## "Letter From M.O.M."

The <u>Monthly</u> newsletter of <u>Moving On Ministry</u> WWW.MovingOnMinistry.COM http://PrisonMinistry.net/MovingOn Volume 19 – December 2006

#### "I Can Only Imagine"

It is hard to imagine that this ministry has been developing for over four years. New facilities have opened up to us, as well as getting correspondence from many states and foreign countries.

Watch our websites www.MovingOnMinistry.com

http://PrisonMinistry.net/MovingOn

#### Addresses to contact our Ministry Volunteers

Moving On Ministry Chaplain Bob P.O. Box 6667 Visalia. CA. 93290

Moving On Ministry Spanish Volunteer Linda P.O. Box 6667 Visalia CA. 93290

Brother Robert Post Office Box 4056 Visalia, CA 93278

Moving On Ministry Women's Ministry P.O. Box 6667 Visalia CA. 93290

#### Addresses to contact other Ministry Volunteers

WRT Prison Ministry 4380 Concord Blvd. Concord, CA 94520

Christian Pen Pals PO Box 2112 Statesville, NC 28687

Church Behind The Wall 3737 So Akers Visalia, CA. 93277

Inside the Wall Ministry PO BOX 1561 Rancho Cordova, CA. 95741

Inmate Penpal Connection Po Box 73 Syracuse, NY 13206-0073

Prisoner Support Network Ministry P.O. Box 4 Richmond, IL 60071

Jesus' Prayer Ministry Sis Denise P.O. Box 12132 Palm Desert, CA 92255

#### **Intentions & Wishes**

The intentions of this newsletter are to allow an understanding of jail & prison ministries. It is our intentions to get input from those incarcerated as well as those "free" to visit. Life experiences of the faith and fellowship from those locked up in the facilities are always desired to let others know of the value of "visitation". I am certain that each of us have many stories of the miracles God has done in our lives.

Our wishes are that we would have a list of supportive churches that individuals might look forward to attending once released.

A list of services, such as housing, employment, and counseling services, as well as some individuals available for friendly fellowship are also much needed items.

God's Word says if a man stumbles, how can he continue lest there be another to help him up. Ecc. 4:10 "For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him [that is] alone when he falleth; for [he hath] not another to help him up." Proverbs 24:17 "Rejoice not when thy enemy falleth, and let not thy heart be glad when he stumbleth:" John 11:10 "But if a man walketh in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him."

Please help us with input for this newsletter as we strive to serve God. We appreciate any articles or input.

#### **Fellowship**

We would like to keep a listing of locations for fellowship that welcomes previous incarcerated individuals. We previously listed 51 churches that are supportive. We would like follow up on these churches to see if they are supportive, as well as letting us know of others available. We also cherish letters from inmates or relatives to the churches to let us know how we are doing

If you would like a church added, or have concern on one that is not supportive, please contact us.

Be **Super** in something; Something that counts.

It is not how big the dog is in the fight; It is how big the fight is in the dog! **Remember; "He that is within us is** greater than he that is in the world."

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) – "God has given gifts to each of you from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you."

Your spiritual gift is what you would do for "free" if you did not have to work.

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#### Letters that Express it All

These are actual quotes from some of the different incarcerated individuals. The names have been removed. Our first newsletter went out October 2003. These are copies of many of the letters received. If one of these letters is yours, let us know how you are doing now.

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#### Reminder

I'm a reminder to you, no matter how you feel out there, just think of me and where I'm at.

I'm one thing that shows you proof that there are people who wish they were where you are with God, wishing that they were in your shoes.

No matter how bad things may seem, God should be your strength to get you through it. If you are doing well and things are going good, praise God!

If that's not enough, remember where I'm at, remember the cell, the metal bunk and the steel bars, lying down wishing for your freedom. Do you remember those times?

Why do I ask this? Because they are still here waiting for you to return.

You have made a choice to walk with God and as long as you believe in Him and trust Him your life will be easier and better and a place like this will only be a memory!

We all wonder if we will ever see those beautiful gates of Heaven and wear those wonderful wings as well as play the golden harps. You are on your way, but you must keep the faith and continue to believe.

Just look at me, I'm not handsome like some. I'm in a place created by man, a place you once knew real well. Yea, I'm in a living "Hell!" Yet I'm free for I believe that God gave His only begotten Son for my sins, so I may sit here with doomed men who call me "bro" or "homie" but my true friend is Jesus Christ who will always be there for me no matter if I make a mistake or stumble along my way. I only have to pray!

He will hear me and lighten my way, my life is better and easier going down my road but my trials or hardships are far from over. Every day Satan tries to have his way but my Lord is there to stand in his way!

I'm very grateful for those who helped me, Chaplain Bob and the rest of them never gave up on me. And look at me, I'm helping to "plant the seed" (as chaplain Bob says) in others lives, Something I thought I would never be doing.

#### SW

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Thank you for responding to my letter, it is a real joy to know there are fellow Christians out there fighting the real fight and making sure we on the inside are being looked after. You can not know how much of a struggle it is to keep the faith and do God's work from within these walls.

I read your introductory letter as well as your newsletter from M.O.M. and was very impressed at how much support there was for people in my situation (see the lists in this volume).

VF

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#### **Changing Affiliation**

Hello friend. Here I am sending you these lines with both prayers and thanks. Let me say that the "Dream Seeker" family in the last volume I read (volume 17) are truly blessed. I enjoyed it. I wanted to share something that you hadn't known. I'm not sure if I told you, I am in the hole! I've been here since July 17<sup>th</sup>. You see Bob, there was a part of my life that was a little hard for me to let go. Mainly because I didn't know how, due to the severe repercussions it involved. It was my affiliation. Even though I continued to walk with the Lord, this part of my life was still there through past reputation and certain "rules." In county jail, it wasn't a problem because many people knew and respected that I was serving God. However, prison is a different matter. There are different priorities here and the devil was using them to try and alter my walk with God. I had been praying to God about this for a long, long time and suddenly this need had intensified! I always had something of fear as to what's going to happen if I tried to get out. I'd seen it with others many times and it was always a critical outcome. Well on July 15<sup>th</sup> when I was at church, the guest speaker said he didn't have a clue of what to speak about because he didn't have a clue of what to speak about because he didn't have time to prepare. As he began to pray, he said God was tugging his heart toward Job because struggles during hard times. God used him to speak a direct message to me. Almost like this speaker had been watching my life in a movie and knew what I was facing. When he said, "Don't be afraid no more! God sent me here to tell you today, if you trust in Him, He will deliver you safely because He is with you." I almost busted out in

an uncontrollable balling, but I fought hard to hold it in. After church, the message kept playing over and over in my head but I still had fear. I prayed for God to give me the strength to overcome this fear and help me to do this. The next day I conversed with God about this the whole day and ended my night with, "I'm going to trust you no matter how I feel, in the morning we will do this." A while later an officer came with a ducate for medical for me in the morning. I knew God was opening the door that He knew I didn't know how to. The next day, all the same feelings, fear came flooding in but I made a promise and I've always tried to be a man of my word, especially to God! It was tough but I held my guns and by the end of the day, I was in the hole, safe and overwhelmed with peace and joy. After that, I saw nine other gentlemen do the same thing. Maybe not for the same reasons, but nonetheless, to change their lives. God broke down the last barrier between us. On Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, I had surgery to remove hardware on my right ankle. I'm still on crutches but I can already move my foot more than I could for the past three years and when I'm healed, I'll be able to run. I can't wait!

Also, my wife tells me she is trying to walk with God. Who would of thought, going to the hole could get so good? I'm waiting to be transferred, any day now actually. Pleasant Valley or Corcoran, but only God really knows, huh? Well Bob, I just wanted to share this with a friend. It's great that those squares are getting filled with more outreaches (the boxes on the newsletter that lists ministries). God Bless you and yours, until next time. **GG** 

#### **NOTES and COMMENTS**

When Satan reminds you of your past, remind him of his future.

God accepts you where you are, but loves you too much to leave you there.

#### **Need for Change**

... Keep doing what you have been doing, and you will keep getting what you have been getting.

#### Conversion

Conversion is the wiping of the slate clean so a new process can "start."

#### Replenishing

God's Word promises to restore the years of the locust, or more simply the years previously lost. Joel 2:25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

#### **Salvation**

It is a "point" followed by a "process."

#### **The Fight**

It is not how big the dog in the fight; It is how big the fight in the dog!

Believe in Election Share like Freewill Stop before Persuasion

God, be Lord of what is left of my life

#### **Recommended Reading**

For the new Christian, or the individual desiring to know God, we would like to recommend the following reading:

**The Gospel of John** – This is a great introduction of Christ's walk on Earth.

**The Book of Romans** – This gives an introduction of many of the Bible stories shared and helps build familiarity of Christ's plan for our lives.

**The Purpose Driven Life** by Rick Warren – 40 chapters will change your life in 40 days

**Book of Proverbs** – Read one chapter a day with the chapter read being the day of the month. This will allow the book to be read almost 12 times thru the year.

**Ephesians 4** – **6** – This gives the pattern for life that we should live. All 7 S's are displayed in these 3 chapters. We are given the purpose of the gifts, changing our character, husband/wife/family relationships, and the type of life we are to live and display.

**Men's Relational Toolbox** – Another fine work by Gary Smalley with both of his sons adding to this book. This book avoids "male bashing" but rather teaches men to use and modify the inner tools they have to improve their relationships.

**Prayer of Jabez** – A truly fine first book from Bruce Wilkerson. This short book will change your mind about being disobedient to God by not taking care of people in need

#### **Needs after Release**

Individuals being released from incarceration have the same common needs of all individuals. There is a need of self-respect and self esteem. Many have a need of housing. Most are coming back looking for employment. Some are facing classes for AA, NA, or Domestic Violence. Some need to enroll in educational or vocational programs. Most would appreciate someone to just talk to or have a mentor. Fellowship with the right people is ALWAYS needed. For many these are totally new expectations and experiences.

One inmate expressed wonderfully the problem of being released. He stated that everything is slow to happen while incarcerated. It seems like an eternity as you wait for your next transfer or assignment. You feel like you are running at 5 miles per hour. Then, when released to the world, you are put into an environment that is running at 200 miles per hour. This drastic change of environments tends to overcome individuals and they have a hard time adapting. We hear of transitions from one area to another in each of our lives. Someone to just talk with about the feelings and changes the individuals are going thru is a great healer. The Bible says that each of us should be a "brother" to help the other one up when he falls. Other scripture talks about "sticking closer than a brother" we can often help with sharing life experiences or just listening to someone in need. We don't always have to solve the problems, but many times need to just "lend an ear" so that someone might share their needs or hurts with us. Many men have heard from their wives "I don't want you to fix it, just listen". We need to just listen.

#### **Sharing Your Testimony**

There are 4 parts to an individual's testimony;

- 1. What my life was like before I met Jesus
- 2. How I realized I needed Jesus
- 3. How I committed my life to Jesus
- 4. The difference Jesus has made in my life.

But in reality, those who believe in Jesus have the testimony of God in them; Each of us needs to periodically share our testimony with others. The importance is not what you have done, but what God is doing.

- 1. Your testimony;
- 2. Your life lessons
- 3. Your godly passions
- 4. the Good News

#### God will make all things new What are some things I should finish once I start?

"For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ." Hebrews 3:14

# New life in Christ. We must maintain the confident faith we had when we first believed.

Scripture is from the New Living Translation (Tyndale House Publishers, 1996).

#### Our testimony is to give hope to others; our fruit is to give proof to God.

Repentance means you change your mind so deeply that it changes you. It's not just that I changed how I thought—I am now changed.

## Inmate - Prayer / Ministries / Resources Newsletters

Letter From M.O.M. Moving On Ministry P.O. Box 6667 Visalia, CA. 93290

World Challenge David Wilkerson P.O. Box 260 Lindale, TX. 75771

The Banner of Truth P.O. Box 621 Carlisle, PA. 17013

Intercessors of America P.O. Box 4477 Leesburg, VA. 20177-8551

Jews for Jesus 60 Haight St. San Francisco, CA 94102

Prison Legal News 2400 N.W. 80<sup>th</sup> St. PMB 148 Seattle, WA. 98117

Hundredfold Prayer Circle P.O. Box 553 Ramona, CA 92065-0553

Lifers for Christ P.O. Box 2530 Escondido, CA 92033-2530 Christian Motorcyclist Assoc. P.O. Box 9 Hatfield, Ark. 71945

Herald of his Coming Gospel Revivals P.O. Box 279 Seelyville, IN 47878

J.A.R. Ministry 7080 Webster St. Bay St. Louis, MS 39520-8000

Inheritance Publishers P.O. Box 1334 Grand Rapids, MI 49501

Coalition for Prisoners Rights P.O. Box 1911 Santa Fe, NM 87504

Freedom Press P.O. Box 4458 Leesburg, VA 22075

International Cure P.O. Box 2310 Washington, DC 20013

Kenyon's Gospel Publishing P.O. Box 973 Linwood, WA. 98046-0973 Brother's Keeper Ministries P.O. Box 302014 Escondido, CA 92030

Bill of Rights for Prisoners ACLU 125 Broad St. 18 Floor NY, NY 10004-2402

Lifeline Prison Ministry Barry & Arlene Wilburn P.O. Box 1070 Taylor, MI 48180

Glory to God Ministry P.O. Box 121 1242 State Ave. Ste. 1 Marysville, WA 98270

Paraklesis International Ministry P.O. Box 90388 Houston, TX 77290

Save Jerusalem Mike Evans P.O. Box 827 Thornburg, VA 22565-0827

Hope Aglow Ministries P.O. Box 10157 Lynchburg, VA 24506

Inside Out Prison Ministry Nick the Greek P.O. Box 29040 Cleveland, OH 44129-0040 Jesus People Info Center 4338 Third Ave. Sacramento, CA. 95817

Nat'l Legal Aid & Defender Assoc. 1625 K St NW #800 Washington, DC 20006

In His Grip Ministry RT 1, Box 257E Crescent City, FL 32112

Native American Resources Network P.O. Box 1417 Castle Rock, CO. 80104

Convicts for Christ P.O. Box 117 Chino, CA 91708-1117

Freedom Press P.O. Box 4458 Leesburg, VA 22075

American Friends Prisoners Visitation & Support 1501 Cherry St. Philadelphia, PA 19102

Kingdom Harvest Ministries P.O. Box 4611161 Escondido, CA 92046-1161

Point Man Int'l Ministry P.O. Box 339 Sheridan, MI 48884 Abounding Love Ministry P.O. Box 425 Jackson, CA 95642

TD Jakes Prison Ministry P.O. Box 5390 Dallas, TX 75208

Joe Donato Ministry P.O. Box 16373 Fresno, CA 93755

Free-God Bless You Alfred Mira 1318 Commonwealth Boston, MA 02134 Crossroads Prison Min. Nick & Gretchen P.O. Box 1000 Bristol, PA 19007

Sword of the Lord Pub. P.O. Box 1099 Murfreesboro, TN 371

#### National Legal Assistance

Point Man Int'l Ministry Chuck Dean P.O. Box 68065 Seattle, WA. 98168

Mission of Faith Chaplain Dugdale 20112 NE Del Fel Place Ridgefield, WA 98542

Paul Hughes POW/MIA-Crossfire P.O. Box 535 Sharon, TN 38255-0535

Justice Denied P.O. Box 68911 Seattle, WA 98168 Western Prison Project (male rape in prison) P.O. Box 40085 Portland, OR 97240

Nat'l Lawyers Guild / Prison Law Project 558 Cap St. San Francisco, CA 94110

So. IL Univ. Press P.O. Box 3697 Carbondale, IL 62902-3697

Chicano Awareness Center 4825 S. 24<sup>th</sup> St. Omaha, NE 68107-2704 Coalition for Prisoners Rights P.O. Box 1911 Santa Fe, NM 87504

Justice Watch 1120 Garden St. Cincinnati, OH 45213

Middle Ground Prison Reform C/O Donjna Hamm 139 E. Encanto Dr. Tempe, AZ 85281

Prison Activist Resource Center P.O. Box 339 Berkley, CA 94701

US Dept of Justice Civil Rights Division 10<sup>th</sup> St.Pensylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20503

Human Rights Watch 350 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. 34<sup>th</sup> Floor NY, NY 10118-3299 Legal Aid Society – Prisoner's Rights Project 90 Church St. NY, NY 10007

Prison Watch 972 Broad St – 18<sup>th</sup> Floor Newark, NJ 07102

Justice Denied Fla/Wa G Boatman, JD Mail team P.O. Box 1106 Cornville, AZ 86325

The Innocence Project Cardoza Law School 55 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. NY, NY 10003 (DNA Cases)

Prison Assistance Box 6891 Albony, NY 12208

Prisoners Legal News P.O. Box 1684 Lake Worth, FL 33460

#### **Magazines**

The Word of Faith Kenneth Hagin P.O. Box 50126 Tulsa, OK 74150

Cornerstone Publishing P.O. Box 609 Graham, WA 98338 Victory Believers Kenneth Copeland Ft. Worth, TX 76192-0001

Jesse Duplantis Ministry P.O. Box 2068 Hammond, LA 70404-2068 Life in the Word Joyce Meyer P.O, Box 655 Fenton, MO 63026-0655

Stop Prison Rape

Manhattanville, NY

Mexican/American

634 N. Spring St. 11th

Los Angeles, CA 90014

Jewish Prisoner Services

Seattle, WA 98145-1840

P.O. Box 2173

10027-8817

Legal Defense

Floor.

Int'l

**Education Fund** 

P.O. Box 85840

Amnesty Int'l

NY, NY 10001

322 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Creflo Dollar Ministries P.O. Box 490124 College Park, GA 30349

#### **Bible Studies**

Exodus Prison Ministry P.O. Box 6363 Lubbock, TX 79493-6363

Elect Bible Ministry P.O. Box 462131 Escondido, CA 92046-2131

Rhema Bible Studies Kenneth Hagin P.O. Box 50126 Tulsa, OK 74150

Set Free Prison Ministry P.O. Box 5440 Riverside, CA 92517-9986

Ten Mile Bible School P.O. Box 85 Burlington, KY 41005 The Prison Web Box 6 Middlesex, NJ 08840

Crossroad Bible Institute P.O. Box 900 Grand Rapids, MI 49509-0900

Back to the Bible P.O. Box 82808 Lincoln, NE 68051

Marilyn Hickey P.O. Box 17350 Denver, CO 80217

Source of Light Ministry 1011 Mission Rd. Madison, GA 30650

Bearen Publications P.O. Box 38 Elk Park, NC 28622-

#### **Native American Ministries**

Native American Prisoners Rehab Research 2848 Paddock Ln. Villa Hills, KY 41017

Coalition of Christian Native Americans Shirley Frisbee P.O. Box 3446 Scottsdale, AZ 85021

War Cry Ministries Rt 6 Box 657A Pocatello, ID 83202 First Nations Monday Rev Jeny Running Brook P.O. Box 2870 Columbia, MT 59912

White Eagle Ministry Chief Pawnee P.O. Box 931 14440 S. Elwood Glenpool, OK 74033

Indian Life Publishing Box 32 Pembina, ND 58271 American Rehab Minist. Joe Garman P.O. Box 1490 Joplin, MO 64802

Stonecroft Ministry P.O. Box 9609 Kansas City, MO 64134-0609

Steinkamp Prison Minist P.O. Box 2132 Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

World Christianship Prison & Outreach Ministries P.O. Box 509 Ansonia, Connecticut ( USA) 06401

Native Christian Resource Center P.O. Box 7220 Phoenix, AZ 85011

Wesleyan Native American Ministries P.O. Box 7038 Rapid City, SD 57709-7038

#### **Free Bibles**

Christ to Inmates Rev Perry Davis P.O. Box 3922 Deland, FL 32721 Jewish Voice Broadcast P.O. Box 6 Phoenix, AZ 85001 Gospel Express P.O. Box 131 Gordanville, PA 17529

#### **References Bibles & Bible Studies**

Free Leather Bibles to Lifers and Long Terms -

Heart of America Prison Ministries P.O. Box 1685 Independence. MO 64055

#### **Free Books**

Purpose Driven Life Rick Warren Attn: Megan 20 Empire Dr. Lake Forrest, CA 92630

United Prison Ministries International P.O. Box 8 Verbena, AL 36091 Books to Prisoners Left Bank Bookstore 92 Pike St. Seattle, WA 98101

James Gills – Love Press P.O. Box 5000 Tarpoon Springs, FL 34688-5000 Good News Publications 1300 Cresent St. Wheaton, IL 60187

#### **Tracts**

Pilgrim Tract Society Randleman, NC 27317

Gospel Tract Society P.O. Box 1118 Independence, MO 64041 Fellowship Tract League P.O. Box 164 Lubbock, TX 79493

Apostolic Faith Church 6615 SE 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Portland, OR 97206 Gospel Tracts 711 A Wampler Rd. Baltimore, ND 21220

Gideon's International 2900 Lebanon, TN 37214 Foursquare Mission Press 7015 Jackson St. Paramount, CA 90723

Int'l Prison Ministry Box 130063 Dallas, TX 75313-0063

Bible League 16801 Van Dam Rd. South Holland, IL 60473 Bible Truth Publishers 59 Industrial Rd. P.O. Box 649 Addison, IL 60101

Kingdom Harvest Ministries P.O. Box 4611161 Escondido, CA 92046

Banner of Truth Trust P.O. Box 621 Carlisle, PA 17013

#### **Christmas Cards**

Hallmark Cards US Penitentiary Chaplain Craig Leavenworth, KS 66048 American Rehab Ministries P.O. Box 1490 Joplin, MO. 64802

#### **Pen Pals**

Pen Pals and Services P.O. Box 4076 Amarillo, TX 79116-4076

Prison Fellowship Chuck Colson P.O. Box 1550 Merrifield, VA 22116-1550 PCM Blanch P.O. Box 2333 Porterville, CA 93258

Mrs. Joy Perry Freedom Through Christ P.O. Box 120074 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312 Mission Possible Box 836 Inverness, FL 32651 Final Cry Ministries 23165 156<sup>th</sup> Ct. Fort McCoy, FL 32134

Tract League

49544-1390

Bible Helps

P.O. Box 391

2627 Elmridge Dr.NW

Grand Rapids, MI

Hanover, PA 17331

Pen-Pal Connection P.O. Box 2112 Statesville, NC 28687

#### **Aids Info**

Aids in Prison Project Osborne Association 809 Westchester Ave. Bronx, NY 10453

The Correctional HIV Consortium 50 California St. Suite 1500 San Francisco, CA 94111 Nat'l Prison Hospice Assoc. P.O. Box 58 Boulder, CO 80306

Nat'l Prevention Info HIV/AIDS/HEP'S P.O. Box 6003 Rockville, MD 20849-6003

#### **Artists / Writers**

Surviving the System Attn. Traci Lister P.O. Box 1860 Ridgeland, MS 39158

#### **Death Penalty**

Centurion Ministry 32 Nassau St. 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr. Princeton, NJ 08542 Death Row Support Project P.O. Box 600 Liberty Mills, IN 46946

#### **Sex Offenders**

Sex Offenders – The Safer Society P.O. Box 340 Brandon, VT 05733-0340

#### **Sexual Abuse / Homosexuality**

Broken Yoke Ministy P.O. Box 631 Waukesha, WI 53187-0361 The Keys Ministry Rodel Eberle Box 97 Wykoff, NM 55990

Letter From M.O.M. Volume 19

#### **The Lighter Side**

The day has finally arrived. Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven He is at the Pearly Gates, met by St. Peter himself. However, the gates are closed, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper.

St. Peter said, "Well, Forrest, it is certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must tell you, though, that the place is filling up fast, and we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it before you can get into Heaven." Forrest responds, "It sure is good to be here, St. Peter, sir. But nobody ever told me about any entrance exam. I sure hope that the test ain't too

hard. Life was a big enough test as it was."

St. Peter continued, "Yes, I know, Forrest, but the test is only three questions.

<u>First</u>: What two days of the week begin with the letter T?

<u>Second</u>: How many seconds are there in a year?

Third: What is God's first name?"

Forrest leaves to think the questions over He returns the next day and

sees St. Peter, who waves him up, and says, "Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers."

Forrest replied, "Well, the first one -- which two days in the week begins with the letter "**T**"? Shucks, that one is easy. That would be **T**oday and **T**omorrow."

The Saint's eyes opened wide and he exclaimed, "Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you do have a point,

and I guess I did not specify, so I will give you credit for that answer. How about the next one?" asked St. Peter. "How many seconds in a year? Now that one is harder," replied Forrest, but I thunk and thunk about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve." Astounded, St. Peter said, "Twelve? Twelve? Forrest, how in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?" Forrest replied, "Shucks, there's got to be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd.... " " Hold it," interrupts St. Peter. "I see where you are going with this, and I see your point, though that was not quite what I had in mind...but I will have to give you credit for that one, too. Let's go on with the third and final question. Can you tell me God's first name"? "Sure," Forrest replied, "It's Andy." "Andy?" exclaimed an exasperated and frustrated St Peter. "Ok, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name Andy as the first name of God?" "Shucks, that was the easiest one of all," Forrest replied. "I learnt it from the song, ANDY WALKS WITH ME, ANDY TALKS WITH ME, ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN. . . " So St. Peter opened the Pearly

Gates, and said: "Run Forrest, run."



#### **Poetry Section**

#### Life After Death

Visions of love Will reveal a great test, Of the life in Christ, And how much we are blest; Cast your burdens on Him And receive your rest; Live your life for Him, Because there's life after death.

#### **STRUGGLE**

Most people's lives consist of struggling through the day. For Satan's at his best, trying to make you go his way. He'll try to be your friend, when things are going bad. Then he's your advisor when he sees that you are mad. For it's that struggle each day that Satan's at his best. He will question your beliefs, your faith he'll surely test. But you have to be strong, and in your heart know; That God loves us all, so in His way go. He'll get us through the struggles, for it's nothing at all. Just have faith and belief in God, and follow His law. So remember when you struggle, you have to be strong. Walking hand in hand with God, nothing can go wrong! **JN** 

#### **Tears of Anguish**

Tears of anguish Fall from my face. Thank God I've been found For I was lost without a trace Peace be with you, And the Lord's mighty grace; So let the tears flow, And fall from your face INM

#### Save Me

Save me Lord, please I'm crying out Listen to my plea I'm stuck in a place I don't want to be. I'm stuck in this life of sin I try everything I can to get out But something keeps Pulling me back down Save me Lord I'm asking from deep down in my heart With you helping me I know I can make a brand new start. I'm tired of this old life that I live I'm truly ashamed of all the things I did. Things that only you know about It is no wonder, Why I want to turn my life around I'm sitting in a prison cell, Once again doing time. You would think I learned my lesson The very first time. I'm weak Lord, I can't do it myself This is why I'm asking for your help. I need you Lord, I truly do. I know I can do anything If I have You. Please Lord, listen to this tired man's plea I'm asking Lord to please come and save me AM

## **Lighter But Serious Side**

Stepping out of our comfort zone often finds us real comfort.

The following is an excerpt of the <u>Testimony of Karen Foose</u>, as shared by; New Wine Church 1425 S. Brookhurst Rd. Fullerton, CA 92833

At first I saw God as my observer, my judge, keeping track of things I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited Heaven or Hell when I die. He was out there sort of like a president. I recognized His picture when I saw it, but I really didn't know Him.



But later on, when I met Christ, it seemed as though life were rather like a bike ride, but it was a tandem bike, and I noticed that Christ was in the back helping me pedal. I don't know when it was that He suggested we change places, but life has not been the same since. When I had control, I knew the way. It was rather boring, but predictable. It was the shortest distance between two points. But when He took the lead, He knew delightful long cuts, up mountains, through rocky places at breakneck speed, it was all I could do to hang on! Even though it looked like madness, He said 'pedal." I worried and was anxious and asked 'Where are you taking me? He

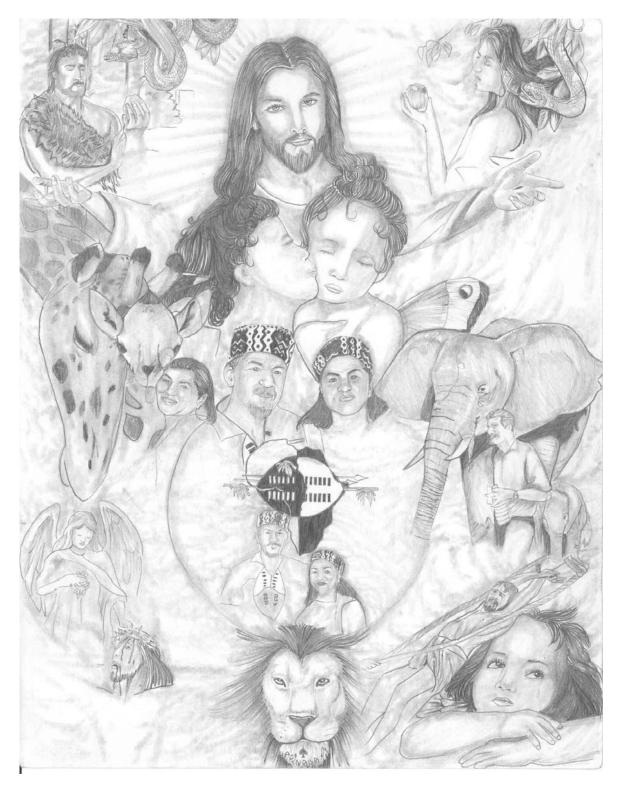
laughed and didn't answer and I learned to trust. I forgot my boring life and entered into the adventure. And when I'd say, 'I'm scared,' He'd lean back and touch my hand. He took me to people with gifts I needed, gifts of healing, acceptance and joy. They gave gifts to take on my journey, my Lords' and mine. And we were off again. He said, 'Give the gifts away: they're extra baggage, too much weight.' So I did, to the people we met and I found that in giving, I received, and still our burden was light. I did not trust Him at first, in control of my life. I thought He'd wreck it; but He knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners, knows how to jump to clear high rocks, knows how to fly to shorten scary passages. And I am learning to shut up and pedal in the strangest places and I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breeze on my face with my delight constant companion, Jesus Christ. And when I'm sure I just can't do anymore, Christ miles and says, 'just pedal.'

**Note from Bob**: Christ says, "there is always room for one more, just start pedaling."



Stop and think how lonely the ride was before Christ.

We are proud to display the following pencil drawing that was done for us by inmate George Aginaga as an Anniversary gift to Chaplain Bob and Linda from Isaac Meraz.



### To My Dream Seeker! (Part 3)

As I sit here wondering of you; the way you look, smell and sound like. I imagine the time you and I are finally together

What will our hearts think, feel like? My dream is to hold you and know you are the soul-mate I have been waiting for my whole life.

Here I sit thinking of you so very much that I'm going crazy with thoughts of dreams.

When we are finally one, I want to be free and take one day at a time with life. I want to be able to trust you with my thoughts, fears, most of all my dreams. I want us to live naturally, healthy, happy, and in love. I look at magazines and know how I want stuff to be. You are my love I have been looking for my whole life. I know that when we see each other for the first time, our love will flow.

There are some questions I want to ask you. Will you wear different clothing, change life style, how about changing your hobbies? If soooo . . . will you wear comfort pajamas, pants with drawstrings in the waist, sandals, walk barefoot in the sand, run through the salty waves with me? Pull me down to the warm sand and show what a changed man you have become?





You are like the cinnamon I taste in a very hot apple pie. Your eyes are like big brown balls of nutmeg. But most of all you're my sweet dessert of every day.



As we walk along the seashore, I want to float away with you where the world will only be you and I and share our love we have bottled up the last 15 years. Here I sit wondering and praying that you and I will be together. Love, the Mermaid

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