

## “Letter From M.O.M.”

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

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

[www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon](http://www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon)

**Volume 82** – Jan./Feb 2014 (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](http://www.MovingOnMinistry.com)

We are also affiliated with International Prison Fellowship

[www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon](http://www.PrisonMinistry.net/movingon)

### Fellowship

Our mailing list has cleared over 750. 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 & Linda  
P.O. Box 6667  
Visalia, CA. 93290**

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

**Stephen "Fuzzy" Brown  
So Blessed Ministry  
P O Box 275  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240**

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

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

**Discover Bible School  
Attn, Paul  
229 Stormy St. NE  
Albany, OR 97322**

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

**International Prison Ministry  
Bible, Dictionary, Concordance  
P.O. Box 2868  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-2868**

## Missing M.O.M. ?

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

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## 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."

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

[www.MovingOnMinistry.com](http://www.MovingOnMinistry.com)

Ask for a copy of our **48 page**  
**"Resource List"**

**SASE with Postage is needed but verified indigent envelopes will be mailed..**

\$ .46 for Pen pals

\$ .86 for Resources

\$ .46-\$1.32 for Newsletter

(Donations Welcome)

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## Sharing Your Testimony

There are 4 parts to an individual's testimony;

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

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

1. Your testimony
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. 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 it becomes the center of where God works from in our life.

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## Why would we do it? Reproccussions

In the previous newsletter we talked about the things we as volunteers may sometimes do. We talked of the wedding performed and the result was that we can no longer do ministry at Bob Wiley Detention Facility (BWDF) due to what is known as "familiarity" with the inmates. The rules of being a volunteer are that you cannot get personal or close to an inmate. This rule seems opposite to what should be being done with the inmate. The advice of a "friend" is always better accepted than the advice of a "stranger."

There are many organizations offering mentor programs. These programs usually consist of building a relationship with the mentor and the inmate starting about 6 months before release. The program usually runs to 6 to 12 months after release. CGA (Criminals, Gang-members Anonymous) was one of these programs that is offered in many of the prisons.

M.O.M. has to be careful of getting too close to individuals so as not to lose rights to do volunteer ministry. Even though we feel that there should be a "family" closeness, we have to avoid any activities that could be assumed "familiarity."

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## **From the Heart, From the Pocket**

Many of the inmate's lives have been changed by a change of the heart. M.O.M. does not take credit for the change but gives it all to God. M.O.M. is blessed to be able to plant the seed for the glory of God. Some of the credit goes to financial volunteers like **Jeanne** (mom of M.O.M.), **Greg & Vickie M.** with cash donations, **Ray and Alicia V.** with postage support, **Mark** (Corcoran inmate) with \$100, **Dr. Paul G.** with cash donations, **Joe & Aleisha C.** cash donation, **Autumn D.** (Oregon inmate) with \$97 donations, **Ruben J.** (Visalia inmate) with postage stamps, Felony Foundation \$50, many inmates with stamps or cash donations, and of course \$100's donated each month by **Bob, Linda** and **Carol**.

The newsletter active mailing list is at 730 names with about another 400 mailed or handed out. Figuring mailing (\$0.46 X 800 = \$368.00 per mailing) is our biggest expense. Follow-up on letters (\$0.46 each), requests for Resources List (\$0.86 each) and Pen Pal lists (\$0.46 each) adds a lot of expense to postage providing for indigent inmates, not counting cost of printing.

If you know of a church, ministry or individual(s) interested in supporting jail/prison ministry. Please refer them to **Moving On Ministry**. M.O.M. is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

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### **HISTORICAL TRIVIA – For Your Enjoyment**

Did you know the saying "God willing and the Creek don't rise" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian diplomat. While in the south, Hawkins was requested by the President of the U.S. to return to Washington. In his response, he was said to write, "God willing and the Creek don't rise." Because he capitalized the word "Creek" it is deduced that he was referring to the Creek Indian tribe and not a body of water.

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In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices

charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, 'Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg.' (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint)

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As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October) Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term 'big wig...' Today we often use the term 'here comes the Big Wig' because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.

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In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal.. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the 'chair man.' Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board.'

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Personal hygiene left much room for improvement.. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told, 'mind your own bee's wax.' Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term 'crack a smile'. In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt . . . Therefore, the expression 'losing face.'

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Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in 'straight laced' wore a tightly tied lace..

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Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the 'Ace of Spades...' To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards,

these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't 'playing with a full deck..'

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Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to 'go sip some Ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. 'You go sip here' and 'You go sip there.' The two words 'go sip' were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus we have the term 'gossip.'

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At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your 'P's and Q's'.

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**One more: bet you didn't know this!**

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem....how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a 'Monkey' with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make 'Brass Monkeys.' Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled.. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey; Thus, it was quite literally, 'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.' (All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you.)

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## Andrea Update

Dear Family and Friends,

Yes I'm putting you all together in one lump (smile)...I'm still extremely blessed, episodes still come with no invitation or days off for holidays (smile). They still bring a variety of surprises with a depth of surprises of their own.

My immediate family knows this and are every bit blessed as I am in learning as we go thru this journey till our Lord either heals me and/or allows the Doctors to figure a way for me to be healed or continue to learn how to sing the old song with more gusto when each new or old episode comes, night or day...So smile laugh and Praise The Lord anyway!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLkqVjVDO4o> (Preview)

We have dropped the house phone...looks like that too has gone the way of the past as so many other things as new inventions have come to help us in our journeys in the World of Dick Tracy's wrist watch that had a TV, two-way walkie-talkie (computer), many other such gadgets of the 1940's and 1950's. Wow we're really living in the Comic Books and someone forgot to turn our pages (ha ha ha)..No folks I have not got my wires all wet (yet ha ha ha)...for those who have seen the things come it's really neat to see the changes some good some not good.

But lets get back to the reason for the Email...(smile)

If you want my telephone number...."oops it's not called a telephone number anymore...geesh I'm getting old...(smile)....it's called...

Cell-phone number.....so if you want it, Email me...if not....You won't be bothered by another number to remember in your 'many numbers ....amazing word...to think about..."numb"....wow (smile) Anyway.....:rolling my eyes on that one....ha ha ha...

And if you do want my Cell phone number...I'll know you're serious enough to write an Email asking for it. Other wise it's just a waist of your time and mine.

Now as for the song...Enjoy..I thought it was very cute when I first heard it ***many years ago...I use to sing it to my children (smile) when they were little ..Lord that was a long time ago ha ha ha..***

Well .dear hearts.."I hear a "Knock Knock at my door and I did not bake a cake" so I'll enjoy watching a movie about Moses or one of the other Prophets on my Cell phone...while this thing visits....I am so totally blessed ...just think about it...Jesus and all the stories of The Bible from Genesis to Revelation when I am able to listen to them and/or see them during one of these "visits" I can soak up ....Good Lord how I hate the pain of these things but love the things my daughter & grandson has thru the Lord set up for me to enjoy to pass the time while 'the

visit" is here! God is awesome!

**Chaplain Bob and Linda.** you both are as close daily as my prayers, **not one day goes by I do not think of yall and long to get back full force**, some days I do get to answer one or two, but that's extremely rare! Some post cards even that is rare but that is more than it was a few months ago so it's an increase to me a blessing, and they are still coming weekly. New ones and old ones. Some of them had put my name in other sites besides yours so it's still on the web available and I have no clue how many. God knows (smile). I am saving them all and fully plan and try to answer each a little at a time as I'm able. My desk is a joy to me a site I see and pray as some times I can only pass by, yet it is a place of such love God has still imparted deep in the depths of my heart. Everyone is prayed for! Sometimes Bob, different ones comes to mind (smile) and they are prayed for. Silly as it may sound the foolish who think they seek a specific person, brings such tears to my heart, that God would let these special ones to be sent to me to pray for them and prayerfully write to them when I am able to get back to writing. This is truly a blessing far worth more than the gold this World has to offer!

My Love and Prayers to you all Blessings to each of you and yours in the Mighty and Masterful Name of the Only Name in Heaven and Earth and beneath Earth that can save Mankind. Jesus Christ of Nazareth the Risen Lord, born of a Virgin (now many trying to claim he was not) whom she did have several children with Joseph as the father 'after' she had Jesus thru the spoken Word, who died for our sins on the Cross and was buried for 3 days and 'did' go to Hell and suffer for 3 days as the scripture says in that time he was buried...many try to claim he did not, I put this in because many prefer to deny that also, and it is important for it to be said less I be accountable for the blood of those who refuse to believe the truth when we are to tell what we know to tell it and we don't tell it. We will be accountable for it. Sad to say there are many who know the truth and think they will not be held by Almighty God accountable for not telling others the truth, though they believe they are not preachers so they won't get into trouble. Sorry folks that don't float.

A STOP sign at an Intersection means stop no matter if you are a Preacher or a first time driver...(smile)....even if you are riding a bicycle...it still says '**STOP....**

We are in the last days...that is a 'fact'... can't change it ...can't color it ..can't even call it a 'crazy ole woman or crazy ole man's words'...it's still a 'Fact'...too many 'facts' are all around us...

Everything so far has or is in the process of change...EXCEPT the **STOP SIGN..**

Even the Green Lights and the Yellow Lights they are in the process of being altered in many places...but the 'STREET STOP SIGNS are still the same..FOR NOW ha ha

Women's Bathrooms are changed because perverted men/women want to use it.. and use their own also...So the Women and Men's Bathrooms are no longer a Non-Changeable item.... What is good and what is evil is no longer a non-changeable item either...Laws are made and people are forced to obey



them...(those who don't care about Almighty God and have no love for Jesus Christ at all will obey those Laws)

So take care about your own household. You all have either wives, husbands, children, mothers, fathers, grandchildren extended families.....take serious thought about them as you would your wallet when you leave to go into a store...you don't leave it laying around.

Some leave their children in the cars while they take their wallets in the stores (Shame on you) but this truth take to heart...get real serious about Jesus...

1. Get your Bible out of the Closet ...READ IT

...share it with your family..it will be what will keep them also ...

2. PRAY

IF you don't know how to pray..pray the Lords Prayer JESUS SAID...

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen

3. Keep your eyes on Jesus and 'stay' in His Word

What started out to be a short letter...turned out to be a long one...for those who don't like my long one whom I know you (smile) you'll get nothing out of this..but those who do and will read it all, I know The Holy Spirit will bless you abundantly and I do covet your prayers. To those who will read it and feel some what ...(smile) well, I love you all, I know Jesus loves you and me also, far more than we have any idea. Thank you for reading this far (smile) for what ever the reason. Each of you are in my prayers I specifically chose each of you for this letter, because each of you are very special in my heart and for the Cell phone number as well as my health update.

God Bless you and yours in Jesus Name †

Andrea (Momma, Nana, Aunt Andrea, AC,)

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Journey to the Promised Land. We also are on our journey to our Promised Land. Deuteronomy 4:29-31 and 6:5 are only two lovely passages and I encourage you to read the whole book. But, I'll close by quoting Deuteronomy 8: 2-3. (**“Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the desert these 40 years to humble you and to test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your fathers had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”**)

### **Choosing to Forgive by Brother Eugene DeShazor**

For if you forgive men (everyone) their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you forgive not men (everyone) their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matthew 6: 14 & 15.

To Forgive: God forgives by granting pardon for the remission of sins. To pardon is to forgive anyone who believes that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior and that He died on the cross for the sins of the world.

To Forgive: From the human perspective, to forgive is to stop, to cease feeling resentment, anger or dislike towards someone-----who has done something wrong against us.

We live in a world where pain and suffering takes place on a daily basis. Pain and suffering inflicted intentionally cuts deep into the archives of our memory bank. To forgive, to let go of something is not an easy thing to do. However, God has provided a way for us to overcome.

In the world we will have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world. John 16:33

Forgiveness is at the heart of the gospel message. Teaching on the subject of forgiveness can be found in the Sermon on the Mount, in prayers and parables by Jesus. Christ closed His ministry with forgiveness and the topic of forgiveness was so pressing on the disciples that the Apostle Peter wanted to know just how far forgiveness should go.

Then Peter came to him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Till seven times?” Jesus said unto him, “I say not unto thee until seven times, but until seventy times seven. Matthew 18: 21 & 22. In other words, Jesus said unlimited forgiveness. Amen.

Human imperfection dictates the need for forgiveness. Choosing to forgive allows each and every one of us the opportunity to experience spiritual freedom over spiritual bondage. The result of being forgiven is the greatest incentive to forgive.

And be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32  
To be hard hearted towards others can stand in the way of receiving spiritual blessings. We are not inwardly built to carry feelings of ill will forever; although to often many people do. Forgiveness is the healing solution.

Forgiveness, praise God, what a perfect example given to us by Jesus. Nailed to the cross, Jesus said the following:

“Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Luke 23:24

Forgiveness, it's at the heart of the gospel message. AMEN!

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### **IT'S A MATTER OF THE HEART by Sister Carol Ann**



To forgive is a matter of the heart. While preparing for writing about the heart, I put this word on the internet and page after page popped up of scriptures to teach us on the “heart.” There were more scriptures about our “hearts” than there was about “love.” This topic seems to be at the very heart of our Creator.

God talks to us in the scriptures about heart matters.

Hearts can be hardened to the point where the walls are like 10 feet thick and no sensitivity or compassion can get into a person. God wants to get in and break through that wall of brick and crush it into a thousand tiny pieces so His healing can penetrate inside and melt away the pain, the fear, the anger and the bitterness. He is the only one who can break through. God knows us, loves us and desires we become free from the negative bondage of our lives. The very things that we tend to hold onto, that we feel we have the right to hold on to, our Father teaches us to break free of slavery of all our bondage. Let us be free. Galatians 5:1

People are going to hurt us; and have done things against us. We have also done things against them. We have hurt others, but it's time to break free from the hardness of our hearts, the pain of our hearts and the walled off people we become because of forgiveness. I don't mean you have to buddy all up to someone who has hurt you. God has not called us to be friends with someone who abused or assaulted you. The people you have hurt can forgive you without ever becoming your buddy. But what God has called us to do is clear our hearts of all malice, the bitterness, resentment and pain that's living in any kind of hardened state. Act 8:32, Ephesians 4:31 & John 12: 35-50.

During my own journey in forgiveness, I have learned quite a bit about people. I've learned much more about people and accepting them where they are in their own journey. I may not like what they do with a situation, but it's their walk, not mine. We all have to live with our own heart results. My place in all of this is to not allow other's choices to affect me. Just over the weekend, something happened to me and I responded differently than I have ever responded in the past. I had a choice. Was I going to sit and sputter and get all mad inside and I WAS mad at first, but in the end, I did not want the sun to go down on my anger, so instead I wrote this person, expressed myself and shared

how I felt. I was not mean spirited, just honest. I may not get the results I want, but it's really up to this person how they deal with this situation. I've learned I have control over no one but me. But as for me, I have done my best and my heart is clear. I won't carry anything forward from this. I won't allow any anger or bitterness or resentment fill my life. No hard feelings and the forgiveness was up to me. I may not be able to fellowship the same with this brother and that's OK. He is responsible for his own heart and I am responsible for mine. Often we think to forgive is to forget. It's not always. Sometimes we don't forget and that's OK as our Lord wants us to be safe and at peace. We don't have to forget, but we have to forgive so we can live in spiritual freedom. Acts 28:27 & Proverbs 14:10

Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ wants us to live our lives in harmony and peace, to forgive as we will be forgiven in the same manner. God wants our hearts to be pliable and soft and eager to love others, ourselves and most of all Him. I've found the prayer of Jesus in John 17 to be one of the beautiful chapters of scripture in teaching us what God desires for our hearts. Jesus has given us His life to guide us into all truth. He is the ultimate example of mercy and grace. The book of Deuteronomy is packed full of teachings we need for today. God taught much to his people as they were on their

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## The Right Time

Every Sunday afternoon, after the morning service at the church, the Pastor and his eleven year old son would go out into their town and hand out Gospel Tracts.

This particular Sunday afternoon, as it came time for the Pastor and his son to go to the streets with their tracts, it was very cold outside, as well as pouring rain.

The boy bundled up in his warmest and driest clothes and said, 'OK, dad, I'm ready.'

His Pastor dad asked, 'Ready for what?'

'Dad, it's time we gather our tracts together and go out.'

Dad responds, 'Son, it's very cold outside and it's pouring rain.'

The boy gives his dad a surprised look, asking, 'But Dad, aren't people still going to Hell, even though it's raining?'

Dad answers, 'Son, I am not going out in this weather.'

Despondently, the boy asks, 'Dad, can I go? Please?'

His father hesitated for a moment then said, 'Son, you can go. Here are the tracts, be careful son..'Thanks Dad!'

And with that, he was off and out into the rain.. This eleven year old boy walked the streets of the town going door to door and handing everybody he met in the street a Gospel Tract .

After two hours of walking in the rain, he was soaking, bone-chilled wet and down to his VERY LAST TRACT. He stopped on a corner and looked for someone to hand a tract to, but the streets were totally deserted.

Then he turned toward the first home he saw and started up the sidewalk to the front door and rang the doorbell. He rang the bell, but nobody answered.

He rang it again and again, but still no one answered. He waited but still no answer.

Finally, this eleven year old trooper turned to leave, but something stopped him.

Again, he turned to the door and rang the bell and knocked loudly on the door with his fist. He waited, something holding him there on the front porch!

He rang again and this time the door slowly opened.

Standing in the doorway was a very sad-looking elderly lady. She softly asked, 'What can I do for you, son?' With radiant eyes and a smile that lit up her world, this little boy said, 'Ma'am, I'm sorry if I disturbed you, but I just want to tell you that \* JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU \* and I came to give you my very last Gospel Tract which will tell you all about JESUS and His great LOVE.'

With that, he handed her his last tract and turned to leave.

She called to him as he departed. 'Thank you, son! And God Bless You!'

Well, the following Sunday morning in church Pastor Dad was in the pulpit. As the service began, he asked, 'Does anybody have testimony or want to say anything?'

Slowly, in the back row of the church, an elderly lady stood to her feet.

As she began to speak, a look of glorious radiance came from her face, 'No one in this church knows me. I've never been here before. You see, before last Sunday I was not a Christian. My husband passed on some time ago, leaving me totally alone in this world. Last Sunday, being a particularly cold and rainy day, it was even more so in my heart that I came to the end of the line where I no longer had any hope or will to live.

So I took a rope and a chair and ascended the stairway into the attic of my home. I fastened the rope securely to a rafter in the roof, then stood on the chair and fastened the other end of the rope around my neck. Standing on that chair, so lonely and broken-hearted I was about to leap off, when suddenly the loud ringing of my doorbell downstairs startled me. I thought, 'I'll wait a minute, and whoever it is will go away.'

I waited and waited, but the ringing doorbell seemed to get louder and more insistent, and then the person ringing also started knocking loudly...

I thought to myself again, 'Who on earth could this be? Nobody ever rings my bell or comes to see me.' I loosened the rope from my neck and started for the front door, all the while the bell rang louder and louder.

When I opened the door and looked I could hardly believe my eyes, for there on my front porch was the most radiant and angelic little boy I had ever seen in my life. His SMILE, oh, I could never describe it to you!

The words that came from his mouth caused my heart that had long been dead, TO LEAP TO LIFE as he exclaimed with a cherub-like voice, 'Ma'am, I just came to tell you that JESUS REALLY DOES LOVE YOU .' Then he gave me this Gospel Tract that I now hold in my hand..

As the little angel disappeared back out into the cold and rain, I closed my door and read slowly every word of this Gospel Tract. Then I went up to my attic to get my rope and

chair. I wouldn't be needing them anymore.

You see-- -I am now a Happy Child of the KING. Since the address of your church was on the back of this Gospel Tract, I have come here to personally say THANK YOU to God's little angel who came just in the nick of time and by so doing, spared my soul from an eternity in hell..'

There was not a dry eye in the church. And as shouts of praise and honor to THE KING resounded off the very rafters of the building, Pastor Dad descended from the pulpit to the front pew where the little angel was seated....

He took his son in his arms and sobbed uncontrollably.

Probably no church has had a more glorious moment, and probably this universe has never seen a Papa that was more filled with love & honor for his son.... Except for One.

Blessed are your eyes for reading this message.

Don't let this message die, read it again and pass it to others. Heaven is for His people! Remember, God's message CAN make the difference in the life of someone close to you. Please share this wonderful message...

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Dear Family,

What a glorious year! This probably has been one of the years above all years when it comes to learning of God's peace and love. I trust God more than I did last year. I'm able to surrender more to the Lord God Almighty. I'm able to reach out to family in ways I've never known and keep the mask off my spirit-----no pretending needed.

Here I am having a hard week as a human being and yet my spirit literally soars. I'm so aware of the misguided steps I've taken and God loves me still, as I veer back on the path. I see people, hear from people whose life this year has touched and some of you are reading this. As wobbly as my steps may have been at times, we are able to heal in God's love and continue to learn and grow. We love through this life and keep Him first. He is our guide and we live under His grace.

His grace is our cover as we face this life. God's mercy and love is huge as we walk on our individual paths. Each one of us could write a Christmas letter and the contents unique to each one. For me, through the healing of God I developed a boldness in who I am. I have a personal love and acceptance of who God made me to be and I can move forward with more love and acceptance for others. I never really understood so clearly what the wall was that was holding me back but it was self-acceptance. I won't get discouraged like I may be used to. Realizing God loves me right here in the right now is real.....it's real and has blasted away a barrier. A deeper hope radiates from my core. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, my life feels explosive some days. Some days then not so much, but this deeper love and acceptance of self-have moved me to a new level of relationship with God.

Thank you for your love and prayers. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your honesty. Thank you for your unconditional love. Thank you for the spiritual brotherhood you've blessed me with. Thank you for praying for one another. Thank you for hoping for the best and believing in one another. No, none of us did this perfect but that's why we have the perfect Son of God as our Savior. The Spirit of God unites us from all around the country and the love of God seals us. The love God gives us we will celebrate this Christmas season. Lil Lord Jesus grew up to model for us, teach us and guide into His ways and His truth. He lived amongst us to show us how to love. Maybe we didn't do it perfect this last year, as I know I didn't, but we keep on going, stretch, grow and learn, holding on to our Savior's love. We can celebrate the spirit of love that unites us.

By Sister Carol Ann

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