

“Letter From M.O.M.”

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

WWW.MovingOnMinistry.com

www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon

Volume 56 – April 2010 (Published since Oct. 2003)

“I Can Only Imagine”

As you receive this volume of **Letter From M.O.M.**, we have many new writers of articles, we are putting some more of the testimonies of “How God Changes Lives” as well as some 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 control of their lives.

Watch our website

www.MovingOnMinistry.com

We are affiliated with International Prison Fellowship

<http://PrisonMinistry.net/movingon>

and Good News Jail & Prison Ministry Volunteer

www.GoodNewsJail.com



Used to be a Saloon, and will soon be redone as a Chapel. M.O.M.'s future retreat site

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.

Addresses to contact Ministry Volunteers

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

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

Jesus Prayer Ministry
Pas Denise
P.O. Box 7925
Chula Vista, CA 91912

Andrea Shannon
P.O. Box 553
Dover, NH 03821

**Ask for a copy of our complete
"Resource Supplemental Letter"**

For 2010, Bob is doing Bible study at BWDF on Mondays, and some Thursdays.

The Sunday after the 2nd Saturday of each month is Chaplain Bob, Chaplain John and Linda's assigned day for 3 to 5 chapel Services at Corcoran State Prison ("Old" Corcoran). Chaplain John has been cleared and did his first Corcoran services with M.O.M. on 12/13/2009.

Linda tries to go every other Monday to the ladies unit 12 at BWDF.

We are still looking at doing some services at C.M.C. San Luis Obispo, Avenal State Prison, and SATF, Corcoran, CA.

April 30 thru May 2 will be the Fresno area Bill Glass Ministry.

M.O.M. Needs

- Continued tractor repairs
- Pen-pals to write inmates
- Finances & stability
- Testimonies
- Possible sale of Squaw Valley Property (Camp Clarius)
- Development of Tollhouse property
- Development of Nevada property
- Development of Arizona property
- Volunteers for ministry
- Drawings to publish and share

Prayer Praise

The Mom of M.O.M. (Jeanne) is going in for surgery on her rotator cup April 14,2010. She asks for prayer on this surgery.

At 78 years old, Jeanne is picking up individuals to drive to church. She currently is taking two for church on Sunday and Celebrant Recovery on Monday evenings. There are others that have expressed interest in going to church. We were laughing with her the other day as we envisioned the 78 year old Great Grandmother driving a small multi-passenger bus. She jokingly said "I was thinking that I needed a bus." Of course, how many of us remember the story of Abraham and Sara, and Sara laughing when God told her she was going to have a child. Guess that the idea of a bus would be better than the idea of another child as she approaches 80.

Sorry Mom, but just had to add some humor.

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.” Every week we get many letters that state “I love hearing the testimonies.” There are so many, we cannot publish them all, and the sad part is – people not involved in jail / prison ministry do not get to read the many letters we receive daily (average 2 to 11 each day) and we try to keep up with and answer them.

Read the following letters and
“See Why We Do What We Do.”

The following was a letter from one inmate to another. The quotes originate from the following author, but the message applies to all of us.

“... Well, if there’s anything I’ve learned out of all this it’s, that;”

1. I’ve learned that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone that can be loved. The rest is up to them.
2. I’ve learned that no matter how much I care, some people just do not care back
3. I’ve learned it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it
4. I’ve learned it’s not what you have in your life, but who you have in your life that counts
5. I’ve learned that you shouldn’t compare yourself to the best others can do, but to the best you can do.
6. I’ve learned that no matter how thin you slice it, there are always two sides.
7. I’ve learned it’s taking me a long time to become the person I want to be.
8. I’ve learned it’s a lot easier to react than it is to think.
9. I’ve learned that you should always leave loved ones with loving words! Cause it may be the last time you see them.
10. I’ve learned you can keep on going long after you think you can’t.
11. I’ve learned that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.
12. I’ve learned that either you control your attitude, or it controls you.
13. I’ve learned that learning to forgive takes practice.
14. I’ve learned that there are people who love you dearly, but just don’t know how to show it.
15. I’ve learned that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.
16. I’ve learned that sometimes the people that you expect to kick you when you’re down, may be the ones to help you get back up.
17. I’ve learned that sometimes when I’m angry, I have a right to be angry, but that doesn’t give me the right to be cruel.
18. I’ve learned that true friendship continues to grow, even when the road is rough and we have differences.
19. I’ve learned that because someone does not love you the way you want then to, doesn’t mean they don’t love you with all they have.
20. I’ve learned that your family won’t always be there for you. But your best friend will. It may seem funny, but people you aren’t related to can take care of

- you and love you and teach you to trust people again.
21. I've learned that no matter how good a friend someone is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.
 22. I've learned that no matter how bad your heart is broken, the world doesn't stop for your grief. I've learned that our background and circumstances may have an influence on who we are, but is not who I am. We are responsible for who we become.
 23. I've learned you shouldn't be so eager to find out a secret, it could change your life forever!
 24. I've learned that two people can look at the exact same thing and see something totally different.
 25. I've learned that many things can be powered by the mind, the trick is self control.
 26. I've learned that even when you think you have no more to give, when a friend cries out to you, you find the strength to help.
 27. I've learned that writing, as well as talking, can ease emotional pains.
 28. I've learned that it's hard to determine where to draw the line between being nice and not hurting people's feelings, and standing up for what you believe.
 29. I've learned that no matter how fast or how far you go, you can't outrun God.

30. I've learned that no matter what, I'll always be there for my best friend, and loved ones, no matter how much they decide to distance themselves from me.

Robert G.

The following are more quotes that came from the author - Omer B. Washington

1. I've learned that we don't have to change friends if we understand that friends change.
2. I've learned that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.
3. I've learned that regardless of how hot and steamy a relationship is at first, the passion fades and there had better be something else to take its place.
4. I've learned that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.
5. I've learned that money is a lousy way of keeping score.
6. I've learned that maturity has more to do with what types of experiences you've had and what you've learned from them, and less to do with how many years you have lived.

About Forgiving Ourselves

1. God is Just and holy. He has every right to judge us and not forgive us, and yet he graciously chooses to forgive (1 John 1:9). We however, are not just, and yet we somehow think that we are more righteous than God by not forgiving ourselves. How can we hold a grudge against ourselves if the only JUST ONE in the whole universe forgives us?
2. To answer that question, we need to realize that the cause for not forgiving ourselves is PRIDE. We have trouble being humble enough to accept that we are truly that sinful to actually do what we did. And so out of the pride of our hearts we seek to punish ourselves as an attempt to make us feel better about ourselves, because deep down we feel like we knew better and should not have fallen into the sin in the first place. Therefore, the choice to not forgive ourselves is really a deceitful attempt to protect our own pride and “save face” before others.
3. Therefore, in order for us to forgive ourselves, we need to acknowledge with all humility that we are truly “that bad” and come to grips with the evil in our own hearts. When we do this, then the forgiveness of God and His acceptance of us in Christ will seem all the sweeter, and true healing will begin. We will then find that the issue of forgiving ourselves will quickly fall to the wayside.
4. In the above points, I assumed the language of “forgiving ourselves” because first it is wrong to hold a grudge against ourselves, and second forgiving ourselves is the language that most people use when talking about this subject. However, the bible never talks about forgiving ourselves, because our sin is primarily against God (Psalm 51:4). It is God’s responsibility to forgive us, and it is our responsibility to receive his forgiveness.
5. Therefore, it is both wrong to hold a grudge against ourselves and to put ourselves in a position to forgive ourselves. Both are sins of pride. For us to put ourselves in the position that we are to forgive ourselves is to commit *idolatry*, a form of self-worship. Remember in point #2 that pride is the reason that we hold grudges against ourselves (not forgiving ourselves). It is also true that pride is the culprit that makes us think that we are sitting in the seat of the Heavenly Judge to either grant or deny forgiveness. That is why it is idolatrous, because we make ourselves to be a god over our lives to grant or deny forgiveness.
6. **Therefore, to truly feel free from the guilt of what you have done wrong, you may need to repent of your idolatry and pride (confess it to God), and then receive God’s forgiveness in Christ.**

Chaplain David May
Good News Jail/Prison Ministry

The 'Tucson Trip of Bob & Linda of M.O.M. Starr Pass Resort



We were greeted by Virginia & Lorie, two friendly, wonderful, & beautiful ladies. (And college students too)



Bob did all the cooking on this trip.



Full kitchen and breakfast bar



Bedroom that was bigger than most rooms in a home.



Great & comfortable living room
Truly one of the better places we have stayed



Outside our door was a Roadrunner. We also had quail, dove, rabbits, cardinals, woodpeckers, and even reports of the Javelina (wild pigs).



Desert Agave cactus



Barrel cactus



Barrel cactus in bloom



Creosote bush



Ocotillo plant – very thorny



This tree had thorns up to 3” long
Reminded us of the Lord’s ‘crown’

McDowell-Davis Air Force Base



Don't remember this one



F-105



B-52 Strato-Fortress



U2 spy plane

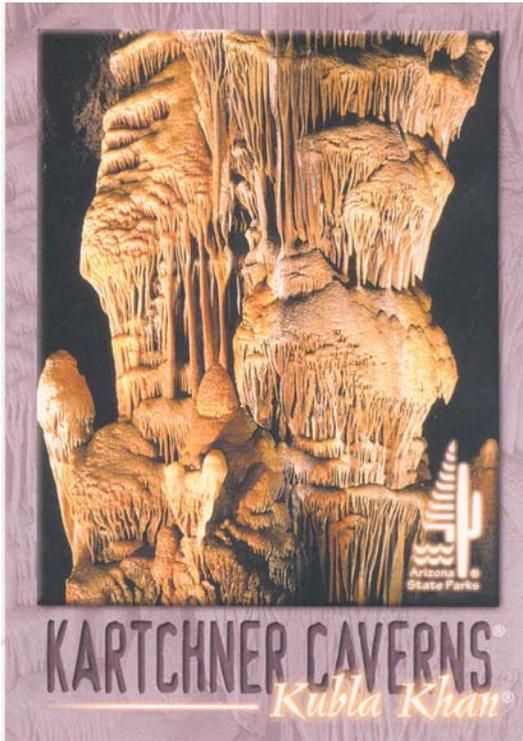


A-10 'Tank killer'

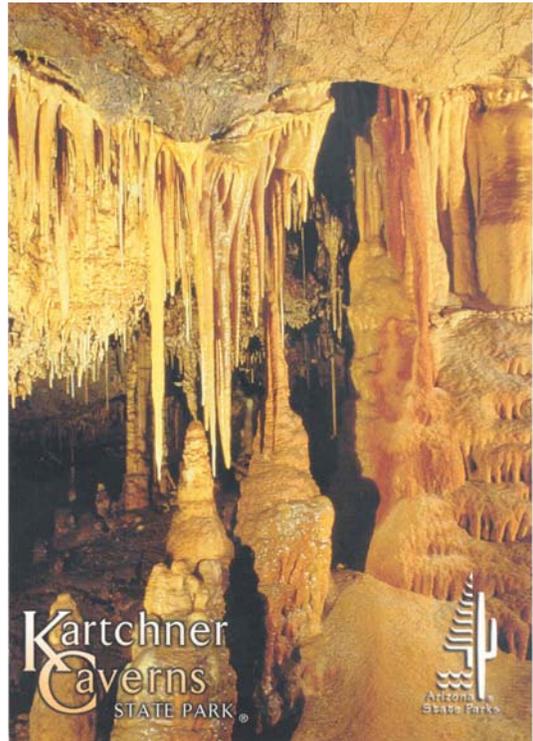


C-130 Cargo plane. Bob used to do military hops on one of these to Hawaii

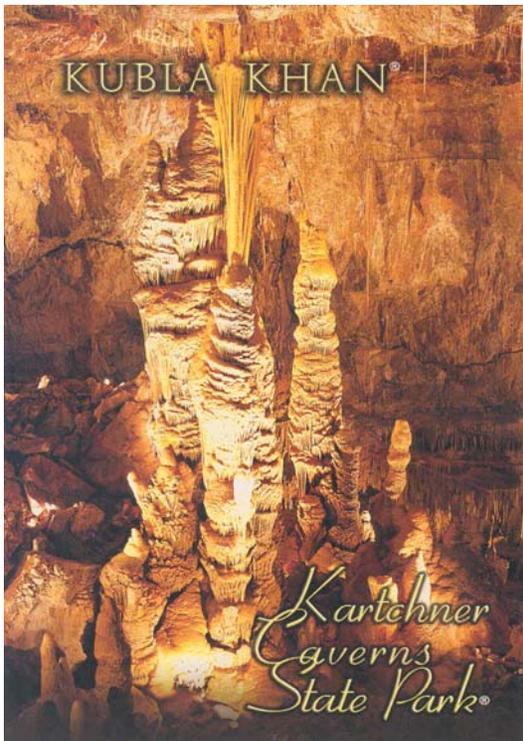
Kartchner Caverns – Benton Arizona



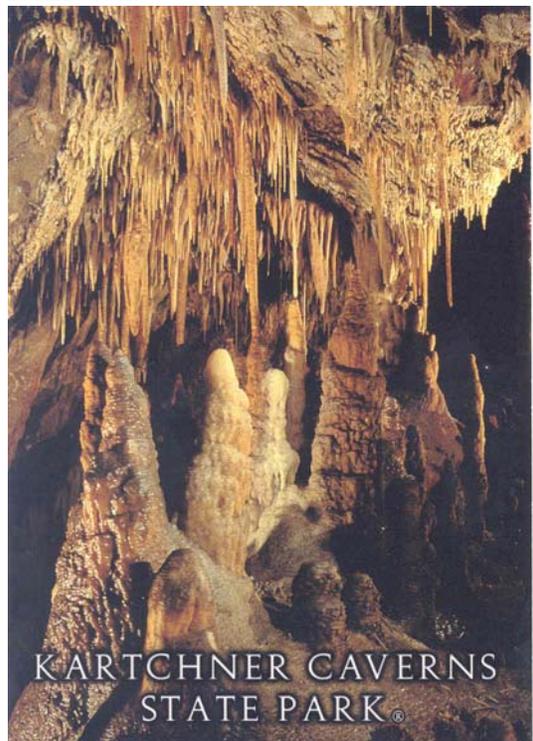
No photos allowed, so we bought cards



Linda was in tears with the beauty of the formations



58 foot tall formation



Tour was 1½ hour and about ½ mile walk

Note From Sister Linda
March 20, 2010

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Just want to share a bit of encouragement with you all. I have read letters of great joy, happiness and hope in people's lives as responses come back after reading the M.O.M. Newsletter. I thank God for my husband that he is faithful in this ministry. Bob can be found daily in the computer room updating or adding to the coming month's newsletter if he is not up in the hills taking care of the property maintenance or out at the jail facility or prison.

As I read the letters of joy I also come across some individuals that tell of their testimonies of the saddest situations and of how God has brought them to know that all things are possible with God. When resentment, bitterness and anger take hold of a person's heart it is shown by actions and words that cut right through the heart which is just another ploy of the enemy to destroy you and your relationships. I know that pain, bitterness, anger, rage and sadness, that was so overwhelming in my life that I just wanted to end it all since I was very young. I am here today because Jesus died on the cross for me to LIVE and I want to share this hope with you too.

I used to model for Frenchy Stafford Modeling School when I first came to Visalia 20 years ago. I could not afford the fees so Frenchy asked me if I would like to exchange cleaning her house for her.

Yes! ,was my quick response not knowing at the time that God had sent her to me for encouragement that would

help me see and understand others and situations in a different light. It made a difference in my life for my self esteem and was a great aid for me to speak in public. Frenchy took her time to do a one on one session with me and before I knew it I was modeling at several of the malls, Tulare County Fair, singing and fill in for MC when she was unable to do it. It takes one simple act of kindness and love of God that shines through you when you know the Master. I thank God for Frenchy, may she rest in peace.

One of the eye opening experiences I had was when I had the opportunity at my old church to have the young ladies from some of the group homes to model leisure, summer, glamour and work attire. I met with the ladies, had them write down some points to remember regarding clothes fitting properly, posture, facial expressions etc...etc...etc...anyway it made a big difference in their lives about themselves and how they relate to others. There were many tears as sadness was being transformed into hope before my eyes. They realized that, yes indeed, God loved them and that they really were God's children and He never let go of us but we let go of God. Thank you Jesus!

When we read His truth it gives us hope and strength to give up our baggage at His feet. We ask Jesus to forgive us, believe it and live a life that glorifies our Lord. We must know for a fact, 100% that we are a royal priesthood and must act upon it accordingly. II Peter 2:9-17

Sadly so many people go to church to leave their burdens at the altar

to only go back at the end of the service to pick up their garbage and drag it back out again. They believe the filthy lies that were told to them and cannot see for they are blind to the truth. Their eyes, ears and heart are closed to the truth when all they have known is “you’re no good”, “no one will ever want you”, “you make me sick”, “you’ll never amount to anything”, “I hate you”, “you’re a nobody”, “how could anyone love you after what you’ve done?” and the list goes on and on.....Men and women are treated as the world sees them today because that is what you hear on commercials and books: “Take charge of your life”, “dog eat dog to survive in this world”, “Take home the bacon or you are nothing”. I’ve got news for you.....

.....Yes, you can make a difference in your life by your choice of allowing the Holy Spirit to guide you in all you do and say. Give up everything, surrender all to Jesus Christ our Lord so you may LIVE. Allow God to work in your lives and quit working against Him. No more garbage in garbage out mentality.

Once you allow the Holy Spirit to work in your heart and believe and trust that it is for real then you better get your seatbelt fastened and get ready for the ride of your life. God will open doors and prepare you the way for grand adventures that we could not even imagine. Along the way we might fall and that is where the Lords reminds us that He is the driving force and we must show love and obedience and get back up and go another step....Never, Never, Never give up! You can do it. When we see another brother or sister fall we must show love and encouragement to them. Have you ever prayed for patience?

Well, I suggest you pray for “unconditional love” instead. Really! It makes a huge difference. Realize that you have to have respect for yourself and “forgive yourself” because when you asked for repentance and asked Jesus into your heart you were forgiven!!!! Ephesians 6:10

One of our downfalls is that we do not believe because “Pride” has a hold on you after all who could love us after what we did?? Another attack of the enemy of our souls.

PEOPLE....Listen to me>>>>

Sometimes we are not aware that the enemy is attacking. The devil is like a roaring lion that prowls around looking to see who he can devour. He is a liar and a thief of joy and tears down family and relationships. I Peter 5:8

Read your Map Of Life: THE BIBLE
In Christ Jesus Linda

Neil Anderson and his book - Freedom from Addiction with it

... if you lose victory in your mind, then you lose the battle (Romans 6:11!). Example from Neil Anderson - Emancipation of Proclamation (proclamation to free the slaves). If slaves heard about the proclamation, they often looked at their circumstances and therefore thought, "I can't see any change to my circumstances, therefore, it must not be true." But to those who hear the proclamation and believed it, they walked in freedom. Point - we have to believe that we are free before we will live and walk in freedom. If we wait until we see it, we will never walk in freedom (cart before the horse situation). Romans chapter 6:11 - if you read the chapter, Paul establishes that we are dead to sin but alive to God in Christ (through union with Christ), but according to verse 11, we need to believe it
Chaplain David May

Giving Up the 'Game'

Well I ain't ever been a religious person, tho' I've found myself praying every now and then. I guess mostly in time of trouble/need. I mean '*come on now, let's keep it real.*' Well I've always tried to keep as real as the circumstances allowed me to. So, I guess the times I did call out to God, He just wasn't home at the time. I am a validated gang member, I never minded it much, as this was the type of life style we were groomed to endure, due to the corruption of the misused authority within the penal system. Well now, I'm doing 75 years for something I didn't do. I have since been forced out of the gang life, but I won't debrief, so I'm kept here with those still in the gang. Well, I've heard your name around here, so you know the business. . . .Here I am in disbelief. And now I sit here with no one to turn to & these highly disturbing charges on me. It is difficult to find assistance, due to the nature of these charges. How we can be so quick to convict one another. So with this in mind, I just can't receive a fair trial or benefit of the doubt anywhere. All resources I write to, turn me down, saying they don't have the manpower or financial means to help me, and I don't have it, so I just continue forward seeking justice, as well as my dignity.

I've heard a lot about you & I don't know much about religion, but I guess if this is the end for me, than I guess I should make my peace. I have been a 'soldier' my whole life & lived and studied dogmas in all forms and fashions pertaining to the game & it in itself has taken a lot out of me.

If my old friends trust and believe in you Bob, then who am I to

call them liars? So, talk to me, teach me. I got plenty of time to learn, and I've tried many things to help me understand all this, but like all other things, to no avail.

I am originally from Hanford, so it was easy to hear of you, but you do get around. Well, this is just a little about me. Also, I like these M.O.M. monthly newsletters. I am writing to some of the National Legal Assistance, so hopefully I hear something good. With this said, all my love and profound respect. May you all have a blessed day.

C. R.



The mound where the new church was to be built and the 6” square bricks (rejected) for construction.

Chaplain Bob’s question to Pastor Jeffrey was “*Has the new church opened yet?*”
Pastor Jeffrey’s letter response was; “*Not yet. After hard labour as you may see in the enclosed pictures, the builder told us that the 6 inch blocks we made were not good*”

enough for such a building which measures 15 meters long by 5 meters wide. And more over the church is to be at the top of that small hill which you might have noticed during your visit to Swaziland. He suggested that we make the 9 inch blocks because those may resist the strong winds we experience these days. That has made us to start making some 9 inch blocks, about 2000 blocks to complete the church. That means we have to buy 350 bags of cement of which a bag costs R80.95 each (\$1 USD = R7.44500) or \$10.87 USD. That means we have to collect about R28,332.50 (\$3805.57 USD) before we start the building.

***** Now for the Challenge: *****

I know the economy has been tight on America, as well as other countries in the World. This Swaziland church is a project that needs to be finished for the Glory of the Lord. Please share these pictures and the story with others, that there might be a giving to this cause. If you know of churches that can help in even a small way, the address is;

The donations can be made direct to the church and Pastor Jeffrey;
Mawombe Holiness Union Church
Pastor Jeffrey Khumalo
P.O. Box 16
Msahweni, Swaziland

Donations to wire funds into account;
Mawombe Holiness Union Church
Account # 0121414986701
Standard Bank of Swaziland
Piggs Peak Branch #661164

As always, M.O.M. is not looking to have any control or management of this project. M.O.M. just wants the glory to go to God. If you could ever sit in one of these services, as Linda and Bob did, you would be searching the congregation to find where the singing voices of angels were coming from.

We received the following letter in response of an inmate;

. . . But getting back to the church in need of 9” blocks, as I read it, I wished I could contribute some money but I have none, so I thought maybe someday I could. But God reminded me I could contribute something now, and that is my skill to draw. So I will send you five of my drawings for you to sell any way you wish as God lays on your heart. I am a prolific drawer, so its not even a stretch for me to do this. My hope is that you might get at least \$10.00 a drawing for them. That will be \$50 you could send them. If you got that much, I could send 5 more. Just let me know as I already have started to put this together. As soon as I hear from you, it will be ready to send! You won't be disappointed with the drawings, but if you are, just let me know and I will send something to replace it.

God be with you always.

Brother Richard

Poetry Section

Weed Free Life

Grow a healthy lawn,
It is the only way to be.
There's no need to weed,
As you will soon see.

Planting a good depth,
Is sure to make it grow.
As it gets strong roots,
The crop will start to show.

God provides the seed,
And it is weed free.
The way it is planted,
He leaves up to me.

It needs the 'Sun shine,'
And a fresh breath of air.
God did this with his creation ,
When He first created with care.

Chaplain Bob

Side By Side

They lie on the table side by side,
The Holy Bible and the TV Guide.
One is well worn and cherished with pride
Not the Bible . . . but the TV Guide

One is used daily to help folks decide
No, not the Bible . . .but the TV Guide.
As the pages are turned, what shall they see.
Oh, what does it matter, just turn on the TV.
So, they open the book in which they confide
No, not the Bible . . . but the TV Guide.

Then confusion reigns, they can't all agree,
On what they should watch on the old TV.
So they open the book in which they confide
No, not the Bible . . . but the TV Guide.

The Word of God is seldom read
Maybe a verse as they fall in bed.
Exhausted and sleepy and tired as cqn be,
Not from reading the Bible , , from watching TV.

So then back to the table side by side
Lie the Holy Bible and the TV Guide.
No time for prayer, no time for the Word,
The plan of salvation is seldom heard.
But forgiveness of sin, so full and so free,
Is found in the Bible . . . not on TV.

**Inmate Envelope Art
by
"Richard Sanchez"**

