

Onesimus Newsletter



“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.” Proverbs 3:5



June 2023

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“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28)



Greetings and Ministry News

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will make straight your paths.”

Proverbs 3: 5 - 6

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters,

I pray that the peace and joy of our Lord will always be with you and your loved ones. After nearly three years of enduring the hardships and restrictions caused by the Corona virus, it seems that this stormy and turbulent season is now coming to an end, and that the warmth of springtime will soon be upon us. We are now five months into this new year. Although we may still bear the scars of past hardships, we continue to move forward one step at a time, empowered by the grace and love of our Lord. Rather than trusting in our own knowledge and understanding, let us resolve to trust the Lord more and more in all things. Jesus has promised that if we trust in Him, He will personally direct our paths. We at Onesimus Ministry will continue to humbly follow the Lord as He guides and directs our mission to serve others. To all Onesimus School of Theology students, and to all those who support and believe in our work, let us continue moving forward together prayerfully. I pray that the full and gentle grace of our Lord will always be with you. I also thank the Lord for allowing Onesimus School of Theology San Luis, Mexico, to successfully complete their spring semester seminar, and I am truly grateful to all the pastoral staff who have invested their time and energy into ensuring the success of our students. In addition, much thanks also go out to the pastors who participated in our recent worship services at Soledad State Prison.

All glory be to God.

-Pastor John Choi
Onesimus Ministry

California PC 1170D Resentencing

California Penal Code section 1172.1 authorizes a court to recall a sentence and resentence a convicted inmate at the recommendation of the CDCR, the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH), or the District Attorney. A successful resentencing hearing will result in a shorter sentence.

Resentencing is available to all convicted persons, including those who have taken plea deals, those facing Life Without Parole (LWOP), and those who have been sentenced to the death penalty.

An inmate must have served a minimum of 10 years in CDCR custody to be eligible for exceptional conduct resentencing [there are different criteria for resentencing based on changes in sentencing law].

Resentencing can only be denied by the court if they find that the defendant poses “an unreasonable risk of danger to public safety.”

In determining whether resentencing is an appropriate course of action, the court will consider various factors including the defendant’s disciplinary record and evidence of rehabilitation while incarcerated, evidence of whether or not the defendant poses the risk of future violence, and whether or not circumstances have changed since the original sentencing that renders further incarceration as no longer being in the interests of justice.



Mark 10: 46 – 52

Bartimaeus was a blind beggar who had experienced a lifetime of alienation, contempt, and rejection. His days were filled with discomfort and despair.

Despite his troubles, Bartimaeus did not give up hope. He had heard rumors of a man named Jesus who was known to heal the sick. Bartimaeus believed that if he could just meet Jesus, his pain and suffering would be over.

One day, when he heard that Jesus was going to pass his way, blind Bartimaeus positioned himself by the roadside, hoping for an opportunity to encounter the Lord.

Then Jesus, along with a large crowd of His followers and disciples, passed by the roadside where Bartimaeus was waiting. He was on His way to Jerusalem. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he began to cry out.

“Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

The people around Bartimaeus scolded him, telling him to be quiet. But Bartimaeus began to shout even more loudly.

Jesus noticed Bartimaeus, and commanded that he be brought over.

“What would you like me to do for you?” Jesus asked Bartimaeus.

Bartimaeus replied, “Teacher, I want to see.”

“Go,” said Jesus. “Your faith has healed you.”

Because Bartimaeus desperately and sincerely sought Jesus, Jesus did not turn him away. Likewise, when we seek Jesus with a genuine heart, He does not turn us away, but listens to our deepest desires and heartaches.

Our problems cannot be solved by our parents, neighbors, co-workers, a good home environment, or by attending church. Our problems can only be solved by encountering Jesus Christ.

We invest much time and energy into achieving our personal goals and pursuing earthly accomplishments, but how much of our daily journey is spent seeking God?

Many people scolded Bartimaeus for crying out to Jesus, and told him to be quiet.

The world often discourages us from seeking after God. As he made his way through the bustling crowd, Bartimaeus removed his coat that was weighing him down and preventing him from reaching Jesus. He cast it aside in his desperation to encounter the Lord.

This coat was everything that blind Bartimaeus owned, but because it was hindering him from effectively reaching Jesus, he cast it aside. Likewise, if there is a behavior or mentality that is hindering us on our journey of faith towards Christ, I pray that we will be able to boldly cast it aside and desperately seek after Him.

If there is something that occupies a significant place in our lives, but prevents us from achieving intimacy with God, we should ask God to grant us the faith and determination we need to cast it aside and desperately seek after Him.

We may often find ourselves too busy to study God's word, too busy to pray, focused only on fulfilling our earthly obligations, living a life of selfish disobedience.

My late mother spent the final chapter of her life in a nursing facility.

She had nursing staff on hand to address her basic needs and prepare her daily meals. She did not have to work or provide for herself. From my understanding, she had nothing but free time.

Whenever I would visit my mother, I would ask, "Have you been reading your Bible and praying?" To this, my mother would always respond, "I know these things are important, but I have been so busy, lately. You have no idea how little free time I have throughout the day."

I am sure we can all relate to this feeling on some level or another. But this excuse is a deception of Satan. We all may feel sometimes that life is too hectic and that we are busier than the next person, but nothing should be more of a priority in our lives than our daily walk with God.

In spite of our earthly ambitions and obligations, our ultimate goal should be to live according to the wisdom given to us in God's word.

Before Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted, He already knew the answer. Jesus knew all the deepest desires of Bartimaeus's heart. If Jesus was to ask us the same question today, what would our response be?

Jesus told Bartimaeus, "Go, your faith has healed you." Jesus responds to our hopes according to the faith we have in our hearts. It is our faith that allows us to be healed and restored.

Although we may hear and understand the word, our obedience is often negatively impacted by the worries and concerns related to our present situation. Rather than basing our obedience on our ever-changing circumstances, we must first take a step of faith towards God, regardless of our circumstances.

The walls of Jericho didn't fall until God's people marched forward in obedience. Peter didn't walk on water until he took his first step of faith out of the boat. Naaman's leprosy was not healed until he responded in faith to God's instructions.

In a sense, we are all Bartimaeus.

We live our lives, blind to the truth. It is Jesus who opens our eyes to the love of God and the hope and promise of Heaven. Having had his hopes fulfilled in Christ and his eyes opened, Bartimaeus began to follow the Lord.

Coincidentally, the road on which Bartimaeus met Jesus was the road to Jerusalem, to Golgotha. It was the road on which Jesus would suffer for our sins. It was the road of the cross.

Both then and today, people mistakenly expect the path of a Christian to be filled with glory. However, the true path of faith reflects the same path taken by Jesus.

The Bible tells us that this path is narrow. It is a path of a servant. It is a path on which we bear our cross and follow in the footsteps of Christ.

Although we may have been healed and the eyes of our faith opened by God, we can become blind beggars again if we foolishly allow ourselves to become distracted by difficult circumstances, pride, and self-pity. I pray that we can all remain strong in our faith and consistent in our obedience, and by the grace of God continue moving forward on the path of victory.



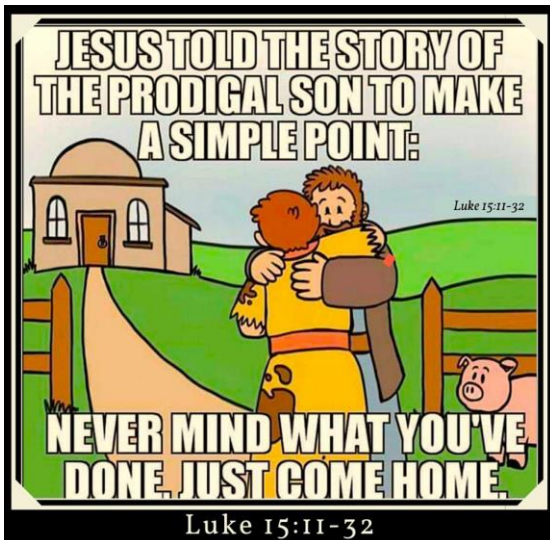
Where Are You Going Now?

Where Will You Spend Eternity? How much time is left in your life?

Death comes suddenly and unexpectedly!

Did you know that your soul is eternal and lives forever after physical death?

You must be prepared for the life after.



The Miracles of the Lord Abound Even Today, Pastor Suk Kim

Acts 16:16-34.

The Lord whom we worship is the everlasting God. He existed before the formation of this world and through Him everything was created. He continuously works to fulfill His mysterious will.

In the midst of God's grand design for history, He has delivered you and me from everlasting death. He is with the offspring of those whom He has delivered, and He offers grace for their lives.

Today's main scripture demonstrates how the Lord works and manifests Himself in the lives of His children.

The event in today's main passage occurred approximately 20 years after the Lord's ascension. When Paul and Silas traveled to a foreign land to preach the gospel, their teaching was met with much opposition. The false accusations made by those who opposed their teaching had landed Paul and Silas in the prison dungeon after having received a severe beating. Paul and Silas, who had preached the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, now found themselves in prison suffering severe pain in their bodies.

How frightened and anxious they must have been in the prison, not knowing what to expect. At that moment, the Lord appeared in their presence. Here, we see the providential hand of God's grace.

If we look at Acts 16:25 again, we can see that the Lord manifested Himself in the prison cell where Paul and Silas were.

The scripture says that "About midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them."

How could their praying and singing of hymns inside the prison be a manifestation of the Lord?

Prayer involves turning our thoughts toward God rather than focusing on our pain, suffering, and anxiety. It involves placing the focus of our thoughts on God. This is prayer. We must know that it is impossible for the thoughts

of man to move toward God on their own. When we observe trees swaying from side to side, we know that the wind is blowing. Trees cannot move by themselves. Just as the blowing wind is necessary to move the trees, mankind cannot seek after and turn to God by themselves.

Romans 3:10-11 says, "As it is written, there is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands, no one who seeks God." Verse 9 says that man is in this condition because man is under sin.

Man cannot by himself move towards God. He does not even seek God. Even if he listens to the word of God, he cannot understand the word through his own knowledge.

Thus, the Holy Scripture says that man is like a dead man in the presence of God, a life form that can not and will not respond to or regard the things of God.

The Lord appeared to Paul and Silas in the prison and moved their hearts toward prayer and worship. 1 Corinthians 15:10 says, "But in the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect. No, I wanted harder than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me." We are able to walk in faith due to grace and the helping hand of God. We worship on the Lord's Day because God allowed us to come to church. He allows grace and understanding to fill our lives.

The burning love for God arises in our hearts through His working and guidance. We should never misunderstand these as things that originate from within ourselves, but must realize that they all come from God. We must give thanks to God for all that is in our lives. Let us give thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ for being with us.

Second, the Lord's deliverance was manifested inside the prison. When the apostles prayed to and worshipped the Lord, an earthquake shook the earth, the prison doors swung open, and all the prisoners' chains came loose.

This is not simply a natural phenomenon, but a work of God. The Lord desires to do His miraculous work in His children's lives. He wants to deliver them so they can praise Him. We must believe that the Lord has the power to resolve the daily problems in our lives. Let us examine how the power of the Lord manifests in our lives.

The first way in which the Lord manifests Himself in our lives is that our hearts are moved toward God. We must rely on the Lord's guidance to address the circumstances in our lives. Paul and Silas did this through prayer and praise. They were led by the Holy Spirit, and when they received the urging of the Spirit to pray, they listened and obeyed. The miracle occurred as a result of prayer and praise being given to the Lord.

In the Holy scripture, God works through His children. For example, when Moses threw his staff on the ground, it was not through his own power that the staff transformed. Moses threw the staff on the ground at the command of God. Therefore, it was not Moses who threw the staff on the ground, but God who had done so through him. Thus, a miracle occurred.

When God grabbed the snake through Moses, it turned back into Moses's staff. Likewise, God moves our hearts and causes us to feel a great desire to offer prayer and be led by His spirit. It is not I who offers that prayer, but the Lord working through me and allowing miracles to manifest in my life. This is how God's miracles manifest in our lives. God wants to manifest His power and love through our acts of obedience.

I want to share with you a story.

“Jeremiah McAuley, I sentence you to 50 years of hard labor to be served at Sing Sing Prison.”

At the entrance to Sing Sing Prison are inscribed the words, “The path of a convict is difficult.” These words embody the life story of Jeremiah McAuley, and whenever he would look upon this inscription, he would be reminded of the solemn words spoken to him by the judge, that day.

Jeremiah, or Jerry's, father was a professional counterfeiter. Jerry began his criminal career at the age of 13. By age 19 he had become a notorious robber who terrorized and victimized the citizens of New York all along the waterfront. One fateful day, Jerry's criminal companions falsified evidence and had him arrested, charged, and imprisoned.

For four years, Jerry's hatred grew towards those who had him imprisoned, and he constantly dreamt of escaping. Then one morning, Jerry McAuley and his fellow inmates attended a worship service at the chapel. To Jerry's surprise, on the podium was one of his former companions. Jerry

was shocked. “That is Awful Gardner! I wonder what he is doing up there?” Jerry mumbled to himself.

When the man came down from the podium and began interacting with the inmates, Jerry stood close by and listened intently to what was being said.

“Until just a few months ago, I was in the same position as you all, locked up and wearing prisoner’s garments,” Gardner explained. “And then, I discovered the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal savior.” He was in tears and sobbing so profusely that it was difficult to make out the words he was saying.

Jerry glanced around for a moment before discreetly raising a hand to his face and wiping away tears of his own. Jerry wanted to know how a man like Awful Gardner had become a follower of Christ, so he listened to the entire story.

When Jerry returned to his cell, he dusted off his old Bible. For the next several weeks, he would read and study his Bible whenever he had free time.

Within his own heart, Jerry began to struggle with his sin. He wanted to pray, but was completely unable to do so. Then, an inner voice whispered to him, “Remember the prayer of the tax collector.” Although Jerry was on his knees, he constantly kept getting up and glancing around, worried that someone was watching him. He felt embarrassed at the idea of kneeling down and crying out to God for help, so he got back up.

Then one night, not caring what others might think of him, Jerry overcame his internal struggle and knelt back down on the cold, stone floor of his cell. He swore to remain in that position all night if that’s what it would take to be forgiven.

It did not take the entire night, however.

In the midst of his pain and turmoil, Jerry saw the image of Christ on the cross, and heard an inner voice telling him, “My son, your sins have been forgiven.” Jeremiah began to tremble as he was filled with new life. He leapt to his feet, clapped his hands, and exclaimed, “Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!” A passing guard asked him what he was doing. Jeremiah responded, “I have discovered Jesus Christ!” The guard told him to be quiet, and threatened to report him.

But Jerry was not so easily silenced. He shared Jesus with his friend Jack Dare and brought him to Christ. Before Jerry received his freedom and was released, he shared the gospel with several other inmates, as well.

Even though Jerry returned to New York a born-again Christian, he soon discovered that society was reluctant to accept him, an ex-convict. He began falling back into old habits. Then one day, a missionary discovered Jerry hopelessly wandering the streets without a penny to his name. He provided Jerry with spiritual encouragement and helped him find employment.

Jerry McAuley soon developed a new vision. He owned a house on the waterfront. Jerry made up his mind to use this location to start a rescue mission for people like himself, men and women who had been rejected by society and needed a helping hand. Jerry would use this program to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of others, and lead them to the Lord.

In October of 1872, Jerry opened Helping Hand Mission (now known as New York City Rescue Mission) at 316th Water Street. Inspired by Jerry's success in helping and restoring fallen individuals back to Christ, many other faithful Christian began opening rescue missions all over the country. One of the individuals that Jerry helped, Colonel H. H. Hadley, went on to single-handedly open 62 similar rescue missions for people in need.

Jeremiah McAuley, a man who had discovered peace and joy while in prison, passed away on September 18th, 1884. However, the rescue mission movement he sparked continues to burn brightly to this day.



God, who created you, loves
you and wants you home with him!

God gave up His son in order to save YOU. Claim the
great promise of John 3:16.

**“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and
only son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish
but have eternal life.”**

I am an inmate serving a 26-years-to-life sentence in the California prison system since 2003. When I became incarcerated, I left behind a wife and a two-year-old daughter. I left them financially destitute, forcing them to move in with my parents-in-law. While I was in the County Jail, I remember speaking with my mother-in-law on the telephone. She said that my daughter would wake up every morning and go around each room to look for her daddy. Every single day, I was tormented by toxic shame, overwhelming guilt, and self-loathing.

In 2005, I was sent to a Level 4 yard to serve my sentence. In the summer of that year, my daughter, who was four-years-old at that time, finally came to visit me for the first time with her mother. I got to hold her in my arms and play with her in the visiting room for a couple of hours. At the end of the visit, my daughter said, “Daddy, today was the best day of my life.” When I heard those words come out of my daughter’s mouth, I realized how much I had been depriving and hurting her. Of all the life experiences she could have had, spending a few hours in a prison visiting room with her daddy was her favorite. This realization intensified and elevated my toxic shame and guilt.

It was during that time when I met an inmate named Abraham. He was a Protestant chaplain’s clerk. At that time, I was extremely miserable with myself. No matter how hard I tried, I could not see the light at the end of the tunnel. Unlike me, however, Abraham always had a smile on his face whenever I saw him. One day, I had a conversation with him. I asked how it was possible for him to always smile and have so much peace in his heart despite the fact that he was serving a Life Sentence Without the Possibility of Parole. I simply could not comprehend it. He then said, “I was not always like this. But I found God. He allowed me to forgive myself, fully accept myself, and be compassionate and loving toward myself. My life completely changed as a result.” On that day, I found hope. I found hope that I too could become a person who did not hate himself all the time. With that hope, I made a decision to seek my own transformation that day.

I wish I can say that my transformation was instantaneous. It was not. It was a long process. I enrolled myself in the Onesimus Bible Correspondence College and began studying the Bible. I began to repent and pray with my heart rather than my head. As a result, I began to build an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

In 2007, I was transferred to a Level 3 yard. I started participating in various rehabilitative programs, including AVP and Alcoholics Anonymous. I continued to learn, heal, and grow. Eventually, I became the man I am today. Today, I stand in direct opposition to what I once was. I take complete ownership of my past choices. Today, I believe I am entirely sufficient, worthy, invaluable, acceptable, capable, and beloved because that is what God says who I am. Even though I am still serving my sentence in prison, I have a heavenly citizenship (Phil. 3:20).

A few months ago, I had an interesting conversation with a Christian brother on the yard. I shared with him about a man named Abraham whom I met nearly seventeen years ago on a Level 4 yard. To my surprise, he said, "Are you serious? I know Abraham. He is a friend of mine." He then proceeded to share with me that about five years ago, Governor Brown commuted Abraham's sentence and reduced it to 25-years-to-life. He added that Abraham then had a BPH parole hearing and was found suitable for parole. He further explained that Abraham was paroled and doing very well in Southern California. Later that night, he showed me a picture of Abraham standing in front of his new car.

I was blown away and shocked. Abraham was serving an LWOP the last time I saw him. It was truly amazing and incredible that he was paroled. I could not stop glorifying God. He is indeed great! I am convinced that it was God who placed Abraham in my life to help me turn my life around. Through what He has done with Abraham, God has shown me that He is able to do all things. I believe that there is absolutely nothing God cannot do.

In a few days, I am going to finally have my BPH parole suitability hearing. The past twenty years have been an incredible journey of healing, recovery, self-discovery, and growth as a Child of God. I trust God that no matter what happens, He is going to complete what he began to do in my life years ago. I surrender my life to Him without any reservation. He brought me this far in my spiritual journey, and I am entirely satisfied with what He has

in store for my life. I am willing to do whatever He wants me to do and go wherever He sends me. I will never stop trusting Him.

May God bless you in your spiritual journey, and may you continue to experience His faithfulness!

Testimony II

Justin

Hey John how's it going? It's Justin Chung, your old friend from Sa-Rang Junior High. I just wanted to write to you to see how you're doing. I know it's not the best time or the easiest time for you, but it can be the best time for you to dream, strategize, and execute your dreams once you get out. I spent exactly 13 years and 6 months incarcerated, not knowing if I would ever get out. Laws began to change for youth offenders and my sentence went down from 82 years to 25 years. I would have been around 41 before I saw parole. But I never gave up, continued to better myself and take accountability for all the wrong that I have done. With that being said, you have less than a few months to do. I know it's not easy there and can be very congested and frustrating. I know that people can get on your nerves and it can feel dehumanizing. It's up to you to decide whether to do your last remaining weeks smoothly or not. I suggest you humble yourself, be assertive, and be respectful and carry yourself in a way that won't cause problems or trouble in there. Unless your willing to face the consequences and end up being in there longer. You have a chance to come home in a few weeks, so just do your time and come home and have a game plan to be better out here. But yea, I just wanted to say that. Let me know how you're doing, call me when you can. For me, I've been home almost 3 years now. I went straight into school and got my license. I am a hairdresser full time in Downey. I love what I do. I have been dating my girlfriend of 2 years and am planning to propose to her soon. I am still dealing with immigration, so I don't know what will happen to me, but every day I am living by faith and by the word of God. That is what got me through prison all those years. Of course in the beginning in juvenile hall, I got into fights and riots, but after that I went to prison, I decided to better myself and change. I have not received one rule violation in prison. It wasn't easy, but I kept thinking about my family. I was sent all the way up north by the Oregon border, but I

continued to humble myself when people disrespected me. I was able to get down closer to home by San Diego or the city of Imperial which was about 3 hours away from home. I've been all over the state of California getting transferred from prison to prison because my points were lowering. And when the opportunity came, I was ready to go in front of the Parole Board and state my case and rehabilitation. They found me suitable for parole and allowed me to come home. But it wasn't without lots of trials and heartaches. There have been many nights of prayer and cries. I prayed every night for 13 and a half years that God would give me another chance to come home. And He finally did. Well let me know how you're doing and am waiting for your response. Call upon the Lord and He will hear your prayers.

Psalms 34:4-8 New Living Translation (NLT)

I prayed to the LORD, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears. Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces. In my desperation I prayed, and the LORD listened; he saved me from all my troubles. For the angel of the LORD is a guard; he surrounds and defends all who fear him. Taste and see that the LORD is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!

Testimony III Joseph

James 2:18

"But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works."

I have heard that it is our faith in Christ that saves and redeems us. The Bible even states that we are saved by grace and not by works. This has led me to wonder why our works matter.

The way we conduct ourselves in this world is a direct reflection of what we truly believe in our hearts. If a significant other loves you, their actions will naturally align with what is in their heart. If they do not, then it will be evident by the fruit of the relationship. If one says he loves God but hates his brother, he is a liar. Authentic faith naturally produces a corresponding

change in one's disposition and behavior. The heart, however, is deceitful and difficult to know. We must ask God to expose our inconsistencies, that we may achieve authenticity in truly aligning ourselves with what is good.

I have found myself often praying to God, asking for healing and restoration, claiming to desire Him while still clinging to my own selfish behaviors. My works did not demonstrate that my faith was genuine. It required visible action on my part to demonstrate to God that I really meant what I was professing. When I was able to bite the bullet and make the effort to give up ungodly and self-destructive behaviors, I began to experience visible changes in my spiritual life, in how I received wisdom and encouragement from God.

When faith and works align, it becomes a powerful tool through which a fledgling relationship with God is solidified and brought to maturity. God sees our willingness to take physical steps towards Him, and He responds accordingly.

God loves you.

Testimony IV

Jorge Mexico

Psalm 119:71

“It is good for me that I have been afflicted. That I may learn Your statutes.”

A few months ago, I saw this Psalm on a page of the Sarang Sam Project Calendar. And when I saw this scripture I felt plenty identified with it.

Within a few days, if the Lord wills, I will complete ten years of prison. And I can say with no doubt that this ten years has been the greatest affliction of all my life.

Because before I got imprisoned, I was a proud and arrogant business man. I was a metals and recycling materials trader, and I was earning a good amount of money. But, I didn't believe in God. I didn't believe in the things

that Bible says. I didn't have any interest on the spiritual things. I was just a materialist, selfish and greedy man.

Then I was arrested and imprisoned. I lost everything, and suddenly I was completely alone. People that were around and close to me, they gone and I never back to see them again. I remained alone and with absolutely nothing. I felt myself defeated and humiliated.

One day, an inmate invited me to the opening of the "Onesimus Ministry." So I started to study about God, about His word, His purposes and His promises. After a short time, my opinion about God changed, and then I could to experience the joy of forgiveness and salvation that God gives to us through His Son Jesus Christ. After that, all my life changed completely. I could to prove and confirm that all the God's word is fully true. Now I can say firmly that I have a new hope and a new life thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ.

So, as this Psalm says, it was good for me that I have been afflicted. Because thanks to this affliction I could know God and get a beautiful relationship with Him. Today I can enjoy a new kind of happiness, hope and a wonderful inner peace. I got a new family and new brothers in Christ Jesus. And I can enjoy this great moments with you all, sharing this experiences and teachings.

God bless you all.



The choice is yours!

If you aren't Biblically saved at this moment, you are a heartbeat away from Hell. Eternal and unavoidable punishment in the Lake of Fire is waiting for you with no hope of ever getting out.

**You must prepare for your death today.
Tomorrow may be too late.**

Letter to Mom

Happy Birthday Mom !

I'm very sorry for what I put you through. I sometimes wish you could have had a better son than me so you could have had a better life.

I really don't think I deserve such a wonderful mother like you. I have been feeling this way since I was 12 or 13 years old, I just wasn't able to properly express it. Even though the many hurtful things I did and said to you was due to my intense anger and depression due to many things. But from the bottom of my heart I knew you were just trying to help me and would feel very guilty afterwards. Even though I said I hated you I never meant it no matter how serious I sounded. I just had many many problems I had to deal with myself that were out of your reach.

I get out soon and I'm hoping we could finally be together once and for all. Once again, Happy Birthday and before now and forever I will always be with you and love you.

Dear Mom,

Thank you for all the things you've done for me. When you did everything you could and took care of me and not gave up on me. Ever since I was in this world you've done a lot of things that I can't pay you back for.

I am sorry for all the bad things I've done to you like not listening to you when I had to clean up my room or not wanting to do the laundry. I am very thankful for all the things and wish I could pay you back. Without you, I wouldn't want to live in this world. I understand how much you care for me and I thank you for that.

This year, I hope you have a great life and have the best Mother's Day ever and be healthy and not be sick or tired.

Happy Mother's Day!

Love, Kevin

My God,

I have never thanked Thee for my thorn.

I have thanked Thee a thousand times for my roses, but not once for my thorns.

I have been looking forward to a world where I shall get compensation for my cross, but I have never thought of my cross as itself a present glory.

Teach me the glory of my cross, teach me the value of my thorn.

Show me that I have climbed to Thee by the path of pain, show me that my tears have made my rainbows.

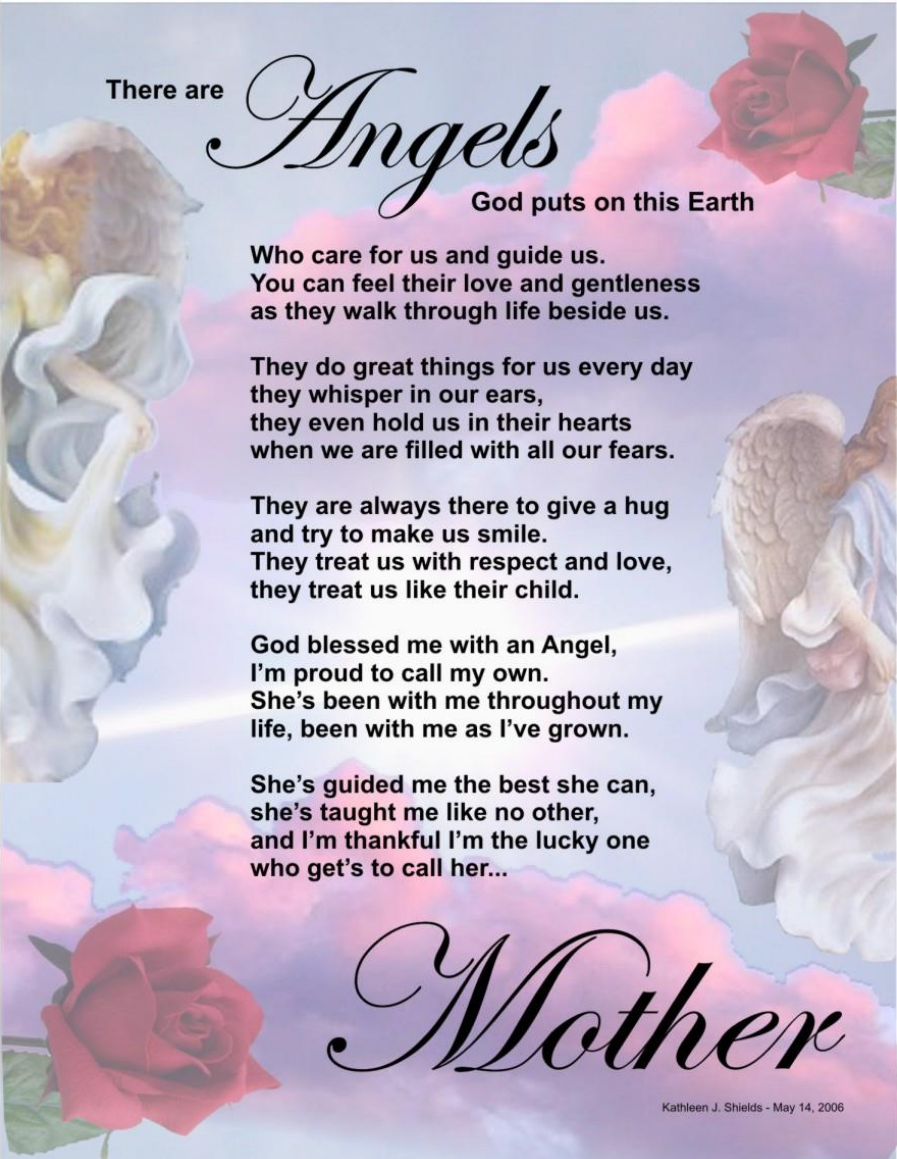
-George Matherson



Life is short, eternity
is forever. Are you ready?

According to the Bible, you can choose where you will spend eternity.

God has provided an answer to the matter of life and death, heaven and hell. The most precious gifts God has given us are the forgiveness of sin and eternal life in heaven.



There are

Angels

God puts on this Earth

Who care for us and guide us.
You can feel their love and gentleness
as they walk through life beside us.

They do great things for us every day
they whisper in our ears,
they even hold us in their hearts
when we are filled with all our fears.

They are always there to give a hug
and try to make us smile.
They treat us with respect and love,
they treat us like their child.

God blessed me with an Angel,
I'm proud to call my own.
She's been with me throughout my
life, been with me as I've grown.

She's guided me the best she can,
she's taught me like no other,
and I'm thankful I'm the lucky one
who get's to call her...

Mother

Kathleen J. Shields - May 14, 2006

Prayer Requests

<Please cooperate with us in prayer>

1. That Onesimus Ministry will remain focused on our mission of spreading the glory of the gospel.
2. For traveling safety as we visit our brothers and sisters in prison.
3. That our incarcerated brothers and sisters will come to know Christ, be changed, and spread His love to others.
4. That students of Onesimus School of Theology can truly become changed and restored individuals like Onesimus.
5. That the young people in our communities can remain strong in the face of temptation.
6. That our local churches will serve their communities as salt and light, reflecting the love of Christ to all.
7. For a spiritual revival in our nation.
8. That members of our New Life Ministry can be changed by God and return to their home countries as ministers of the word. That their actions will result in a worldwide ministry.
9. That our deported brethren will be able to rebuild new lives in Christ.
10. For the growth of Onesimus Ministry's new prevention ministry.
11. For the spiritual health and peace of all who serve and support our ministry through their time, prayer, encouragement, and finances.

Tuition for Onesimus School of Theology (OST) is waived for any currently incarcerated individual who seeks to enroll as a student.

God Bless !!!





Onesimus Ministry

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Est. 1994

Onesimus New Life Ministry: Korea, Japan, Mexico, Colombia

International Humanitarian Exchange Council, CA USA.

Rev. Suk Ki Kim Founder

Rev. John S. Choi President