

# “Letter From M.O.M.”

The **Monthly** newsletter of **Moving On Ministry**

[WWW.MovingOnMinistry.COM](http://WWW.MovingOnMinistry.COM)

<http://PrisonMinistry.net/MovingOn>

**Volume 20** – January, 2007

## “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://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**

**Rev. Steve Holder**  
**Think God Ministries**  
**P.O. Box 211**  
**Elizabethton, Tn. 37644**

## 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 7925**  
**Chula Vista, CA 91912**

## 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 in Tulare and Kings Counties of California. 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.

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Letter from **Brad S.** included the following;

Brother Bob, the fact that you provide churches who support ex-cons, well that’s amazing. Add my “former” – since locked up, church –  
**Praise Fellowship Church**  
**Senior Pastor Dale Haight**  
**315 Rt. 62 North**  
**Russel, PA. 16345**

It’s an interdenominational church built on the Acts model, into (deep) missions and evangelism, and very, very high on restoration.



[www.WorshipPlace.org](http://www.WorshipPlace.org)

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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. We receive many of these letters. If one of these letters is yours, let us know how you are doing now.**

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### Desire to Return

Jambo Njema Ndugu Chaplain Bob, I received your wonderful letter and as always, it was truly a blessing to hear from you. Thank you so much for the addresses of the places in Africa to write and also to the “Dream For Africa” with Ian and Janine, and God willing, I will write them soon. But at the present moment, this is my last envelope and I felt compelled to let you know how grateful I am for not only your swift response, but also for the colorful photographs of the **Swaziland Special Edition** volume of **Letter From M.O.M.** The pictures really brought tears to my eyes and touched my soul in a real way because I greatly felt the spirit and power of God through this experience. This is not just some conversation piece, but I come to tell you Chaplain Bob that you and your wife are God sent. I would have thought this type of information should have come from within my own organization where I am the outreach minister for P.A.C. (People Against Corruptions), 2802 Martin Luther King Drive, Suite #2, San Antonio, Texas 78220 where I am on the board of directors, but God used you to answer my prayer. God has shown me that I shall return to my homeland of Israel and Africa. But what

is even more profound concerning the Heavenly vision, is that the Almighty Creator had His hand upon you to make a connection. The miracles that the Lord is working through your life is nothing short of amazing grace and by His mercy I deeply do appreciate you taking time out and efforts to reach out and touch this old prisoner. It may seem oxymoronic when I speak to the doctors regarding my desire to return to a land perhaps where food is scarce, no adequate medical care, the water is not potable and most likely contaminated, and where life appears to carry no value as opposed to having everything the flesh needs at the tip of our fingers; sometimes it is mandatory that we testify like **Habakkuk 3:17-19; Mathew 16:24-26**; and this last passage is one of the most difficult for me to fulfill, and that’s **Luke 6:26-36** or **Matthew 5:36-48**. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. AMEN! Shalom Aleichem **DU**

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### Telling Like It Is

Dear Chaplain Bob;

Thanks for responding to my letter and for **vol. 16** of **Letter From M.O.M.** I truly enjoy the newsletter and was hoping you could send 1 thru 15?

Anyway, not many changes to speak of, Romans is coming along, yeh a chapter a day. I still cheat and read more than just one chapter, but I start the day by reading the corresponding chapter so I get to read them a few times.

In your letter you mention the struggle with Satan being similar to dropping out of a gang, well so far I’ve

been doing pretty good, like I've said, I'm very new to this and every moment of every day offers new and harder obstacles. Yes, Satan is hard at work, but by faith, prayer, and lots of hard work, I'm still headed in the right direction, and of course the guiding love of Jesus! I will not give up! I have given my life to Jesus and refuse to walk with Satan even one more step! Like you say, "With BOLDNESS and NO Apology!" Believe me it's a lot harder than I ever dreamed of. I believe I lived a tough life. Well tough is nothing compared to the battle field in our hearts, every moment, every day!

Anyway, thank you very much for your kind words and support!!! Letter From M.O.M. has helped by showing me we all struggle and I'm far from alone! I still have millions of questions but I am learning daily.

**ES**

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**NOTE from Bob: As I read this letter, it brought tears to me – think you will see why as you get to the end.**

### **The Widows Mite**

Thank you for the Swaziland Letter From M.O.M. WOW, it must have been fantastic to travel and do God's work!! I can't even begin to imagine.

I really appreciate ya sharing with me and sending volumes of Letter From M.O.M., it's truly inspiring hearing about your work and all that you do to share the Word of God. I was blessed with being connected with you and I have you and Linda in my prayers.

I am continuing to read my Bible daily and learning a lot! Sometimes its real hard to stay focused with all the madness going on around me, but I can't complain every time I start thinking I

can't stick with this "Christian stuff," I try to imagine what Jesus had to deal with, or about all of the people persecuted, stoned, imprisoned and other atrocities that I can't fathom, and it gets easy.

In my last letter I mentioned reading Romans like ya suggested. I meant Proverbs, I was also reading Romans. I have kind of made progress in a lot of areas and was blessed with a Bible called "Free on the Inside" and it's very easy to read and follow. I've also adopted your saying "with Boldness and no Apology" and my "homeboys" seem to think I've lost my mind, actually I think I found it, we shall see.

I would truly be happy if ya could send me volume 18. I truly appreciate your attention!!! Also I don't have much, no family or friends helping out, so I draw cards and sell them for a few stamps and I was blessed with 10 stamps that I am enclosing with this letter to help out a little.

**ES**

### **Being A Shepherd**

To all my loving Christian brothers behind the prison walls and B.W.D.F., I am one of God's sheep that's behind the walls too and serving the Lord to the fullest. I gave my life to the Lord on June 12, 2005 and it was the best thing that I ever did in my whole life, and I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. And as I am doing this time in prison, I am so free. I go to church 6 days a week and I am in all kinds of Christian programs. I was real blessed to come to this prison because they have the best chapel in the prison system. It's like almost on the street, it's so big. And one of the programs that I love the most and live for is Celebrate Recovery. And it's all over the state of California and it's a 12 step Christian program. It's so

cool and it lasts 10 months. I went through the whole program and the Lord was by my side the whole way. I should be graduating in January and the founder of Celebrate Recovery, **Rick Warren**, will be here. But God is so good, and you know the whole time that I was going through the Christian program, I always wanted to teach a step study group, but first I had to put it before the Lord and ask him if that's what he wanted me to do and I prayed and prayed on my knees each and every night to be a part in sharing God's Word to inmates. On October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, the Lord answered my prayer and it was "yes." Now I teach a step study group for Celebrate Recovery of 30 inmates. I love it so much. God is working so good in my life and he can do the same in your life, right behind bars too, just like me. But you have to have faith and believe in Him and give Him all your heart and soul, and he will do the rest. And there are a few more prayers that my Lord has answered for me. I had a relationship that I lost 15 years ago and now today the Lord is working in both of our lives. As I am writing you guys (and gals), He's giving my relationship back to me, and the good thing is both of us are saved (She was saved on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005) by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ (Smile) and I am sure you guys know her if you have been reading the newsletters from **Moving On Ministry** and read some of the poems of the **Dream Seeker** – that is my wife to be. Bless her heart and soul as I read all you guy's testimonies in each newsletter that Angel Bob (nickname given chaplain Bob) publishes each month for **Moving On Ministry**. He's a very, very big part of our life. He's the best. Without **Moving On Ministry** and the Lord Jesus Christ, I wouldn't even know how

inmates feel about our Lord Jesus Christ. And God has blessed Angel Bob and **Moving On Ministry** to the fullest. I just want all you Christian brothers behind the walls to keep Angel Bob and Linda and **Moving On Ministry** in prayer each and every day. Because the more we pray for **Moving On Ministry**, the more sheep Angel Bob can ask the Lord to save. And I want to thank you all for what you guys say about the **Dream Seeker** newsletter section. She has come a long way, and still going strong. And I know when she reads you guys testimonies, it brings a big smile to her face, and touches her heart. I want to ask all you guys to keep her in prayer and me, please. I know Angel Bob will keep the Dream Seeker alive and also will the good Lord. One thing I want to say my loving Christian Brothers, don't ever give up on the Lord, because He will never give up on you. I know that's true, He's real. Because Angel Bob, Linda, and I and the Dream Seeker are living proof (Thank you Jesus for everything, God is good). Stay in your Word each and every day. Thank you all, I will keep all of you in prayer.

AF



**A mother asked President Bush,**  
*"Why did my son have to die in  
Iraq ?"*

**Another mother asked President  
Kennedy,**  
*"Why did my son have to die in  
Viet Nam ?"*

**Another mother asked President  
Truman,**  
*"Why did my son have to die in  
Korea ?"*

**Another mother asked President  
F.D. Roosevelt,**  
*"Why did my son have to die at Iwo  
Jima ?"*

**Another mother asked President  
W. Wilson,**  
*"Why did my son have to die on the  
battlefield of France ?"*

**Yet another mother asked  
President Lincoln,**  
*"Why did my son have to die at  
Gettysburg ?"*

**And yet another mother asked  
President G. Washington,**  
*"Why did my son have to die near  
Valley Forge ?"*

**Then long, long ago, a mother  
asked...**

*"Heavenly Father, why did my  
Son have to die  
on a cross outside of Jerusalem  
?"*

**The answers to all these are similar --**  
*"So that others may have  
life and dwell in peace,  
happiness and freedom."*

**If you are not  
willing to stand  
behind our  
troops,  
Please feel free  
to stand in front  
of them!**

Also realize that;

**one day we will  
all find  
ourselves on our  
knees before the  
almighty God;  
Some to joy,  
and some to  
eternal torment.**

**I like the following saying;**

## NOTES and COMMENTS

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

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

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### **Need for Change**

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

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### **Conversion**

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

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### **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.

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### **Salvation**

It is a “point” followed by a “process.”

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Talk to God about the lost,  
Before talking to the lost about God

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**The things we learn as a child  
Will be with us all our life  
Integrity**

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God, be Lord of what is left of my life

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## 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

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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.**

## Testimonies

### Not Always out of the “bad”

My name is Brad, and I'm currently incarcerated for taking money to support a very nasty gambling addiction. I was one of those “good” kids, honestly. My dad was a pastor since I was 8, I was saved at 13, and my father prayed with me to receive Christ. I went to Christian school all my life and to Christian college. I received a youth ministries degree and married my love of my life three years after college. I allowed my desire for money and materialism to swelter into an easy temptation to gamble. Now, I'm broke, broken, divorced, and very alone. My father passed away just before I got locked up. This can sound demoralizing, and it has been, yet I know the plans God has for me, to prosper me and return me to the place before captivity (Jer. 29:11-14). He is faithful and just to forgive us. Pray for me, brothers and sisters, as I pray for you.

I would like responses to the following. I'm 32, incarcerated and born again. I lost my wife (marriage) due to my sins and breaking the law, and financially and emotionally devastated her. I'll be flat honest, I want her back! I know I must give control over to the Lord. I pray to God daily for her. I wrote her to ask for forgiveness for my sins and hurt I caused her. She spoke with my mother nearly a year ago, said she loved me and hoped years down the road to hear good news of my walk with the Lord. We were together almost 10 years. How should I handle this? God hates divorce, His ultimate desire would be for us to restore our marriage I believe. I am lost, crushed and hurt. I

only wish she knew my heart changed, for Christ, and other ways. I can't “make her believe with words” in a letter, or otherwise. Please pray, I need your prayers, help and encouragement that God can do a miracle. It's my heart's desire to seek the Lord and the Lord tells us, to “seek Him, and He shall give us the desires of our heart.”

Signed, Missing My Best Friend  
**Brad S**

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### Hillbilly Heaven Bound

I'm 31 now. I grew up in Lakeside, CA. That's in the east county of San Diego. In my town we're all a bunch of hillbillies, cowboys, rednecks, and bikers. I had a typical childhood for the area I grew up in.

My father died when I was 1. So it was my mom and brother and sister. I gave my life to God when I was 11, but growing up as I did, I didn't have the guidance I needed. I started drinking at 14, was an alcoholic at 18, and a full blown tweaker by 19. At 19 I caught my first #. You know I ran around the yard tweaking. I guess I wasn't ready to stop. I got out 1 ½ years later and picked up where I left off.. Between the ages of 20 and 27, I pretty much partied and did my thing. The only positive thing I did was burned my 1<sup>st</sup> #, but even then, that wasn't me, that was God! I should've got caught for all the shit I was pulling. At 27, God finally decided to stop me cold. On September 14, 2003, I finally got caught for something I didn't even do. I was really upset at first, but I made a decision as well. Now I've got two strikes and the way they are handing out time, I decided that was it. A third strike

is not an option, so I started searching for answers and God started giving them to me. Not long after that, I was sent to Jamestown 2 yard. Drugs are plentiful up there, and I have a big car up there. Needless to say, the decision I made was put to a test. Lucky for me, God put my friend there who made me promise not to mess around while I was there. I still went through it, especially when it was put in my face. At this, I did everything possible to draw closer to God, never ending prayer to get me out. Then I found out about base line gap, which is also a fire camp. So I signed up. But that didn't work out either. When they got my achieves, they jacked my points up to 38. Now I'm a level 3. So they sent me to the 3 yard there. That was a trip, whole 'nother world. I was afraid a little, especially when my home boys started talking bad about Christians. But God intervned and hooked me up with this Christian, who turned out to be a best friend. Something you don't find in here. As it turned out, there was a really big, really strong Christian car up there, and I jumped in with both feet. God really started working in my life up there. He/God put it out there for me and I jumped on it and devoured it. Before long I was involved in the ministry and celebrate recovery, and man, I was loving it. Needless to say, that wasn't the end of my adventure because now I'm here (Corcoran). And it didn't stop there. I helped start a sap program with some of my brothers on the 2 yard and I'm now an active member of the ministry here and God started a celebrate recovery ministry here and is using me to run it. Praise God. That's the best part Bob, getting to be the servant God wants me to be. I get to serve Jesus! **MH**

### **Send your Testimonies**

Testimonies are much needed. They help others to know that what they are going through has been gone through by others than themselves. Testimonies show some of the unsuspected solutions that God brings about. Sharing the stories of how God turns about lives, gives hope to those that may have thought, or be thinking, that God cannot do any thing for me or with my life. Testimonies help us to do self examination of our lives as we see God working in them.

We need to realize that testimonies are based on the Word of God, and because of that, they too cause changes in lives and often bring about the desire of salvation in others. We would like some of the testimonies from those on the outside of the walls (released, relatives, church members, officers, probation personnel, etc.) to tell of the change they have seen in others, or how someone changed their life.



## Lighter But Serious Side

### Take my Son

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art.

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands.

He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for art.

The young man held out this package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. "Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift."

The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection.

On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?"

There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one."

But the auctioneer persisted. "Will somebody bid for this painting. Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?" Another voice angrily, "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goghs, the Rembrandts.

Get on with the real bids!" But still the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give \$10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford.

"We have \$10, who will bid \$20?"

"Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters."

"\$10 is the bid, won't someone bid \$20?"

The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son.

They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections.

The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!"

A man sitting on the second row shouted, "Now let's get on with the collection!"

The auctioneer laid down his gavel. "I'm sorry, the auction is over."

"What about the paintings?"

"I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings.

The man who took the son gets everything!"

God gave His son 2,000 years ago to die on the cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is: "The son, the son, who'll take the son?"

Because, you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything.

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE  
WORLD HE GAVE HIS ONLY  
BEGOTTEN SON, WHO SO EVER  
BELIEVETH, SHALL HAVE  
ETERNAL LIFE. THAT'S LOVE



God Bless.

## Poetry Section

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### Beautiful Agony

The most bittersweet misery,  
Helps me to see what I couldn't see;  
Jesus, thank you for saving me.  
Your beautiful agony makes me to be,  
The man you want me to be  
Now I look to things eternal  
And believe the unseen;  
In this world I will suffer  
And feel the pain of great loss,  
My sights are now on Heaven  
As I boldly come to your cross  
I don't want to live for myself,  
Or be held by the chains  
of my own making  
Life on its own terms  
Is now what I'm facing.  
In my darkest hours,  
And longest of nights,  
You've met me there  
And seasoned my plight;  
The sins of yesterday  
Have become victories for the new day  
For if I made my bed in Heaven  
You are there.  
And if I made my bed in Hell  
You are there.  
Jesus, your beautiful Agony,  
has delivered me, my soul to spare.

**INM**

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### Something to Share ?

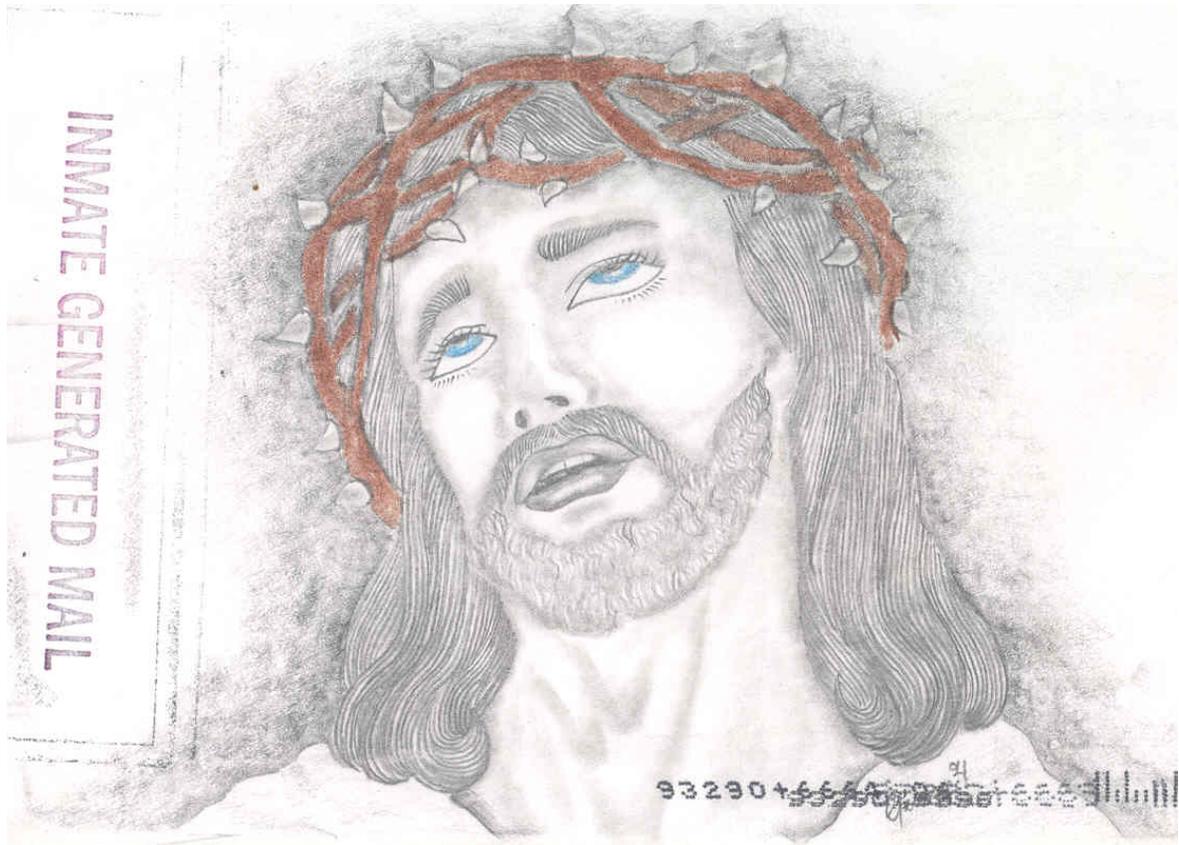
Send us your  
Poems to  
.Print and share

### In Here

Sitting here feeling all alone,  
Thinking thoughts that will never be told  
Thinking of things that used to be  
Of a time I was once free.  
Locked in a cell like a caged animal,  
Sometimes I feel it's more than I can  
handle  
Yet I stand strong and keep my mind  
right  
In a place like this, for my soul  
And my life I fight.  
Fighting against things unseen.  
Fighting against my enemies.  
Both trying to take me down,  
I do what I got to  
And hope on my date I get out.  
Nothing is for certain in this place,  
To survive I got to do whatever it takes  
In here it's not a game,  
No one plays.  
You can get yourself hurt,  
If you make one mistake.  
So here I am locked away  
From the ones that I love,  
All because I did things  
That I shouldn't of.  
I'm not the only one doing time,  
My family's doing it too,  
all because of my crime.  
Not only did I loose my freedom,  
My mother also lost a son,  
To the things that  
Can never be undone.  
I sit in here thinking,  
Trying to make things clear.  
Asking myself  
Why did I have to end up in here?

**AM**

**“Inmate Art”** Drawing on an envelope by George Guerrero, Nov. 15, 2004



Send us your drawings to be displayed to the world and to remind those on the “outside” the talent that lies “behind the walls.”

## A Fisherman's Reply

Mermaid

How are you doing? I hope you're doing real good and in the best of health. Well, first I want to say that I love you more than you can ever think, so don't think different. Well, as I sit here in school, the time is 2:00 in the afternoon. And I am always wondering what the love of my life is doing. And I know soon that we will be together once this long road is over. But we both have to hang in there and stay strong for each other, and God knows all the things we have been going through. But it's just a "test" for the both of us, and today I know that I'm truly in love with you. And I know it's been 15 long years, but I never stopped loving you. You always had a BIG place in my heart and still do, and it will never be filled until we see each other again and I don't care how long it takes, I will be waiting on you with open "arms." When I read your letter, mermaid, they always bring tears to my eyes and a big smile on my face, because I know you are thinking about me, like I'm thinking about you. I know that both of us were still in love, but it was the matter of time for us. We're still in love, but it was the matter of time for us to get back together and I didn't ever think it was going to be this way. But it's all good because the good Lord is working on the both of us and when this is over, we will never be "departed" again in life as you say in your letter. I will cherish you and love you until death do us part. I will do the same and more, whatever it takes to make you happy in God's eyes. And you're right, once we put all this "learning experience" behind us, we will be very solid. And mermaid, I will find and come up with a date and

let you know soon, because I will hold your hand always to heaven. And God knows that and I thank our Heavenly Father for bringing us back together and it's going to be until eternity. I can't wait until I can hold you and touch you, and love you the right way. It's going to be so special to the both of us and walking with the Lord. And mermaid, I want the both of us to get baptism at the same time once we get out, OK? It's going to be so cool. So please forward to that mermaid, God is so good. Well I better close this letter because it's time to go back. But on the way back, I will look in the sky and see a cloud, and see your loving face with a big smile. I will never forget you or forsake you my love. I'm always thinking about you and you are always in my prayers and thoughts, and you will never go away – smile. Always loving you forever mermaid. Love your letters, tears, and smiles. God is good

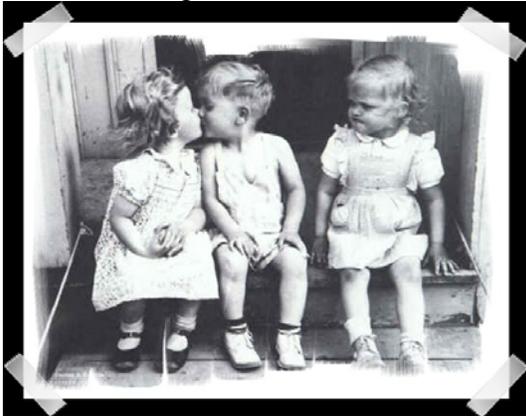
**A Fisherman** (and a Dream Seeker)

**Note:** God has stated "I will make you fishers of men (Matt. 4:19; Mark 1:17). We often think only of the fishing and fail to realize the catch God is preparing for us. When Jesus told the disciples to cast their nets on the other side, they had no idea of the catch He was preparing. The catch was so great, that the disciples lack of preparation caused the net to break. The relationship of the mermaid and the fisherman requires preparation, dedication, and realization of all that is required. Pray for relationships like this one. Pray that your relationship will develop into what God is preparing in this one.

## To My Dream Seeker (Part 4)

As I sit here, wondering what you may be doing. I also think we will soon be together. There has been an angel come tell me, I must follow this road to recovery, before I will be ready to fly on my own. To become a beautiful white seagull of the sea, that must learn to fly in the right direction, in every direction of my life.

Today I have really known that I'm truly in love with a man I left 15 years ago. I often wonder my love what your skin feels like. Or how brown your eyes are? Which makes our love so much more special than two people finding each other in different ways. We have gone our separate ways, lived different lives, and explored people in relationships that has never felt the way that we feel right now.



When I received the special letter of "Still in Love," my tears fell down my lonely face with happy thoughts and deeply knowing the love we share is now reality! "Reality." Did you ever think you and I would still be so much in love? I never thought I would ever be able to love you again, but believe me, I am truly in love with you. As I know you and I will walk down the sandy to make our love a solid foundation. I want

you to know from that point on, I will cherish you, love you, until death do us part.

After we put all this learning experience behind us, we will build a solid home, a beautiful world of love, sharing every moment building a life you and I both have been waiting for all these years. I want to share moments in the sun, the snow, the rain, and the moonlight getting to know you the way two people in love should know each other.

As a result of my love for you, I want you to know that you and I will be walking through that white sand "to become one" in a year. So start thinking of a date.

When you come up with a date and ask me to become your soul-mate forever. I want our Heavenly Father to be our guide, to a world of entirety. Because I will hold your hand all the way to heaven as long as you allow me to hold on to that hand that is attached to the man I love so much.

Our love is so special because our Heavenly Father brought us back together. We have been able to grow through words of truth, honesty, and let's not forget love.

### Love, the Mermaid

