

“LETTER FROM M.O.M.”

The **Quarterly** newsletter of **Moving On Ministry**

WWW.MOVINGONMINISTRY.COM (SINCE APRIL 2001)

Volume 99 –Jan / Feb / Mar 2018 (Published since Oct. 2003)

“I Can Only Imagine”

As you receive this volume of **Letter From M.O.M.**, we are continuing with more of the testimonies of “How God Changes Lives” as well as some more of our own written articles. We can truly say that the “high” that many of our inmates have been trying to get through the wrong methods, is being surpassed by those putting God in **ownership** of their lives.

Watch our website

www.MovingOnMinistry.com

We are also affiliated with International Prison Fellowship

www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon

Fellowship

With the crashing of the computer, we are building a new mail list. We got behind on letter replies, and may occasionally miss one. Please write back if we do not answer, and *write clearly so we can get the mailing information correct.*

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 and programs 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 (Resource List).

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.

Addresses to contact the Ministry Volunteers

Keep Believing Ministries
P.O. Box 257
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Calvary Chapel Prison Ministry
Attn: Carmine Aleprete
P.O. Box 1965
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

Otto & Jennie Ball
c/o Crossroads Ministry
P.O. Box 363
Hyde, PA 16843

Set Free Prison Ministries
Bible Correspondence Course
P.O. Box 5540
Riverside, CA. 92517-9986

Iglesia Puerta de Salvacion
202 Lafayette Ave.
Lindsay, CA 93247

Jesus People Info. Center
4338 Third Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95817

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

PRISON PEN PAL
P.O. Box 235
East Berlin, PA 17316

The Felony Foundation
Penpals
P.O. Box 190806
Dallas, TX 75219-0806

World Challenge
P.O. Box 260
Lindale, TX 75771-0260

Little Lambs, Inc
John & Eileen Sala
P.O. Box 32
Sebring, FL 33871-0032

LaVoz de La Esperanza
101 W. Cochran St.
Simi Valley, CA 93065

3 G COMPANY
Correspondence & Freebies
P.O. Box 1022
Canfield, OH 44406

El Concilio Del Condado
301 So. C St.
Oxnard, CA 93030

Ministero de Prison
P.O. Box 543
Live Oak, FL 32064

International Prison Ministry
Bible, Dictionary, Concordance
P.O. Box 2868

Missing M.O.M. ?

We must constantly remind individuals that we need to be notified of changes of address or facilities. If we get returned mail (about 20 each month), we remove that individual from the files. If you have, or you are going to be moved, please drop us a note to keep your file active. We get mail returned for bad ID #'s, no cell #, and no bed #. Make sure that your return address is inside the envelope as well as on the envelope – we get many damaged envelopes that are unreadable.

Letters that Express it All

We like to post real life situations, because God works in real lives and He is the one that gives "Eternal Life."

For those of you that communicate with individuals that have computer access, we have added quite a bit to our web site. The "**Resource List**" (52 pages), ALL past newsletters ("**Letter From M.O.M.**"), inmate lookup links, and artwork are available to be viewed or you may download.

www.MovingOnMinistry.com

I would like to add that we have shared many wonderful testimonies. Many individuals are afraid to share their testimony because they are not sure what to write or feel inadequate in their writing ability. God's Word says in Joshua 1:9 "I've commanded you, haven't I? Be strong and courageous. Don't be fearful or

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.

The importance is not what you have done, but what God is doing.

1. Your testimony Your life lessons
2. Your godly passions
3. The Good News

discouraged, because the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.""

PLEASE Pray that the churches, friends and relatives of inmates would become supporters of this Jail/Prison ministry.

We have downsized the mailing list according to those responding with profile sheet updates

We have also been getting 60 to 120 letters/requests per month. Let those on the outside know of how much good M.O.M. does.



Ron Climer, executive director of Changing Lives Resource Center in Clovis and a juvenile hall chaplain, and wife Carol, with some of the 400 notebooks they've collected as part of gifts for Christmas parties being held at the detention center on Dec. 4-5. This is the ministry's 44th year throwing these parties. JOHN WALKER jwalker@fresnobee.com

CARMEN GEORGE

He was raised in juvenile hall. Now he's reaching out to kids behind bars

By Carmen George cgeorge@fresnobee.com

UPDATED November 22, 2017 12:46 PM

Working with incarcerated youth is personal for Ron Climer.

Letter From M.O.M. Volume 99

4

Jan. – Mar. 2018

The 69-year-old first found himself behind bars at age 8 for burglary. His childhood was spent in and out of the [Fresno County Juvenile Justice Campus](#) detention facility, then in and out of Fresno County Jail, until his life changed dramatically for the better at age 24.

Since then, he's been a volunteer at the Fresno County juvenile hall. He's the senior chaplain there and has organized annual Christmas parties for incarcerated youth for the past 44 years. Another 11 parties are planned for the first week of December, run by dozens of volunteers and funded by 16 Southern Baptist churches via Climer's nonprofit, [Changing Lives Resource Center](#) in Clovis.

There are around 240 children, age 12 to 18, now in the juvenile hall, says Mike Elliott, director of the detention facility.

I was pretty much county-raised. Ron Climer about a childhood in and out of juvenile hall During the parties, the youth play games, eat food cooked by volunteers, and receive donated gifts, toiletries and socks. Climer says for many, the gifts are the first they've ever received. The teens also have the option of learning about the biblical meaning of Christmas. That part is especially important to Climer, who left behind a life of crime as a young man by clinging to a new-found faith.

Changing his life

Climer started going to church in his early 20s after listening to a conversation between two men he knew. One of the men, named Leroy, was telling another, named Larry, about how his Christian faith led him to turn himself into authorities for committing 27 felonies because he wanted to "get right with God" and the people he hurt.

"He said, 'Larry, God loves you just like you are,'" Climer recalls. "He said, 'You don't have to change anything. Just open up your heart and let Christ come in. He'll change you, whatever needs to be changed.'

"I thought, 'If God could love Leroy and he could love Larry, then maybe, if there really is a God, he could love, me, too.'"

I was about 11 when I first started using drugs, but I remember having this feeling that there's got to be more to life than this. Something is missing.

Ron Climer was battling heroin addiction at the time. He almost decided to give up that fight, but in one of his darkest moments, he opened up a Bible instead.

"For a while I sat there and thought about the people I met in church and how they were filled with peace and joy and happiness, and Leroy, how he was. And I thought, 'God, if this is what you've got for me and you're going to give that kind of peace to those people, and I'm full of this kind of rage, take me right now.'"

Climer decided he wanted to overdose on all the drugs he could find the next day. Then he heard a voice: "Put your faith in me and not in the needle and I'll do it for you." Climer isn't sure if that voice was audible or just in his head, but it doesn't matter.

"I chose to believe it was God. So I did what the Scripture said, I invited him to come into my life, and my life has never been the same since."

Helping in juvenile hall

Mike Elliott, director of the Fresno County juvenile detention facility, says Climer helps incarcerated youth find hope.

Some of these kids have never known any kind of positive holiday event.

Mike Elliott, director of the Fresno County juvenile hall detention facility

The juvenile hall Christmas parties can be especially transforming.

"You see some pretty hard-core kids who have maybe done some really bad crime, and all of a sudden, they are a kid again," Elliott says. "We all have to remember they are kids. ... Some are 6-foot-4 and 240-pound kids, but still, they are kids."

Climer sometimes encounters people who don't think these youth deserve Christmas parties.

For those people, he shares a story he once heard about some women who turned a prayer meeting into a gossip meeting about the "town drunk." The women ask their pastor what he thinks about the man's drinking problem, and the pastor replies, "I think it's terrible, just atrocious. That's not the way that I sin at all."

"The point is," Climer says, "we all do our own little different things. As far as God's concerned, sin is sin."

Climer hopes his work helps incarcerated youth become better citizens for society and the "kingdom" of God.

"I love it as much today as I did 44 years ago. It really brings to life what Jesus said, that it is more blessed to give than to receive."

It really brings to life what Jesus said, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Ron Climer Article written by *Carmen George, Fresno Bee*

Letters from the Bars

He said NO

By **St. Michael Balzarini**

I said "God, I hurt," God said, "*I know.*"
 I said "God, I cry a lot." God said, "*That is why I gave you tears.*"
 I said, "God, I am so depressed." God said, "*That is why I gave you sunshine.*"
 I said, "God, life is so hard?" God said, "*That is why I gave you loved ones.*"
 I said, "God, my love one died." God said, "*So did mine.*"
 I said, "God, it is such a loss." God said, "*I saw mine nailed to the cross.*"
 I said, "God, but your love one lives." God said, "*So does yours.*"
 I said, "God, where are they now?" God said, "*Mine is on my right, and yours is in the light.*"
 I said, "God, I miss them." God said, "*I know but worry not, for the second coming for mine is close at hand.*"
 I asked God to grant me patience. God said, "*No. patience is a by-product of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is earned.*"
 I asked God to give me happiness. God said, "*No. I give you blessings; happiness is up to you*"
 I asked God to spare me pain. God said, "*No. Suffering pulls you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to Me.*"
 I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, "*No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make fruitful.*"
 I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. " God said, "**No.**"

It has been a good 10 years since I first met you (Bob) at Corcoran prison. I want to thank you for all prayers and keeping up with me. A lot has happened since I first, or should I say last saw you. I still work for education, teaching men how to read. That has been 11 years now. I enjoy it because I am helping men who would otherwise never be helped. One thing stands out, that if I teach them how to read, they can read their Bibles. That is a joy to know.

Donald Domelle

Letters from the Bars (con't)

Looking for Marlene

Dear Bob and Linda,

A friend sent me a list of ministries and your name was on the list.

My name is Marlene and I've been writing men and women inmates since Dec. 1975; I was 21 years old then. I also write to their families and make phone-calls for them.

I would love to know more about your ministry and receive your newsletter. I realize this is short for now. Hope to hear from you soon.

Take care and God bless you and your ministry.

Love and Prayers

In Jesus Christ

Marlene

PROBLEM: Marlene did not give us a last name, no address, and no phone number. All we know is the envelope had no return address and was postmarked "Tulsa, OK."

Many of you have asked about Heather Layne and hers and Denny's Ministry. Here is an update from Heather.

We are blessed and thankful for each one of you!

-Dennis and Heather

Story behind the song, "**I'll Do this for You**"...

I wrote this song for a friend who relapsed a few years ago. She had been clean from pain killers for a period of time, and seemed to be doing very well. She had a beautiful family, a husband, two young girls. I got a shocking phone call one day that she was in the ER and had relapsed... a life-threatening overdose. We were all thankful that she survived, but she was devastated. I went home and prayed about the situation, and God put this song in my heart for her, which I later got to sing for her... it was such a blessing! God loves us right where we are... even in our relapse. I shared with my friend that just because she had relapsed, all was not lost, especially God's love for her... and that He loved her JUST AS MUCH in her relapse as He did when she was sober. It reminds me of the story of Hosea in the Bible, when God told the prophet Hosea to go marry the prostitute, Gomer. Hosea obeyed God, they had a family together, and for whatever reason, later into their marriage, Gomer "relapsed"... she went back out... into prostitution. She sold herself into slavery and could not get free. Did God tell Hosea, "Go find someone else? She's used goods? She'll never change?" No! God told Hosea to go get her... in fact, pay the debt she couldn't pay herself, and buy her out of slavery... bring

her back again and love her. THAT'S the kind of God we serve! God is able to take our mess-ups, our mistakes, even our relapses and give us a new start. Psalm 51:7 says, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." This is a song about our mess, when we lay it down at the feet of Jesus, He will do for us what no man, no force, nothing on this earth can do for us... He will RESTORE our lives in a way that is incredible, a miracle. We know we don't deserve Him, but we also know we desperately need Him. The redemptive work of Calvary... Christ's shed blood FOR US on the cross... paid a debt that we could never pay... "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"... Romans 6:23... what a miracle. He died that we may have life, and life more abundantly. And He will ALWAYS come back for us, goes after us at our worst, keeps after us until He gets us... and when we cry out to Him, and lay it all down at His feet, we see that He is there, His love unconditional. He never gives up on us, never shames us, or holds our mistakes over our heads... He always loves us back into His arms... so AMAZING! ...Amazing grace, amazing love. So let us never give up on others. Let's remember we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God... (Romans 3:23). Someone may desperately need another chance, a hand up... God's grace through us. Let's be the extended hand of Jesus to someone God places in our lives.

lyrics

© HLT2016 All Rights Reserved.

Written by Heather Layne

Here in the dark place, I built it myself
This prison tied up in lace, I hid it so well
Thought I would be OK, get through somehow
But my life's in pieces

Jesus, have You given up on me?

Here in the darkness a light's breaking through
And I hear You saying, "I've come back for you"
And I hear You singing a sweet melody
A song of redemption, sung just for me
It goes, "La la la la la, this mess you've laid down
La, la, la, la, la, la, la, I'll turn it around

And I'll do for you, what you could never do
I'll do this for you"

Lord, my heart is breaking, it's wearing me down
This life reduced to nothing, can You turn me around?
Show me Your purpose, and I promise You
I'll give it all to You

Jesus, thank You for coming back for me

Here in the darkness a light's breaking through
And I hear You saying, "I've come back for you"
And I hear You singing a sweet melody
A song of redemption, sung just for me
It goes, "La la la la la, this mess you've laid down
La, la, la, la, la, la, I'll turn it around
And I'll do for you, what you could never do
I'll do this for you"

"Cause child, when you reach for Me it moves Me..."

Here in the darkness a light's breaking through
And I hear You saying, "I've come back for you"
And I hear You singing a sweet melody
A song of redemption, sung just for me
It goes, "La la la la la, this mess you've laid down
La, la, la, la, la, la, I'll turn it around
And I'll do for you, what you could never do
I'll do this for you"

credits

from [Heart Songs](#), released September 1, 2016

Engineered and Recorded at the Johnny Mulhair Recording Studio, Clovis, NM

Acoustic & Electric Guitars: Johnny Mulhair

Acoustic Guitar: Heather Layne

Vocals: Heather Layne

Drums: Denny T.

Greetings hello there,

I'ts been some time since I've written. Just got to thinking about you all. It's getting around the holidays you both are very important in my walk with Christ. I can 't thank you enoughregarding the church shootings in San Antonio.....we need to keep the family's involved as they need all they can get. I know also that Chaplain Bob is going through some health problems with Parkinson's Please know that he is always in my prayers. I love you guys....stay safe and sound because the Lord, Our God, loves you.

Always your **Bro Thomas F.** , Navasota Texas

.....

Many are familiar with the 56 page "**Resources From M.O.M.**" that has approximately 650 listings in various categories (downloadable online).

We can mail with 6" X 9" S.A.S.E with, \$.92 postage and \$ 1.96 copy fee, or for a cost of \$3.00. If using #10 envelope, postage is \$.21 more

.....

For individuals being released to one of California's 58 counties, there are internet listings of services and programs available. **Have a loved one print them out.**

http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Community_Partnerships/Resource_Directory.aspx

http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/Community_Partnerships/SearchByCounty.aspx?ct=?????

The areas of Service listings are as follows;

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Adult Services | Homeless Services |
| AIDS/HIV Services | Housing Services |
| CDCR Contracted Services | Legal Services |
| Child Care Services | Mental Health Services |
| Child Support Services | Mentoring Services |
| Clothing Services | Native American Services |
| Counselling Services | Physical Health Services |
| Disability Services | Police / Sheriff / Parole |
| Documentation & Identification | Referral Services |
| Domestic Violence Services | Religious Services |
| Education Services | Substance Abuse Treatment |
| Emergency Services | Tattoo Removal |
| Family Services | Transportation Services |
| Financial Services | Veterans Services |
| Food Services | Vocational Services |
| Gender Specific – Female | Volunteer Services |
| Gender Specific – Male | |
-

Copies at \$.07 per page and send S.A.S.E. (# 10 envelope for up to 30 pages, 6 X 9 for up to 50 pages / 9 X 12 for printouts above 50 pages) Flat Rate Envelopes (12-1/2" x 9-1/2" or smaller): \$5.75, Small Flat Rate Box: \$5.95, Medium Flat Rate Boxes: \$12.65

Postage (up to # pages)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. MOM Resources - - - \$.92 | 6. 50 pages – 25 sheets - \$ 1.34 |
| 2. 10 pages - 5 sheets - \$.50 | 7. 90 pages - 45 sheets - \$ 2.45 |
| 3. 20 pages - 10 sheets - \$.71 | 8. 120 pages – 60 sheets - \$ 3.18 |
| 4. 30 pages – 15 sheets - \$.92 | 9. 180 pages – 90 sheets - \$ 6.65 |
| 5. 40 pages – 20 sheets - \$ 1.13 | 10. 240 pages - 120 sheets - \$6.65 |

The lists are quite large (up to 10 per page) and we try to print 2 pages per sheet per side (copies at \$.07/page); and examples (files tend to change) of County listings are

Alameda – NO LISTING
Alpine – 11 pages
Amador – 17 pages
Butte – 100 pages
Calaveras – 18 pages
Colusa – 12 pages
Contra Costa – 193 pages
Del Norte – 27 pages
El Dorado – 37 pages
Fresno – 89 pages
Glenn – 16 pages
Humboldt – 42 pages
Imperial – 50 pages
Inyo – 11 pages
Kern – 125 pages
Kings – 30 pages
Lake – 76 pages
Lassen – 33 pages
Los Angeles – 584 pages
Madera – 52 pages
Marin – 44 pages
Mariposa – 18 pages
Mendocino – 65 pages
Merced – 38 pages
Modoc – 17 pages
Mono – 10 pages
Monterey – 52 pages
Napa – 36 pages
Nevada – 25 pages

Orange – 122 pages
Placer – 56 pages
Plumas – 22 pages
Riverside – 370 pages
Sacramento – 103 pages
San Benito – 19 pages
San Bernardino – 101 pages
San Diego – 235 pages
San Francisco – 236 pages
San Joaquin – 91 pages
San Luis Obispo – 46 pages
San Mateo – 141 pages
Santa Barbara – 51 pages
Santa Clara – 92 pages
Santa Cruz – 98 pages
Shasta – 69 pages
Sierra – 12 pages
Siskiyou – 39 pages
Solano – 21 pages
Sonoma – 38 pages
Stanislaus - 70 pages
Sutter – 17 pages
Tehama – 30 pages
Trinity - 22 pages
Tulare - 54 pages
Tuolumne – 14 pages
Ventura - 30 pages
Yolo – 18 pages
Yuba – 12 pages

Please note that the printouts can be selected by county and type of resource(s) desired.

Update on Chaplain Bob

Bob & Linda have been active with “**Bill Glass Behind the Walls Ministry**” for the past 16 years. The last 2 years, Bob has been going in as one of the bikers with his 2005 Titan. This year he did **SATF Corcoran Prison** on May 5, **Soledad Prison** on Sept. 23 and scheduled for **Chino Prison** on Oct. 28, 2017

The Parkinson’s has become slightly more noticeable and the doctors are surprised how slowly it has gained any ground. (Could it be that your inmate’s prayers for Bob are being heard?) Bob can still predominately stop the shaking in the right hand (only affected area to date).

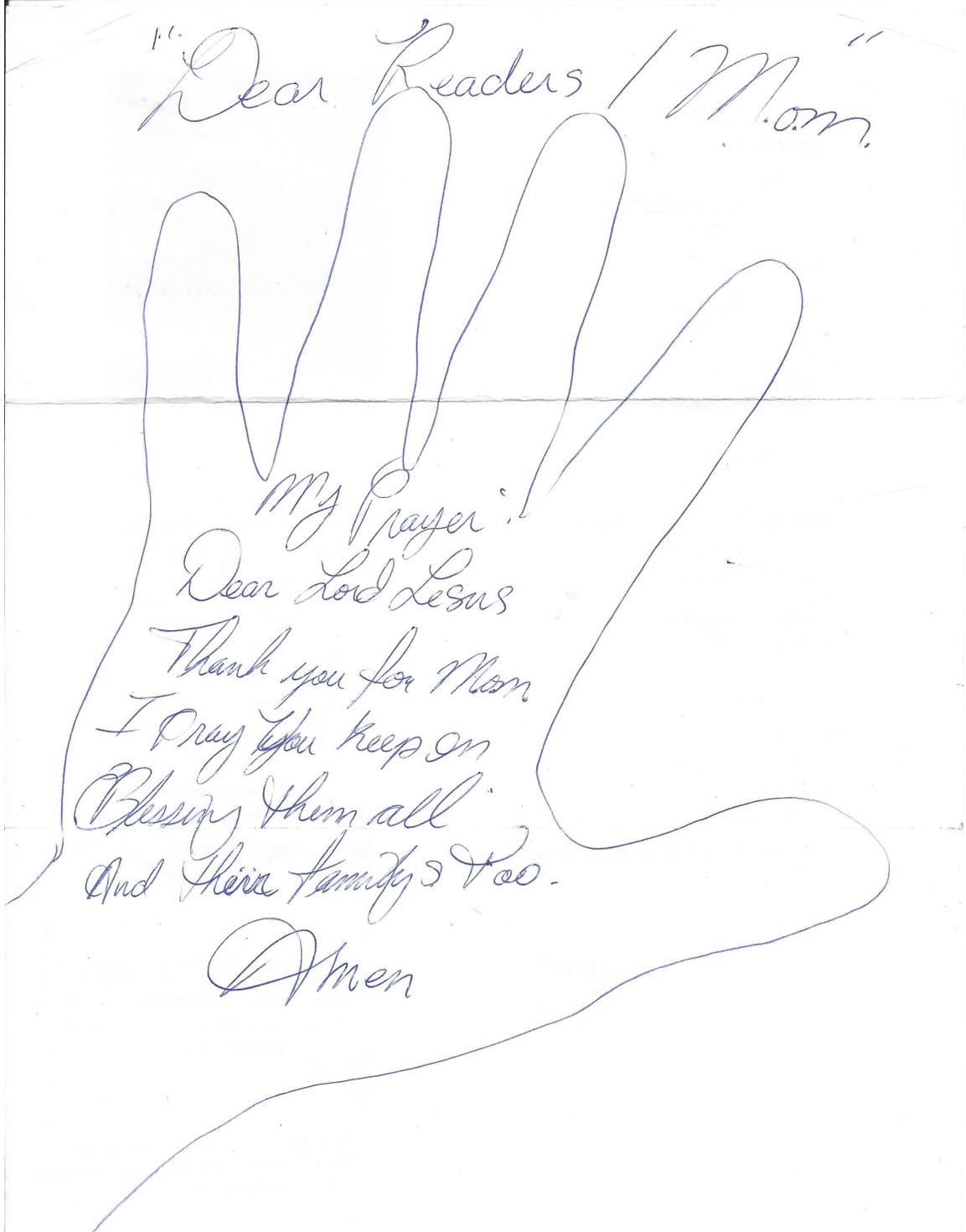
For the past couple months, Bob’s legs have been swollen and retaining fluid. Aug, 26th Bob finally went to the doctor after his wife, Linda, and mother, Jeanne, were trying to get him to see a doctor. The doctor had some lab tests run and some chest x-rays taken, He then explained that the common cause of the symptoms was congenital heart disease. The doctor scheduled Bob for Monday, August 28th for follow-up, The lab tests came back good – Praise The Lord, Bob was then referred to a cardiologist, where he had an EKG, PET Scan and ultrasound. Bob was scheduled for Sept 26th for follow-up results of these tests.

On the follow-up visit to the cardiologist the doctor said that Bob’s heart was in extremely good shape,

I need to mention that Linda and I have received the BEST MEDICAL CARE I could ask for since we were able to get the military medical coverage since I was in the California Air National Guard for 21 years (Aircraft electrician) and California Army National Guard (Core of engineers) for 2 years. Having worked in the medical field for over 20 years, I have seen good care and I have seen bad care. I have been in hospitals that I would not send my dog to. I have seen veterinary facilities that I would rather go to instead of some hospitals, currently we use the **Naval Air Station, Lemoore Hospital** as our primary provider. They are GREAT!!

A quick story of medical service. I had hernia surgery at **NASL(Naval Air Station Lemoore)** and took in a large cake for the Doctor and staff. The doctor asked me what it was for? I answered that it was for what he did for me. He replied “*I only did what I was supposed to do.*” I said “*most doctors don’t.*” At a later date my wife, Linda, had a colonoscopy. I brought in another cake. The doctor asked what this cake was for. I replied that any man that was getting that close to my wife either deserved a drink or a cake.

16
"Dear Readers / Mom"



My Prayer:
Dear God Jesus
Thank you for Mom
I pray you keep on
Blessing them all
And their family's too.

Amen

"BRADFORD" **Luke 15:24**"..... He **was lost** and has been found. And they began to celebrate."

This is a heartwarming story of a very kind security guard by the name of "John" and the almost fateful ending of a beautiful little dog. John shared his story one day as I shared the #97 newsletter with him regarding the little dog that I had found that had been lost for almost a year and was finally reunited with his owner.

One day as John was driving out on Road 63 going out of Visalia he noticed a truck in front had slowed down a bit. All of a sudden he sees the driver's arm shoot up and over out of the window flinging a bundle of fur over to the side of the road. John immediately stopped as he thought it sure did not look right. He noticed it was a poor little Boston Terrier.....and that guy just "threw the poor baby away!" Oh, my goodness how sad. How could he do that???! ☹️ (as I am writing this I had to push my horns back down on my head as I started thinking ugly thoughts of getting my bat an whoopin the guy in the truck, sorry, I am only human, okay I asked for forgiveness, Thank you Lord ☺️) Well, sorry, back to the story....

Sooooo.....there was a lady driving behind John that also saw what took place so she raced after the guy and got his license and drove back to where John was holding the little doggie. The lady already had three pets so John took the little furry bundle. Thank God for John and I do not believe that it was a coincidence. God has a plan and purpose for all. Now John took the baby terrier which looked like a few months old to his home and cleaned him up then got him ready to take him to the veterinarian to check him out.....hmm.... Might as well get him his shots too while he was there. ☺️

The assistant asked John what the doggie's name was? Huuhhhh??
.....Uuuuhhh.... John did not even think about that.....okay.....so...John, while thinking on a name, happened to glance at a magazine that was on the waiting room table for the customers. He then noticed one that said "Bradford Exchange" so John immediately turned to the vet clerk and said "His name is "Bradford". ☺️

So " Bradford " had all of his shots and was taken care of at his visit to begin his life! ☺☺☺

Oh my..... Now John says that Bradford is his baby.....Bradford is loved sooooo much. He has his own bed and toys galore and food and companionship for life. John says that Bradford is living La Vida Loca.☺ Word got around about his new pet and how he ended up with him and a very kind "Deputy Carlos" brought John a blanket for Bradford. ☺☺

Now is that a God story or what???? ☺☺ You know we in our own lives sometimes feel that we are not wanted but I tell you that God wants for you all to know that each individual is so loved by Him and He has created you so special for a reason on this earth. So until the time comes to leave this earth "choose" everyday to live for the King. That's right..... Choose.... He has given us that gift to have a "CHOICE" You will never be the same. Guaranteed! Remember " I once was lost and now am found"



THANK YOU SO MUCH JOHN FOR SHARING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL. GOD BLESS YOU AND BRADFORD.

☺☺

LINDA @MOVING ON MINISTRY

CONQUERING COMPROMISE Daniel 1:1-21

I had read an article written by Lane Palmer. The following message is an extension of that article and one I shared at Corcoran State Prison in California on Sunday, July 23, 2006, during four chapel services the wife and I conducted.

Many of you have heard my wife, Linda, give her testimony. Some of you may have read a part of it in **volume 15** or **volume 32** of **Letter From M.O.M.** Linda talked about compromise and the consequences. She lost her 19 year old son to drunk driving - consequences. But yet she perseveres through the hard times just like the good times.

Those that have heard, or read, my testimony, know that I was living what I considered a “safe” life, but I would have been headed to hell – consequences. I ended up in some ungodly situations with women I had met – consequences. I did not make as strong of spiritual stand with my family as I should have – consequences. I gave into lust – consequences. Then as I let Christ take over more of my life (even today I am still doing the letting go and letting Christ) I saw the better results in my life, my children’s life, and grand-children’s life – consequences. (See the article titled “**My Heart, Christ’s Home**” in **this volume 12** of **Letter From M.O.M.**)

My youngest brother was found dead with two fresh tracks from heroin – consequences.

Intro: In the early part of this century, an American ship was wrecked off the Sicily Isles near the coast of England.

The sea had been calm and the weather clear, but the vessel was caught in a treacherous current that slowly lured it off its course. Before the captain and the crew realized what had happened, the ship had crashed into the rocks.

In life, too, powerful currents of compromise can catch the soul and carry it to shipwreck. Spiritual drifting is usually a slow and imperceptible process. We know it has occurred when we have lost the strong resistance to evil and the passionate desire for truth that we once knew.

Compromise is defined as

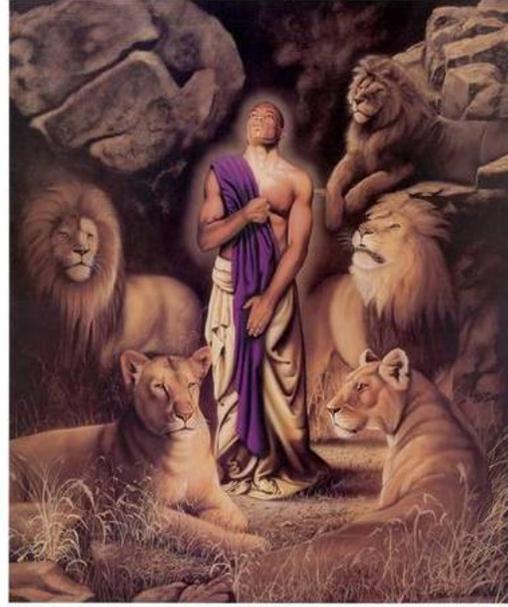
1. a settlement of differences by mutual concessions; an agreement reached by adjustment of conflicting or opposing claims, principles, etc., by reciprocal modification of demands.
2. the result of such a settlement.
3. something intermediate between different things

Often, life is filled with compromises. We are given a choice as to how we will live our lives and what path we are going to follow through life. When we come to these times of decision, it is imperative that we make godly choices. Because the choices we make at the cross roads of life will determine our usefulness to God and our effectiveness in His kingdom work. We look at the effectiveness of the fruit in our life through our children, our friends, etc. Who do we hook up with?



Three Men Invited to a Bar-B-Q

Our text today is about four men who came to a time of decision in their lives. They could either compromise and go with the flow, or they could stand their ground and live for the Lord. The circumstances they faced and the decisions they made set the course for the rest of their lives. Since this incident occurred, the names of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego have stood tall as the names of great heroes of the faith. These three men were not only invited to the “Bar-B-Q” but were to be the Bar-B-Q (which was cranked up 7 times as hot). As the story went, they could not get them cooked above “rare.”



A Man and His Cats

And, what of Daniel? Who would have ever have heard of Daniel if he had compromised at this early stage of life? His name would be unknown to modern man, and we would never have received this wonderful book. With that in mind, it is good to be able to say that these young men stood their test and as a result, we are all blessed this day. We want to realize that we are remembered for only two things, our accomplishments, and our failures.

As you and I go through life, there will always be times where we are going to have to make decisions to do the right thing. When these times come, and they most certainly will, we will either decide to go with God despite the cost. Or, we will choose to compromise. The truths contained in this passage will help us as we face the serious crossroads of life. Today, I would like to speak for a little while on this thought, Conquering Compromise. My prayer is that we can glean the strength that we need to always make our stand for the Lord.

I.. V. 1-7 **THE PROBLEMS AT HAND**

A. These Hebrew boys faced several problems. Each of these had the potential to derail them and lead them off on a spiritual tangent. However, the problems they faced, were not that different from those we face daily in our world.

See how the following four items compare to prison or military life.

1. V. 1-2 A New Home - These boys had been brought up in and around Jerusalem. There they were constantly reminded of their God and of His importance to life. The Temple with its sacrifices was there. The priests and the scribes were there teaching. The prophets were preaching the message of Jehovah. Now, they are slaves and have been hauled off the Babylon. Here, they are surrounded by heathen worship, heathen images and heathen people. It would be easy to conform just to fit in (for the Christian, the danger is just as real). It is easy to be spiritual in church. It is easy to be Godly around Godly people. However, when we separate from the Godly influences around us (how many spend lots of time with ungodly friends/relatives), we are placing ourselves in a dangerous position. We are opening up our lives to the possibility of compromise. Therefore, it is important that we are consistent in our church attendance, Heb. 10:25. It is essential that we surround ourselves with God's people, 1 Cor. 15:33 It is easy to compromise and conform with the world when we are away from the influence of Godliness. Let us examine the music we listen to, the television we watch, the people we

have over, and the things we display in the home.

2. V. 3-4 New Knowledge - These young men were taught a new language and new ways of looking at life. All their lives, they had been exposed to Jewish wisdom. Now, they are being taught the wisdom of Babylon. They are being exposed to things they have never been exposed to before. It is becoming a dangerous time for them. There is much pressure being exerted on them to conform to the new world around them. (The same dangers face the Christian in this world today. We are constantly being exposed to new ways of thinking and are being told that our way of looking at the world, through the eyes of God in the Bible, is outdated, ancient and intolerant. There is much pressure being placed on the Christian community to conform to the world's way of thinking. We are told to accept homosexuality, alcohol usage, cursing, promiscuous sexual activity, etc. However, God has not changed His mind about a single thing! What He said 4,000, 3,000, or 2,000 years ago still stands today! It doesn't matter if it hairlips the devil and if the entire world stands against it, the Word of God is sure, it is settled and it is right! Psa. 119:89; Isa. 40:8)

Do we have a new set of rules and expectations?

3. V. 5 A New Diet - All their lives, these four young men had lived by the dietary laws handed down by the Lord. Now, they are faced with new food. Most likely, this food was unclean, by Jewish standards, and most of the meat had probably been sacrificed to idols. Therefore, it would have defiled these

men and made them unclean before the Lord. (As Christians, we too are faced with choices that run contrary to the best that God has purposed for us. There are decisions about our choice of entertainment, our music we listen to, choices in our personal relationships. We are confronted daily by choices to either do or not do certain things that can cause us to be defiled. Now, I am saved, (if really saved) and nothing will ever change that! But, the choices I make in life can either build me up, or tear me down as a servant of God. I can never be lost again, but I can become defiled and put on the shelf by God, 1 Cor. 9:27. Therefore, it is extremely important that we constantly guard ourselves in this matter of what we take into our lives. (David had a good plan - Psa. 101:3))

We all know that the diet in prison and military is not the same as the diet on the outside of the walls.

4. V. 6-7 New Names - When these young men arrived in Babylon, they came carrying wonderful names. Each name carried with it a testimony to the person of God.

- a. Daniel - God is my judge
- b. Hananiah - God is gracious
- c. Mishael - God is without equal
- d. Azariah - The Lord is my helper

When they arrived in Babylon, they were given new names.

- a. Daniel became Beltshazzar - Which means, "Bel will protect."

b. Hananiah became Shadrach - Which means, "Inspiration of the Sun."

c. Mishael became Meshach - Which means, "Belonging to Aku."

d. Azariah became Abednego - Which means, "Servant of Nego."

Nebuchadnezzar's goal was to change their identity and hopefully their way of thinking. However, it is plain to see as one reads the book of Daniel, that even though their names were changed their character remained in tact. (The world and the devil will try every tactic to force us to fit into their mold. However, no matter what they say to us, call us, do to us or throw at us in life, they will never be able to change what we are, 1 John 3:1-2! We must never forget that we are the twice born children of the living God!

B. As we journey through life, there are going to be constant attempts by the enemy to get us to let down our guard, to conform to the world's standards and to do things we know to be wrong. However, these times of testing and trial can be weathered safely and securely. God Himself has promised to help us when we face times of testing - 1 Cor. 10:13; Heb. 4:15.

C. Looking at the stand these four young men took there in Babylon will help us when we are faced with a crossroads in life. We see not only **The Problems At Hand**, but next we see **The Purpose Of Their Hearts**.

II. V. 8-16 THE PURPOSE OF THEIR HEARTS

A. V. 8 Their Dedication - The Babylonians could change their homes,

their diet, their names, and their education, but they could never change their hearts! These men had decided that they were going to serve the Lord, whatever the cost! It would have been easy to say, "Well, it's all right, everyone else is doing it!" Or "We had better do what the king says." Or "We'll obey the king outwardly, but we'll just keep our faith to ourselves." These options weren't good enough for these men! They were willing to commit themselves to God's will despite the consequences. In the military and prison, we become a number. We are still the same individual and we must separate the lie from the truth. Christians need this same level of determined commitment! Many of us seem to find it too easy to give in to compromise. We need to dedicate ourselves to God and His plan for our lives, even if it costs us our lives! Our duty is to faithfully serve the Lord with all we have and are, the details are His problem, Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 15:58!

B. V. 9-14 Their Desire - In an effort to maintain their ceremonial purity before the Lord, they requested that they not be forced to eat the king's meat. They knew they would be fed defiled and defiling foods, therefore, they requested that they be allowed to have vegetables and water for a ten-day period. Daniel and his friends knew that a vegetarian diet would not defile them and they knew that God would honor their faith in Him. They were willing to put God to the test. It will not always be the easiest thing, nor will it be the most popular thing for you to take your stand with God. It will not always be understood by those around you. However, it is always the right thing! If we will be willing to stand our ground for the Lord, He will certainly honor our stand and bless us.

Matt. 6:33. God's Word says that to him that is faithful in a little, to him will He give much.

C. The whole point of this section of the text is that these young men made up their minds that they were going to live for the Lord, and they allowed nothing to change them or to turn them from their purpose! As you follow them through the rest of their lives, you see they stuck to their guns more than once. In chapter 3, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were willing to die rather than compromise. In chapter 6, Daniel, an 80-+ year old man, risked death in the lion's den rather than compromise in his walk with God. What about us, do we have that same level of resolve and commitment to the Lord and His work? Would you be willing to die before compromising with the enemy? What do we allow in our homes? How do we raise our children? Do we speak with boldness and no apology?

D. Probably not! We compromise in many ways. In our speech, in our dress, in our lifestyles, in our music. They had decided in their hearts that they would die before they would compromise with the world, the flesh or the devil. We need to strive for that same standard in our own lives. There are a lot of God's children who need to recommit (or perhaps "really" commit) themselves to the Lord today! There are many who have let down their guard and have compromised in one or more issues. Others are flirting dangerously close to doing the same thing. It is time for God's children to resolve in their hearts that come what may, they will not disgrace the name of Jesus, and they will not compromise in any area of their life!

E. The dedication of these men can be summed up in 2 words, **Faith** and **Obedience**. They were willing to trust God to do what He had promised, and they were willing to follow Him, regardless of the personal cost. What about you? If you do not want the destination, don't start the trip. We do not need to see how far down the road we can go, when we have no business on it.

III. V. 17-21 THE PROMOTION FROM HEAVEN

A. V. 15-16 Their Experience - Daniels experiment worked! God honored His Word and these men were healthier than the others. These 4 men knew something that many of us never get, and it is this: "If we will do as God says, He will never fail us, even in the slightest way. He will be absolutely faithful to honor His Word and His servants who trust that Word and do as He says. Lam. 3:23; Heb. 6:13-19. Come what may, you can count on the Lord!

B. V. 17-20 Their Excellence - After 3 years, (Notice that they maintained their resolve all during this time!), they stood before the king. When he interviewed them, He found that they were head and shoulders above all the others and that they were 10 times better than his wisest counselors. Again, this reminds us that God honors those who honor Him. This does not teach that serving God faithfully will make you smart, attractive and famous. It does teach us that serving God has with it the benefit of being promoted in His work. God placed these men where He could use them in that day, and He did use them in wonderful ways for His glory. He will

place us in this day and use us here and now if we will serve Him as we should. The key is to never compromise, even in what we think is the smallest of areas! This is not just a day, week, month, or year, it is for eternity with integrity. God's Word says "**Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect.**" Matt. 5:48

C. V. 21 Their Endurance - We are not told how long Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego served there in Babylon, but we are told that Daniel endured, in a place of power and prominence, for over 70 years. In fact, he was nearing 90 when he faced the lions. This just encourages my heart because it reminds me that no matter how long I live, or where I go in life, if I will always seek to honor the Lord, He will consistently bless me and use me for His glory. God is always looking for vessels which He can fill up and pour out for His glory. However, to be usable, we have to be clean, and to be clean, we must learn to never be guilty of compromise - 2 Tim. 2:20-21. God's house is filled with all kinds of vessels. Some are honorable and are being used for His glory. Others are defiled through compromise in one or more areas of life and cannot be used. Which best describes your life? I tell the individuals that I visit, the **CDC** on their pants (California Department of Corrections) actually stands for "**Can't Defeat Christians**" or "**Can't Defile Christians**"

Conc: "A giant 400-year-old redwood came crashing down one day, no one could figure out why. The tree had survived four centuries of storms, lightning, and earthquakes--what had felled it?"

"On closer inspection, investigators found that tiny beetles had found their way inside its trunk and had begun eating away its life-giving fibers, weakening its mighty bulk from the inside out.

"In much the same way, the devil tries to bring Christians down through a steady drone of small, seemingly insignificant temptations. While we are fighting and resisting him in one area, he may be setting up house in another area of our lives. Satan will find ways to creep into our lives for the purpose of eroding our foundations until our fibers have become undone and we come crashing down to the ground. **"Show me a person who has fallen away from their walk with the Lord, and I will show you a person who started making compromises in his or her life long ago."** Are there areas in your life where you have begun to let your guard down? Are you allowing things in you life that you used to think were wrong? **If you have begun the downward spiral of compromise, I am glad I can tell you that Jesus allows**

u-turns! He has promised us that we can find unconditional forgiveness when we come home to Him, 1 John 1:9. Where do you find yourself today? If the little beetles of compromise are whittling away at your walk with God, then come back home and allow the Lord to put you back where He wants you to be. Will you look deep inside and do what you need to do tonight? If so, then come to the lord and allow Him to have His way in your life.

As I was getting ready to finish this article, the Lord said, "Bob, what about tolerance?" I thought, "Lord, what do you mean?" The Lord replied, "If you tolerate something that goes against My teachings, are you not supporting the sinful nature that I said for you to turn away from?" "But Lord, there is so much sin accepted in the world today." Christ replied, "Remember my Word says to be in the world, but not of it." Do as you say, "Sharing God's Word with BOLDNESS and NO apology."

Possible upcoming events

We are trying to do some joint ventures with Moving On Ministry (MOM) and Prison Fellowship Ministry (PFM). Many of you are familiar with either or both ministries.

Prison Fellowship has course materials and needs volunteers to help teach the classes. There are also plans to do PFM's "**Hope Events**," much as the "**Bill Glass Behind the Walls**" events, or M/O.M. 's "**Take it to the Yard**" events.

Some of the **Moving On Ministry** staff will be joining in for the Bill Glass B T W events;

Lancaster. CA prison March 10th, 2018

Santa Rita, CA prison March 24th, 2018

Fresno, CA Area facilities May 4-5, 2018

Update on Chaplain Bob's projects



Putting a Jacuzzi Tub in at Cripple Creek resort (Tollhouse area)



Old pumphouse will come down for dome structure (Have new pump)



Saloon on pier over creek now used as Chapel



16' trampoline for recreation



Targets for archery or crossbow



Fiero 600 had paint job.



F-355 Ferrari replica in waiting line.



Still some water in the seasonal creek viewing from "saloon."

Letter From M.O.M. Volume 99

Jan. – Mar. 2018



Linda's 1929 Mercedes Benz Gazelle replica with many projects

Lamborghini Diablo 6.0 waiting for time.

New carpeting throughout house.

Doing tilework on shower install

Replaced porch and steps.

Getting "mini madness" racetrack back into shape.

Added access ramp to home.

Tank-house will come down for larger 2-story building.

Maintaining Sis Denise's swing.

Camp Clarius (Squaw Valley) going up for sale