

MAY 2024



The Voice of Triumph, Inc.

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BELOVED IN THE LORD,

Good morning!

I hope and pray all is well at your “end of the road” when this newsletter reaches you!

I’ve never quoted directly from a church bulletin, at least I can’t remember doing so. But I thought this story was worth the example it teaches. It tells us never give up on those who seem unworthy of our love and forgiveness. *Because God doesn’t.* That’s why Jesus gave us the story of the prodigal son. Here is another —

“A nervous young man chewed his fingernails as he paced back and forth, up and down, the aisle of his train. A pastor happened to be aboard and couldn’t help but notice. —

‘Young man, if you are troubled, can I be of some help to you?’ The young man paused for a moment then said, ‘I left home years ago against my parents’ will. But now I’m headed back. I wrote them and told them I was coming, but they didn’t reply. I’m worried sick they won’t take me back.’

He had asked them to tie a white cloth on the old peach tree out in their front yard if he was welcome to come home. The tracks ran close to their house, and he would be able to see the tree as he passed by. But he was afraid to look.

‘Close your eyes,’ the pastor said. ‘I’ll tell you if it’s there.’ Minutes later the train rounded the curve just before the boy’s home. He closed his eyes and prayed.

“Young man,” the pastor said excitedly as the train rolled by, “the whole tree is covered with pieces of white cloth!!”

So it is with the love of God.

Just as the prodigal son’s father shouted with joy even as he saw him coming at a distance and ran to meet him, so it is with our Father in Heaven. He’s waiting and watching and willing.

Thank you so very much for going with us and helping tell so many prodigals in prison that He’s waiting for them, too. All they have to do is head

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GET BUSY...
TIMES A’WASTIN
AND WE DON’T
HAVE MUCH TIME
LEFT—

PRAY FOR SOME-
ONE.

GIVE A BEGGAR A
FEW COINS.

SET AN EXAMPLE
WITH YOUR LIFE—

SOMEONE IS
ALWAYS WATCHING

This inmate had a list of bibles and books and authors he preferred. It is sometimes helpful to know what they would like—

“Hello. . . . From my understanding you have books and bibles available. I would be very grateful for any daily devotionals you may have available. I’m not sure what books or bibles you offer, so I’ll just list a few things I enjoy reading, and I’ll be grateful for anything that’s available”

Praise the Lord for those who keep coming back for more. . . .

“I’m writing again to see if I can get another book mailed to me. I’m grateful for what you have sent me in the past. . . .”

If we had a thousand large print bibles, we would not be able to carry the bag of mail home from prisoners who heard about them and were requesting one! —

“Hello....I would really like my own copy of the Standard English Version large print Holy Bible like the one you donated here at the Women’s Correction Center. I would be most

grateful and really appreciate it. Thank you in advance. Sincerely. . . .”

By a similar coincidence, this inmate saw a book we sent to another prisoner and he writes for one like it:

“Can you please send me a copy of “Through the Bible?” I am a very new Christian doing sermons and teaching God’s lambs inside the jail here in VA. I love the book information and sharing it. Please bless me with a copy for myself and my son upon release. God bless you.”

When you’re in prison or jail, you’re very likely to have little or nothing. And what you do have can be very precious to you

“My intent on drafting this letter is to hopefully receive some religious items sent to me at the jail. . . . Today, I noticed a bookmark labeled with the books of the bible on it which the minister who was preaching had. When I inquired about receiving one like it, I was told it was the only one he had in his possession. He then gave me your address and said you would gladly send me religious material and a bookmark. Hopefully by the grace of God you will send

me something. If you can/will, please do! Thank you for taking time to read this draft. May the Lord continue to bless you in Jesus’ name. Faithfully awaiting.”

Note: We sent him several bookmarks so he will have some to pass on.

At the risk of sounding “flip” let’s hope this quote means we’re on the edge of revival: “Revival,” said British Evangelist Leonard Ravenhill (1907-1994), *is when God gets so sick and tired of being misrepresented that He shows Himself.*”

I confess: I had never heard of the bible he requested—*The Remnant Study Bible*. But we sent what should be an acceptable substitute:

“I am writing because I am interested in a bible and books. I am looking for a really good study bible to help me

“Cowards never won heaven. Do not claim you are begotten of God and you have His royal blood running in your veins unless you can prove your lineage by His heroic spirit: *to dare to be holy in spite of men and devils.*” William Gurnall, Author, Pastor, 1600’s

understand the Word better. My friend/brother in Christ has ‘The Remnant Study Bible’ and he lets me use it when he isn’t using it. Would it be possible to obtain a Bible like that? Thank you and have a blessed day.”

We’ve sent books to this prison in the past. The security is so strict one of the chaplains wouldn’t give me his name, but accepted bibles and books. On a different call another chaplain gave me his name but asked me not to use it on correspondence—just to write to the “Chaplain.” The prison population is some 4,000, the size of a small town. An inmate writes:

“. . . I’m writing because I’m interested in building a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, and it was brought to my attention you provide bibles and other books to help people get an understanding of God’s Word. It will be very much appreciated if you can send me resources to understand His Word. I’m just a person trying to right my wrongs and find peace in life, and I know building a relationship with God will accomplish my goals. May He continue to bless you all. Thank you.”

This inmate addresses her letter “To Whom It May Concern.” That really touches me. And I know it touches you! Gene particularly, but also I, saw and talked with so very many inmates locked away in prison for whom *nobody* had any concern. Thank you for caring!

“To Whom It May Concern, Hello, my name is Alisa and I am currently an inmate, and I received this address from

someone within the prison for books and bibles. I would be most appreciative of this as I would like to further my relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please and thank you.”

I’D LOVE TO SEND YOU a copy of the two beautiful Christian cards we received—signed by the women in a large southern prison—in thanks for all the books and bibles we sent them recently. They’re participating in a Principals and Applications for Life program that includes worship, religious materials (*that’s where you were a help*) and counseling. The cards won’t fit on this page, but here’s a few of things they wrote:

“ Thank you always. . . . Thanks for all you do!! . . .From all of us in Pal, WE APPRECIATE YOU! Thank you sooooo much. Thanks for the blessing. . . .”

The number of bibles I have never heard of proliferate, seemingly from month to month. This next inmate listed four, any one of which he said he would be happy to have. . . .

“I would like to request some books but don’t know what you have so I included a few in hopes you may have them in stock. . . . A journaling study bible, an Old Scofield, a Reformation Study Bible or a CSB. I would be grateful to receive which ever is available. I am a new student trying to reconnect with the Lord and follow the Word. When sending any books they cannot contain any writing in it or the prison will deny it. If possible can you send a soft leader (?) easy to travel book. Thank you in advance and God bless you.”

REV. 21:2 “And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. . . ” PSA. 48 “Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. . . ” Come, Lord Jesus!!!

CHAPLAINS’ CORNER

IMAGINE being chaplain in two parts of a four-section prison, the largest in your state, with some 3,700 inmates! **PLUS**, serving as chaplain at the nearest Detention Center (jail), which houses 350 male and female prisoners! No wonder his response, when I called to see if they could use bibles and books, was —

“I CERTAINLY CAN! AND WE APPRECIATE IT, TOO!. . . .”

I’M NOT SURE what this next chaplain was doing when I called. But he sounded out of breath. Sometimes a chaplain will join the inmates in one of their sports. Participation helps win their trust and respect —

“We could use anything you send. Bibles, hardback or softback Christian books. A few of our inmates are involved in biblical studies, so commentaries, concordances, bible dictionaries are all welcomed. . . .”

HE LEFT A VERY NICE telephone message to acknowledge receipt of the three boxes of bibles and books we sent him:

“Ms. Dorothy, I just wanted to let you know we received your boxes at Eastern. . . . Thank you so much. Thank you again. . . . You can call me any time!”

PRISON In some instances the word has come to mean a lot more than simply punishment for a crime. In order to help

keep those who are released from coming back through that “revolving door,” many prisons offer multiple programs to prepare inmates for return to the outside. *This next prison has some 20 programs geared to helping the nearly 1,000 women incarcerated there make a life for themselves upon their release. Agriculture, mental health, parenting, substance abuse. . . .* And these do help. But nothing carries with it the assurance of a new life like a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. This chaplain thanks you . . .

“We’ve received everything. And anything you can send in the future would be awesome. Thank you so very much for thinking of the women here. . . .”

I’ve talked to this chaplain in the past, and was delighted to once again send him bibles and books. I told him I loved his joyous spirit. And he joked, “There are some who think people like us are cracked pots. But if we are, at least we bleed out the Holy Spirit!” His facility is a receiving center. It’s what he called “*the front lines*.” Some 1,300 men are there at any given time. But they are shipped to their permanent facility within a few weeks—*taking with them only what they can carry in the paper bag they are given. That can include the bible we may send them if they so choose.*

If you knew your personal belongings for the next few years were only those things you could get in a paper sack, how carefully would you choose?

THIS COUNTY JAIL has 1,500 inmates—225 of which are women—a very big job! But the chaplain or her assistant Darla are always happy—and quick—to return my call and take everything we can offer them.

Whether we are “free” or locked in some dark cell, in moments when all our strength is exhausted by the waves and billows of life that have rolled over us, breaking and surging, breaking and surging, *there remains a place within every man or woman on earth where “deep calls to deep.”* A place where the soul of man – with a longing beyond words – reaches out, seeking with a desperate yearning to return to the One who made it.

When we come to the end of ourselves, and call out for mercy to the King of kings, we find we have only come to the beginning of God.

“The yearning to know what cannot be known, to comprehend the incomprehensible, to touch and taste the unapproachable, arises from *the image of God* in the nature of man. *Deep calleth unto deep*, and though polluted and landlocked by the mighty disaster theologians call the Fall, the soul senses its origin and longs to return to its source.”
A. W. Tozer (Psa. 42:7,8)

Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. Jude 1:21



Dorothy and the Neill Family

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US PROVIDE SO MANY BIBLES AND BOOKS TO PRISONS AND JAILS AGAIN THIS MONTH:

Haysi Regional Jail, Haysi, VIRGINIA
Wyoming Women’s Center, Lusk, WYOMING
Green Haven Correctional Facility, Stormville, NEW YORK
Washington Corrections Center, Shelton, WASHINGTON
Panama City Jail, Panama City, FLORIDA
York Correctional Institution, Niantic, CONNECTICUT
Carroll County Jail, Delphi, INDIANA
Bibb Correctional Facility, Brent, ALABAMA
Central County Jail, Bartow, FLORIDA
Crowley County Correctional, Olney, COLORADO
Harnette Correctional Institution, Lillington, NORTH CAROLINA
Holmes Correctional Institution, Bonifay, FLORIDA
Labette County Jail, Oswego, KANSAS
Hardin County Jail, Savannah, TENNESSEE
Cook County Jail, Adel, GEORGIA
Fishkill Correctional Facility, Beacon, NEW YORK
Gurney Unit, Palestine, TEXAS
Morgan County Correctional Center, Wartburg, TENNESSEE
Mobile County Metro Jail, Mobile, ALABAMA
Jackson Correctional Institution, Malone, FLORIDA
LaVista Correctional Facility, Pueblo, COLORADO
Women’s Diagnostic and Correctional Center, Vandalia, MISSOURI



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Founder

THE VOICE OF TRIUMPH

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~ DATED MATERIAL ~
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WE GO BACK A LONG LONG WAY BUT THE BEST IS YET TO COME

CAN IT REALLY BE 50 YEARS SINCE GENE WAS IN PRISON?! He served his last year in a prison located on the Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, where prisoners were often used to do physical labor (upkeep) on the base. While there, he and a few of the other inmates were allowed to join the choir composed of “free world” people who attended the base church. One of the choir’s members was a woman named *Wanda*. *Wanda is 96 years young now. She was the first person I remember to begin receiving our first newsletters after Gene’s release.* And she’s been with us ever since!

I wrote her last month reminding her of our “history” together and received a beautiful response. It was a blessing that brought tears to my eyes. Here’s what she wrote:

“Dear Dorothy, The recent histories letter I received from you is now filed with my ‘Precious Things.’ I saw Gene only two times there at Eglin. The first was when I asked another prisoner who the guy was that had the SUNSHINE all over his face. The second time was when I saw you also, having brought Gene some requested study materials. . . . I am now 96 years young and have been legally blind for several years. . . . The Lord has greatly blessed me and I can still pray for you! You’ve been such a blessing to so many!”

**LET OTHERS SEE JESUS IN YOU.
YOU NEVER KNOW WHO MAY BE WATCHING**