

“Letter From M.O.M.”

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

WWW.MovingOnMinistry.com

www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon

Volume 64 – Jan./Feb. 2011 (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 control of their lives.

Watch our website

www.MovingOnMinistry.com

We have also become affiliated with International Prison Fellowship

www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon

Fellowship

Our mailing list has cleared over 500. The time required for designing the newsletters, printing, folding, and stuffing the newsletters, applying postage, and printing the envelopes has become great. We get 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 information correct. **We would like to know of the impact we are having and also cherish letters from inmates or relatives to the churches to let us know how we are doing**

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 (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 our Ministry Volunteers

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

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

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

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

Discover Bible School
Attn, Robert
P.O. Box 7175
Visalia, CA 93290

Ask for a copy of our complete
“Resource Supplemental Letter”

Letters that Express it All

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

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.

After Battle of the Stamps. Story of Meeting in the Vent

You may remember the letters that Aleisha (Alice) C. wrote and the challenge she put out for individuals to donate one book of stamps.

Alice mentioned about giving up ordering her coffee to provide 5 more books of stamps, only to find that 2 cells down a sister in Christ was giving her ½ of her coffee.

Alice and her husband attended church with Linda and I on 11/14/2010. She shared with us her dedication to seek and serve the Lord. When her husband asked her, “How do you know that I want you anymore?” she expressed to her husband that he wanted her because God told her so, and God doesn’t lie. They both have been at church with us every week since.

Also attending church with us, was Marisol, another lady released from Unit 12 that Linda goes into at BWDF. As Alice and Marisol started to talk, they realized that they had never met each other face to face, but had talked numerous times “thru the vent.” Standing on the sink, and talking thru the vent, is a common method of communication through BWDF.

Alice would speak into the vent and ask, “Is anyone out there?” Marisol would respond, “Yes, I am here.” Alice would say, “Do you love Jesus?” and Marisol would reply, “YES.” Ashley was lead to the Lord through the vent. All 3 attend church.

Bible Boot Camp
Nov. 30, 2010 Update Letter

I'm setting here at my table trying to write this letter. How different it is to be writing from my dining room table instead of my cell room table, My eyes keep tearing up from me setting here going back over my life, especially my past 6 months. Well, I had my very first clean, sober, and clear headed Thanksgiving ever in my life. It was great. For the first time ever, I got to see what a great family I have. I did not have the enemy convincing me of all the silly lies about how I was not wanted around. I have felt so much love from my family and friends since I have been out of jail. Let me tell you, jail was the hardest thing I ever did. At the same time, it was the best thing that ever happened to me. My kids laugh cuz I call it Bible Boot Camp, not jail. It only sounds better, but that's what I did. God loved me so much that He took me to a place that I had to set still and listen to Him. God brought me to a place and taught me how not to just love Him, but allowed me to fall so deeply in love with Him. I learned how to trust Him with all my heart and soul. I can tell Him anything and everything. Its amazing when He talks back to me. He will also talk to you, if you let Him. At times I found myself upset cuz I didn't want to be in unit 12 (BWDF). I wanted to go to G.P. and play with all my girls that I played with on the streets. I guess God knew that He couldn't get threw to me if I was anyplace else other than unit 12. not just that, but He also knew that I needed each and every

girl in unit 12 to teach me how to love and be loved. I truly did, and still do, love each and every girl in that place. Like I would always say to them, that's not jail talk, that's real talk. I learned how to take bad situations and pick through it till I found good in it. Oh, I went and watched a movie with my husband and kids for the first time. My son had tears in his eyes as he told me that he has waited his whole life to do that with me. By the way, he is 17 years old. My baby girl came in and woke me with a kiss on my cheek and told me that she loves me. That's the first time I remember such a special moment. She is 15 years old. My wonderful husband opens the door for me. It took 21 years for that to happen. All I know today is that I'm free and happy. My life has NEVER been so good. I have never been so in love. The reason for this is cuz I never served my loving God like I do today. I am very sorry for everybody I have ever hurt, and if I had to do it all over again, I would do it the same way, cuz that is what helped bring me to my knees and allow God to make me who I am today. I AM AMAZING. By the way, it took me 42 years for me to be able to say that. I know I had a lot of people praying for me and still do. I want to say thank you so much.

Love,
Aleisha (Alice) C.

p.s. "Is anybody out there? Can anybody hear me? What are we waiting for? (one of them vent things)

Same Story, New Location

Dear Linda and Bob,

I hope this letter finds you both doing well, and in the highest of spirits.

I just wanted to write and say “Thank You” for publishing my testimony. I cried along with many other women here, as I read it. I am so blessed daily.

The Lord has me busy all day long. I love it. My prayer circles on the yard are so beautiful to share. Every time I pray, it’s like a magnet. Women come from all over the yard. “Thank you Jesus !” so many youngsters hurting and lost. I just wrap my arms around them and let them cry in my arms after I pray for them. I know the Lord is watching over me / all of us daily. Because the devil is mad and tries to come at the ones I’ve prayed (and am praying for) they look for me every time to ask me for more prayer of advice. I smile and pray with everything I’ve got and claim victory as I cast the devil down, amen. I let them know he (the devil) is mad because another lost soul has been saved. Thank you Jesus

Bob wrote me a quick note Re: Michael. I was so shocked and happy to read that. Michael and I have been friends for the past 20 something years. The devil ruined our relationship as companions. But he could never ruin our friendship. If possible could you let him know I send my love and blessings his way always, and that I’m fine. Thank you.

I am interested in the ministry college courses. I want to come to prisons and jails near and far for the Lord. When I am released, I plan on staying very close to Him, I can’t do it without Him. I’ve learned without Him I’m so lost, I feel as if I’m nothing. Today I’m so happy, so free, so alive, so in love.

I’m always smiling and laughing. Women ask why? I say “Because I’m blessed”

God bless you both & Thank You; [Verronica M.](#)

Some Thoughts to Contemplate

For God so loved the World, that He gave His Only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth shall not Perish, but have Everlasting Life. GOSPEL

Gratitude is the attitude That Sets the Altitude for Living

When your upside goes downside, Our inside comes outside

It worked in their life, Perhaps it will work in mine.

Give it All, or don’t Give at all. God does not want control, He wants ownership.

**2.4 Million inmates
600,000 released each year.
80% go back (recidivism)
10% of Christian inmates return**

**Can we see a pattern?
Do we need a new approach?**

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.

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

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

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. I think all will agree, that the testimonies that move people are not the ones written from great minds, but are actually the ones written from a great heart.

God’s Word says in **Jeremiah 17:9** that **“the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?”** When the heart is changed by Christ (salvation – separation – sanctification), it becomes the center of where God works from in our life. The testimony written from the heart is truly God inspired, as compared to the one that is a work of the mind. These are the ones that change others lives also, when shared.

“Christianity Lite” Part 2

What Must I Do . . .

Acts 16:30 “*what must I do to be saved?*” Bob and Linda are asked this question often. Sometimes it is presented in such a statement as “*I am not sure I am really saved.*” Sometimes it comes in the statement of “*How can I know that I am saved?*” Perhaps your life radiates Christ so much that individuals come to you with the same question.

If we look back at the story of when Paul and Silas were in jail and the Lord popped open all the jail doors, we find the following passages;

Acts 16:25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

Acts 16:26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

Acts 16:27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

Acts 16:28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Acts 16:29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

Acts 16:30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Acts 16:31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Acts 16:32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

Their actions radiated that Christ was in control of their lives. The jailer knew of the truth of Christ's salvation by their actions and wanted the same for his life, and the life of his family.

I John 3:10-11 shows that the manifestation of our following is displayed.

I John 3:10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

I John 3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

In **Romans 10:9** it states “If you confess with your mouth”

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

The statement of “*shalt be*” shows that the salvation process is started, Bob has mentioned many times that salvation is “*once saved, always saved, if really saved.*” Many times the commitment is not one from the heart, but one of emotion. Bob also mentioned that salvation is a point in an individual's life, followed by a process. The point of the individual's life is when they realize they are a sinner and fall short of the glory of God. They may make a decision at that time of the need for God's ownership of their life. The

important step, often not mentioned or preached, is **repentance**. Without repentance, there is no forgiveness, and without forgiveness, there is no salvation.

Matthew 9:13 But go ye and learn what [that] meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to **repentance**.
(Sinners must repent)

Mark 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of **repentance** for the remission of sins.
(Required for remission of sin)

Mark 2:17 When Jesus heard [it], he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to **repentance**.

Luke 3:3 And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of **repentance** for the remission of sins;

Luke 15:7 I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that **repenteth**, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no **repentance**.

(More joy on one being saved that on 99 that have been)

Luke 24:47 And that **repentance** and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

(with the mouth it is spoken)

Acts 26:20 But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and [then] to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

(this is the “process”)

II Corinthians 7:10 For godly sorrow worketh **repentance** to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Hebrews 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

Hebrews 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto **repentance**; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put [him] to an open shame.

(Be cautious of turning away – there may not be a path back)

Hebrews 12:17 For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of **repentance**, though he sought it carefully with tears.

(Caution with rejection)

II Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to **repentance**.

So what happens after we reach repentance and forgiveness?

The “process” begins;

II Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

God “spoke” all things into existence, Heaven, Earth, etc. Things only happened when “God spoke” (action), not when he “thought.”

Works of the flesh keep you from the blessings of God, Mercy is what God gives you. Grace is “how” you are saved, Works are how it is displayed (flesh or spirit). **Our life should reflect what fills it – Jesus Christ**

- **Works of Flesh** (Gal. 5:19-21) are;
 - ✓ Adultery,
 - ✓ fornication,
 - ✓ uncleanness,
 - ✓ lasciviousness,
 - ✓ Idolatry,
 - ✓ witchcraft,
 - ✓ hatred,
 - ✓ variance,
 - ✓ emulations
 - ✓ wrath,
 - ✓ strife,
 - ✓ seditions,
 - ✓ heresies,
 - ✓ Envyings,
 - ✓ murders,
 - ✓ drunkenness,
 - ✓ revellings,
 - ✓ and such like things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

- **Fruit of the Spirit** (Gal. 5:22-23)
 - ✓ love,
 - ✓ joy,
 - ✓ peace,
 - ✓ longsuffering,
 - ✓ gentleness,
 - ✓ goodness,
 - ✓ faith,
 - ✓ Meekness,
 - ✓ temperance:

- **Mercy** is bring released from an obligation that we have or owe.

- **Grace** is unmerited or undeserving favor; being given something we have no right to.

- **Spiritual Gifts** are the following (I Cor. 12:4-11 & Rom. 12:6-8)
 - ✓ administrations,
 - ✓ operations,
 - ✓ manifestation of the Spirit
 - ✓ word of wisdom;
 - ✓ word of knowledge
 - ✓ faith
 - ✓ gifts of healing
 - ✓ working of miracles
 - ✓ prophecy;
 - ✓ discerning of spirits;
 - ✓ [divers] kinds of tongues;
 - ✓ interpretation of tongues:
 - ✓ ministry,
 - ✓ teaching;
 - ✓ exhortation
 - ✓ giving,
 - ✓ ruling
 - ✓ mercy,

“**First Force**” was when you broke thru and irritated the quarterback. This first force should be exactly how we relate to Satan and his demons. Our following of Christ should be so strong, that it literally irritates the devil.

We often give too much credit to the devil. Remember where he came from? He was Lucifer, one of the angels of the Most High, that dwelt in Heaven with God. He decided that he wanted “more” power and stated he wanted to be like the most high. Remember, since he is only a fallen angel, he can only be in one place at a time.

God’s will vs. our will. God’s will, might be different than ours, especially if we are not in a close relationship with Him..

Testimony

Dear Chaplain Bob,

It's **Rudy G.**, the little Cuban guy from E-yard SATF again. As I previously wrote, I'm now in Soledad North Facility. Tonight I got your newsletter, and a letter from my mom back in Tampa. She sent some stamps. They're not much, but it's something and I'll pass them along to you. Please keep her health in prayer.

Listen, I wanted to write to you to let you know that I think you're great. You are doing something that only superb, truly changed people of God do. Think back to when you were saved, and when you first changed your life. Now imagine that if all that you're doing today, all the great sacrifices you make, go to saving just one person, and not one more. Wouldn't it all have been worth it?

Well, just think how many people your ministry is helping today. Not to mention internationally, counting M.O.M.K. High death rate on the continent of Africa, and Kenyons are receiving and sharing the blessing of the Word of God in that beautiful country of Kenya, thanks to your effort.

But here in humble California, your effort is just as big and valuable. Every visit you make, and every Bible you place, is a seed planted that can sprout many ways. Sixteen years ago, in a filthy jail cell in L.A. County Men's Central Jail, I am grateful that the previous tenant hoarded books, and that I got my first Bible. Plus two books; "**Prison to Praise**" by Merlin Carothers, and "**Hooked**" by Ernie Hollands. The former is by a charismatic guy with a great story. The latter was just a great and inspirational book. My point is that

when you place materials such as your newsletter, people get saved here and there. The money you alone expend is astonishing, and not to be cynical, but people can't be buried with their money when they die. Literally, Bob, the treasury department will dig you up and prosecute you. Seriously though, I wanted to hearten you, because I can imagine it is such a huge sacrifice to pour so much money into this newsletter alone. I saw the figures you put out (Vol. 63, Nov./Dec. 2010).

Let me assure you one thing though: God sees everything and if your heart and motives are right, you will be fully recompensed one way or the other. But for now, you've gained my total respect and admiration, because my salvation was facilitated by actions such as yours.

In 1998 I had a cellmate named Johnny. I'm sure you know him (he's at SATF). He struggled in his walk with God, no thanks to bad examples along the way, and his own personal problems. But he was always an exemplary person, and he got back on track, learned sign language, and corralled all the hearing and speech impaired inmates there at SATF E-yard for years. He was a "lifer" inmate. I recently got word that after I left, he got a parole date due to an error and resentencing in his case.

God works in mysterious ways. I hope I get a date someday too, as I'm a "lifer" too. It takes a lot of resources that I don't have, to do that, but what I do have is control over my behavior and I've done pretty good over my prison career. I have lofty dreams of what I could or would do if I got out. I

definitely would like to contribute my time to a good ministry.

Anyway, I just wanted this to be a personal note to you, to let you know that at once I recognize what you've done, and that I will perpetuate your legacy any way I can. Your legacy is in God, and there's nothing wrong with acknowledging a person's effort, and yours has been super-human. I met you personally twice, and the Holy Spirit is a good judge of character. I know that you're a great person with a good heart, and I hope you continue running this race the way you have.

Please brother Bob, try to make your newsletter as efficient as possible. It's in my heart to tell you, judging by what it costs, that although we enjoy pictures, they don't need to be in color. What matters, is that the newsletter is disseminated further and wider, even if

you have to sacrifice the luxury of color to do it.

Also, I would like to know if you've considered or attempted to obtain a non-profit postage permit. Many non-profits mail that way, and it could be a healthy option. Obviously I have no clue, it's just a suggestion to look into. Anyway, before I go, I wanted to say thank you for sharing so much of your life with us. Remember that people do get saved, and your blessings in Heaven will be great. Thanks also to Linda, I know that her effort is tremendous also.

Take care and keep up the good work. Hopefully soon one day I'll see you here at Soledad North, or better yet - pray for my release so I can come see you or maybe I can take you bonefishing back home in the sunny Florida Keys.

Rudy G.

Readily Available Printouts

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](#)" (24 pages), the "[Pen Pal Friends](#)" (12 pages), ALL past newsletters ("[Letter From M.O.M.](#)"), inmate lookup links, and artwork are available be viewed or downloaded.

www.MovingOnMinistry.com

**I cannot, God can.
I think I'll let Him.**

Testimony

Say Bob, you don't know me (really) but I know you & Linda, as you know our Lord. Well let me tell you a little about myself, without trying to write a book. It's probably the same old life you've heard and lived. Bob, yes I go to the chapel service every Sunday here in Corcoran C-yard, as I heard you and Linda share our good Lord's words at times when you come, I remember the first time I heard and read Linda's testimony, it made feel strong all over again. Why is that? Because I know our Lord is really there for us. I too came from a hurting painful life I had lived. I was once a gang member at the age of 15 and then at the age of 16, became a heroin addict, as well as in and out of jail and prisons. I was playing the prison politics life I had to live at the times. As I was a gang member, it was the street life at times. So much of my life was a painful hurt life to my heart, seeing and being around family and close friends that parted away from gang violence or drugs. I was even with my little brother at his age of 18 when he got killed. I asked God why my little brother and not me? For so many years I lived with the hurt and pain of my little brother's death, that I had a lot of hate in my heart. I felt if anyone should have died, it should have been me. I was the black sheep of our family, the bad one, the sinner of

game. I had broken all God's rules. But then here I am still alive at the age of 49 years old now. I had been through so much in my lifetime. I wouldn't know where to start at with a testimony, but I can say one thing now, that my heart feels good and has joy. I had surrendered all to God. I accepted our Lord Jesus Christ in 1999. As I try to keep faithful to God through this prison life I have lived for 8 years now. I am not the best, but I came a long ways from what I was. I know God is working in my life still, that's why He kept me around. God knows I am not a quitter. I stay strong for our Lord. What His plan is for me, will be in His time. I give all glory to God, because He took me away from what I once was, a gang member call (Chino Sinner) and a Southside prison simplistic supporter, an adulterous man, that was with a lot of women, and a drug user, which I lived as most all my life. I am saved because of our Lord. He never stopped looking for His black sheep (me). I once was lost in the dark life of sin, but now I am found & rest with love, peace and joy. I may be in prison, but I am free inside my heart. The past of my life, is the past. I keep "moving on" forward and live for God now. God Bless !!

Joe M.

The Lighter Side

A woman was at work when she received a phone call that her small daughter was very sick with a fever. She left her work and stopped by the pharmacy to get some medication. She got back to her car and found that she had locked her keys in the car.

She didn't know what to do, so she called home and told the baby sitter what had happened. The baby sitter told her that the fever was getting worse. She said, "You might find a coat hanger and use that to open the door." The woman looked around and found an old rusty coat hanger that had been left on the ground, possibly by someone else who at some time had locked their keys in their car.

She looked at the hanger and said, "I don't know how to use this." She bowed her head and asked God to send her help.

Within five minutes a beat up old motor cycle pulled up, bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag on his head. The woman

thought, "This is what you sent to help me?" But, she was desperate, so she was also very thankful. The man got off of his cycle and asked if he could help.

She said, "Yes, my daughter is very sick. I stopped to get her some medication and I locked my keys in my car. I must get home to her. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car?"

He said, "Sure." He walked over to the car, and in less than a minute the car was opened. She hugged the man and through her tears she said, "Thank You So Much! You are a very nice man."

The man replied, "Lady, I am not a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday, I was in prison for car theft.

The woman hugged the man again and with sobbing tears cried out loud, "**Oh, thank you God! You even sent me a Professional!!!**"

Is GOD good or what!!!!????

As heard from a pastor preaching;

Talking to all of you wondering about being good, about getting to Heaven, about the things we should do. You wonder about if you are doing good for God. Many of you just warm the pews. I as your pastor do good, because it is my job. "I get paid to be good," but you are all "good for nothing." You don't get paid.

God Works in Mysterious Ways

Many of you have read the story of Alice (Aleisha C.) in past volumes of the newsletter. This volume we would like to share the continuing story, almost like a “Pay It Forward” story from the movie.

Hello there Bob

Well its kinda hard for me, what to talk to you about, and the simple reason is because we don't know each other, but I want to thank you for sending me a letter. I was amazed because you have to have a lot of people you're writing to, so I figured you would forget about me. But I see you're a great man for remembering me. Well there's a lot on my mind that I just want to tell you but I wont take much time sir. I will tell you about what's been happening in the last few days since you have been here. First of all, I'm so thankful that you came that night and we actually met. And how amazing, that we happened to both know the same Aleisha C.

Well, the night you came, after you gave me the book (Newsletter) called “Letter From M.O.M.” volume 63, I went to my cell and actually read parts of the book and I opened my heart in full surrender and asked the Lord to help me out with my life and also I told Him my problems in life, and said I was sorry for the bad things I committed, and all I wanted is to be who I once was.

Also I told Him why my life was sometimes so lonely . . . but no reply . . .

because since I was 13, I was on my own living with my grandma in Yuma, Arizona. The reason is that my dad got caught transporting drugs through the border. He was a resident in the U.S., but got that taken away for not following the rules. And he did prison time.

My mom, who is the most incredible person in this world, she is my other half. Without my mom, I don't know what I would do. Well, she got deported for not being legal here. There were four of us in our lovely family, 3 brothers and my one-and-only beautiful sister, which are now living with my aunt.

Well that is just a little bitty part of my life and I'm only 19 years of age. I graduated from Redwood High. Well to make this story short, like 3 days ago I asked when my release date was, and remember I told you I had to do 8 months? Well they told me my out date was March XX, of 2011 (3 mo.). Well that is a blessing. Thank you Lord. Thank you Bob, for coming here to unit 41. Also I would ask Moving On Ministry, if they can bless we with some mailing stamps and some word finds. Thank you sir, and hope to hear from you soon. Very appreciated for you taking time and hearing about me and a little of my past. Thanks. **Luis A.**

Poetry

In Vanity

Sometimes, Lord, in vanity
I make my path alone
Forgetting in my vanity
The light to me you've shown

Sometimes, Lord, in vanity
I soon forget the need
To read the word you left for me
To plant and sow the seed.

Sometimes, Lord, in vanity
I wander far from grace
The wisdom I have learned from you
Seems gone without a trace

Sometimes, Lord, in vanity
I'm lost, I lose my way
So blinded by my vanity
Please help me, Lord, I pray.

David Marsh

NO FEAR

I KNOW NO FEAR, WHILE IN HIS
GRACE
A PLAN HE HAS FOR ME
HE CAME, HE DIED, UPON THE
CROSS
HE DIED TO SET ME FREE

SOMEDAY I'LL WALK WHERE
ANGELS FLY
AND IN MY HOUR OF NEED
THE GATES OF HEAVEN'LL OPEN
WIDE
FOR THIS, MY GOD, DECREED

FOR NOW I STAND, ARMS OPEN
WIDE
HIS WORDS RING IN MY EARS
MY TRUST, MY FAITH, IS IN MY
GOD

WITH HIM I HAVE NO FEARS

David Marsh

As the Old Year Passes Out

As the old year passes out, and the new
year comes in
May we not look back at what could
have been
May we look at the changes given to us
And move ahead with enthusiastic thrust
There is so much that needs to be fought
and won,
The Lord Jesus Christ needs to be lifted
up
And bring to Him the victor's cup

There are souls that need to be saved
from a devil's hell.
As we win them to Christ, we can say
"all is well"
Look up and rejoice, with a Heavenly
voice
For as the old year passes, and the new
year comes in
The promise to the child of God is that
in Christ we will win. **Donald D**
Phil. 3:13-14

Our Dear Mother

Mom is in a better place
And Christ's glory she will face
All her suffering is gone away
And she will live forever in that eternal
day

Are precious ones of each kind

She is now in our Lord's loving hands
As He promised tn His eternal plan
Someday we will meet on that Heavenly
shore

She was a grandmother, mother, and
wife
As she lived through this life
With these memories she leaves behind

Where we will be together forevermore.
Donald D Psalms 116:5

On Your Mark, Get Set, Ready, . . .

As I write this letter, I can look back on the turn of events that brought me here. When I say this about turning my life over to Christ, it has been a very hard road at times. But I continue to stay committed to my goals. Now that I have finished all my Bible lessons, I have a better understanding of its true meaning. Well, so I think, and now, how to use what I learned. The first thing is to know what intent means. I think it goes like the following; it starts with adherence, and second is soundless and incorruptible. Last is completeness. And now my true purpose in walking with the Lord. On this day, I find myself reading the Book of Psalms, and for the first time in my life, getting something out of the message. Beginning with Psalms 25:1-22; 27:1-14; and 31:1-24. so what do you think? I've come a long way since the first time you met me. Now to further my faith in my true beliefs. I know I've been putting it off because I wasn't sure in what direction my life was going. But now I'm ready. And my decision is a good one. I'm ready to be baptized in the Christian church. I've come to believe there is a reason that Chaplain Bob and his very insightful wife Linda, happened to cross my path. And I know that I will make a much better Christian than I did a gang member. And as I look back on how I gave up my whole life for my home town, to get nothing in return, I'm happy to say, that part of my life is dead, and prison is now over too. For now, I'm hence forth to advancement. With advancement, brings new life, for my little girl that I still haven't seen. I received a photo of her this week. I was amazed to see her picture. For the most part she looks more like her mom, with her blond hair and blue eyes. She's now 16 months old. And from what I can get out of the letter, I take it that her mom is still playing with drugs, so I have to be really careful. I don't know if I ever told you, but her name is Ashley. I'm not sure about this whole situation, but what can I say, she's part of me. As for myself, I don't know the words to show you Bob and Linda, what a positive influence you've been in my life. And I remember that I always used to say, when it came to me, don't try to do too much. I guess I should be thankful that you did. From this point forward, I won't allow anybody to call me 'Sporty' again. I'm down to just days now. I look forward to returning to church again. I'd just like to thank you both and Moving On Ministry for all the insight. With this said, I will excuse myself for now.

Art B. (I guess I turned out to be a good student of "God"?)

More Drawings by Richard Sanchez

