypocrites. When you worship at church, are you more concerned about your image or your attitude towards God? (5:21-23)

Amos gives us a picture of God's fearful judgment, the people hesitated to speak God's name, even during a time of grief, for fear that they would attract His attention and be judged also. (6:10)

#### Revelation 2:18-3:6

Christ says that those who overcome (those who remain faithful until the end and continue to please God) will rule over Christ's enemies and reign with Him as He judges evil. (2:26-27)

For more about God's judgement read Isaiah 30:14, Revelation 12:5, 19:15, 20:3-4 and ...

Psalm 2:8-9 – "Only ask, and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the whole earth as your possession. You will break them with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots."

Jeremiah 19:11 – "Then say to them, 'This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: As this jar lies shattered, so I will shatter the people of Judah and Jerusalem beyond all hope of repair. They will bury the bodies here in Topheth, the garbage dump, until there is no more room for them."

1 Corinthians 6:2-3 – "Don't you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can't you decide even these little things among yourselves? Don't you realize that we will judge angels? So you should surely be able to resolve ordinary disputes in this life."

#### Psalms 130:1-8

Keeping a record of sins or holding a grudge is like building a wall between you and another person, and it is nearly impossible to talk openly while the wall is there. God doesn't keep a record of our sins, when He forgives, He forgives completely, tearing down any wall between us and Him. Therefore, we fear (revere) God, yet we can talk to Him about anything. When you pray, realize that God is holding nothing against you. His lines of communication are completely open. (130:3-4)

#### Proverbs 29:21-22

Control your anger, for a hot-headed person only gets into trouble time and again, think before you react. (29:22)

"Foot" Notes
Happy Valentine's Day Family!!

As we all celebrate Valentine's Day with those that we love let us never forget the One who loved us first, loves us the most, and loves us in spite of all the flaws that we may have or bad decisions we continue to make. Jesus Christ is the most unconditional One who continues to be with us no matter what we may get ourselves into.

Amen?

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

Vision/Imagination - Part 12 By Wade Anderson ...continued from page 4 prophet, Elijah, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord." (John 1:23) And then, "I baptize with water, but among you stands One you do not know. He is the One who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie." (John 1:26-27) and "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29) ... "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on Him. And I myself did not know Him, but the One who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the One who will baptize with the Holy Spirit." (John 1:32-33)

Looking back in Luke 1:30-31, an angel of the Lord had appeared to Mary and said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Listen carefully: you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you shall name Him Jesus." Right after that the angel gave her this word, "And listen, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month." (Luke 1:36) Then, in Luke 1:37 the angel assured her what we should always remember about our God, "For with God nothing [is or ever] shall be impossible."

In most of the other translations that I looked at refer to Mary and Elizabeth as being 'relatives'. In the King James it literally says, "And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren." (Luke 1:36) So that would mean that John the Baptist and Jesus were 'first cousins once removed', right? Well then, looking back at John 1:31, in two paragraphs above this, John says, "And I myself did not know Him". The Bible isn't clear on whether John and Jesus spent much time together when they were younger or not. Maybe they didn't spend enough time together to grow a relationship. If we are to look at Luke 1:80 (AMPC), it states, "And the little boy grew and became strong in spirit; and he was in the deserts (wilderness) until the day of his appearing to Israel [the commencement of his public ministry]." But the one thing that I do know for sure is, they both knew what they were called to do, and regardless of family ties or not, they both accomplished the vision/mission they were given. The New Living Translation version gave me a better understanding of John's words, "I did not recognize Him as the Messiah ... And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel", could paint the picture that, in the natural perhaps they didn't know each other that well. But, being surrendered of the Holy Spirit's leading and calling on his life, it's easy for me to interpret that John simply, yet wholeheartedly, surrendered and committed all of his ways to the Lord as he grew in his calling and ministry. AMEN!!

John's testimony was powerful, and so is yours! Remember that someone is waiting to hear what God has done in your life. That testimony, your testimony, has the power to, while covered in the Blood of Jesus, help change someone else's life and understanding of Jesus! Many people have a hard time with Biblical understanding, at first. But when they see what God has done in your life, it makes the Word a lot easier to understand because you are standing right in front of them as living proof!

I know this message has gone on for many months. But this is just the tip of the MANY things God has done in and through my own life of obedience. Telling you that I am obedient to the voice of God does not mean that I am perfect. What it means is, when I do hear Holy Spirit's redirection I quickly repent, turn my direction back towards Him, and THEN I'm better able to hear His voice more clearly.

As I close with these words from the Apostle Paul, remember, if YOU have already given your old life to Jesus then YOU have been commissioned by God to share the Good News about Jesus with those around you. Romans 10:11-15 states, "'Anyone who trusts in Him will never be disgraced.' Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on Him. For 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, 'How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!'"

I know it's been a year since God started this message inside of me, so thank you for sticking with me on this journey. Even though I'm closing this message up I could literally, if directed by His Spirit, go on and on with the greatness of God in my life. You have similar stories and testimonies inside of you that NEED to be heard by the people around you. I encourage you all to meditate on *Romans 10:11-15*, listen to Holy Spirits guidance and send your testimonies and stories of God's goodness to us here so that we can share them with the Our comets for Oficial family! PRAISE JESUS!

### What Others Are Saying

"Brother Wade, know that you and your family and everyone 📆 are in my thoughts and prayers, and I hope you all had a blessed Christmas! I'll be focusing upon God's gift to us and no matter what gifts you found under your tree it could be silver and gold with all the precious gems that this world has to offer, but the most precious gift isn't what we found wrapped and under the tree but The One Who Was Nailed To The Tree!! Thank everyone at ڱ for all the kind words that they wrote on the Christmas card! It was the only one I got! 

When I got up this moming, I was thinking about Monty spending his first Christmas in Heaven with Jesus and I told Jesus to tell him to pick out a good fishing spot for us! God Bless you all!" - W.R.

"Happy New Year's to you all, I pray your Christmas was full of love, joy and peace. On Christmas Eve we had a bingo day out on the yard, it was a good turnout, we stuffed our faces with menudo and tamales, praise Jesus. Thank you all for the Christmas card also, it made my day. I thank our Father first for the ministry he has entrusted you all with, and for your service work and your faithfulness to the ministry. I am down to two years and ten months, God willing I will be able to meet up with you all on the other side of these fences." - P.G.

"Happy New Year's to my beloved The comets for Christ Family!!! Greetings from afar everyone! Please everyone rely upon and remember the wonderful Spirit we all possess since our Savior finished the works He was asked to do for us all. Best wishes and hopes toward you all during this upcoming new year! In the very capable hands of Our Lord, we stand. Amen and so be it. Love to you all, Your friend and brother in Christ Jesus' care!" - J.S.

"Once again, I want to say, thank you for the newsletter. It always surprises me when I start at page one with the sermon and keep reading and then I see the initials, J.L. I appreciate that you take time out first of all to read the words we send in our letters but also that they hold enough value in your eyes/hearts to then go and share it with the whole entire O(3 + 3) family. There's for sure growth pains but ah ha moments when you truly walk more on the narrow path, even when we slip because that makes life more real, because until we are with Christ in heaven we WILL slip and yet those are the experienced moments people call, "weak". The thing about that is, like Paul with the thorn in his side ... those "weaker" moments just show us the more reality that we need Jesus. God wants us to be solely depend on Him, right?! So, when we fall, it's OK as long as we learn and keep brushing off our knees. You are wonderful people and I just wanted to share this and thank you for being there beside us. Hope your New Year's is full of light, answered prayers and laughter." - J.L.

"God has been so gracious to many of these women, not allowing their hearts to get hardened against Him. And in that, they experience His goodness through different things. I do try to help as best as I can with walking out my own salvation and not looking at others you know, but they are ready for harvest I know that." - D.F.

"Wade and the entire ocide family, you people are the best! Thank you for the birthday acknowledgement, it truly made my day. Thanks again for the true Christian love that all of you there so abundantly and freely give, all of us. All of you at the overcomers for official and the Living Word Bible Church, will always be in my prayers and dear to my heart" - H.A.M.

"It's good to know that you are doing better. Keep up the good fight! You have to carry on because we all need you and your brotherly advice in our daily struggles against the enemy. I always keep you and your wife in my daily prayers. I am doing good with sober living and staying strong in the Word. I share the monthly newsletters with several people here in my pod. With them we have Bible studies and group meetings twice a week. They all send their love, respects and thank you for your much needed service to the Lord." - I.V.

"It's been a long time since my last letter to all of you, all is well here. I've been relying more on God's grace to get me through my days. I'm not working so I have more time to read the Bible and see Christian TV. Plus, using the tablet allows me to do Bible studies faster, using the New King James Version and Henry's Commentary. As a matter a fact, I searched out the word 'grace' and read all 194 verses that came up. Say hi to David, I met him 13 years ago at the LA County Jail, and through meeting him I've been an Overcomers for Official family member since then." - R.R.

Quote Worthy

"Life is a series of new beginnings. Embrace each one with courage."

 Roy T. Bennett – (1939 – 2014) an American attorney, CPA, and political executive who was the chairman of the Ohio Republican Party from 1988-2009 and 2012-2013.

#### WORD OF THE MONTH

#### Irenic

Pronunciation - ire·nic ī- re-nik

Adjective - favoring, conducive to, or operating toward peace, moderation, or conciliation

"The former senator's irenic nature made her an ideal candidate to be a foreign ambassador."

Did You Know ... In Greek mythology, Eirene was one of the Horae, the goddesses of the seasons and natural order, in the Illiad the Horae are the custodians of the gates of Olympus. According to the Greek poet Hesiod, the Horae were the daughters of Zeus and a Titaness names Themis, and their names indicate their function and relation to human life. Eirene was the goddess of peace. Her name is also the Greek word for 'peace', and it gave rise to irenic and other peaceable terms including irenics, and the name Irene.

#### Did You Know?

After translating Leo Tolstoy's "Letter to a Hindu", Mohandas Gandhi began a regular correspondence with the novelist that lasted from October 1909 until Tolstoy's death in November 1910.

### Joke of the Month

New research suggests that towels are a leading cause of dry skin.

ATTENTION ATTENTION **Editor's Note** ATTENTION ATTENTION

Hello everyone! We are working with Andrew Wommack Ministries, Charis Bible College, to have their books and Inmate Bible Study (IBS by mail) available to ALL of you that are currently incarcerated. This is FREE of charge! Each month when you write they will ship your requested book, FREE!

To obtain these materials in either English or Spanish you simply need to write: Andrew Wommack Ministries - P.O. Box 3333 Colorado Springs, CO 80934-3333 and begin to grow even deeper in your relationship with the Lord. Get started today, your walk will never be the same!

#### Living Word Bible Church Locations

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## Ministry Tithes & Offerings Here is how you can give to the Opercomers for Official ministry:

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

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

#### Little Princess By W.R.

It's good to know that the things that we've written will be shared with others after we're gone, and I always look forward to your writings and the messages that they convey. I'm so thankful that I started receiving the newsletter again. I've enclosed this poem, God bless you.

I have no castle to give you and no fuzzy teddy bears, And I have no pretty ribbons to place upon your hair. But if I were a magician, if I could make all wishes come true, I would build you a castle and crown your hair with jewels.

I would give you a kingdom if you so desired, place rings upon your fingers and surround you with flowers.

And if I were a poet, if I could write a song, I would write about kingdoms and castles And place you upon its throne!

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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