



ONESIMUS MINISTRY Newsletter

"I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten while in my chains, who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and me."
(Philemon 1: 10 – 11)

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Vol.1

Onesimus Ministry Transitions into New Leadership

Transitions in leadership are pivotal moments in biblical history, often marking significant shifts in the spiritual and political landscape of the people of God. These transitions are not merely changes in human authority but are seen as divinely orchestrated events that fulfill God's purposes and promises. The Bible provides numerous examples of leadership transitions, each with its own unique circumstances and divine implications.

Moses to Joshua

One of the most notable transitions is from Moses to Joshua. Moses, the great prophet and leader, led the Israelites out of Egypt and through the wilderness. However, due to his disobedience at Meribah ([Numbers 20:12](#)), God did not permit him to enter the Promised Land. Instead, Joshua, Moses' assistant, was chosen to lead the people into Canaan. This transition is marked by a public commissioning, where Moses lays hands on Joshua, imparting wisdom and authority ([Deuteronomy 34:9](#)). God reassures Joshua with the promise of His presence: "As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you" ([Joshua 1:5](#)).

Elijah to Elisha

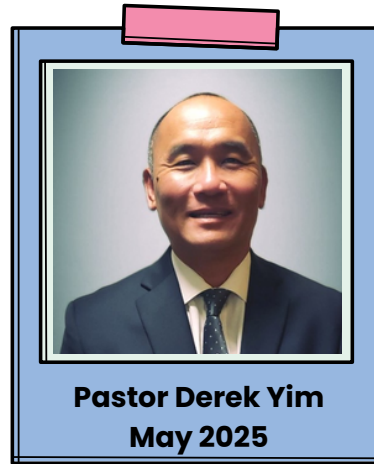
In the prophetic realm, the transition from Elijah to Elisha is a powerful example of mentorship and divine calling. Elijah, a mighty prophet, was instructed by God to anoint Elisha as his successor ([1 Kings 19:16](#)). Elisha's request for a double portion of Elijah's spirit ([2 Kings 2:9](#)) signifies his desire to carry on the prophetic ministry with even greater power. The dramatic ascension of Elijah in a whirlwind and the passing of his mantle to Elisha symbolize the transfer of prophetic authority and the continuation of God's work through His chosen servants.

Paul to Timothy

In the New Testament, the transition from Paul to Timothy highlights the importance of mentorship and the continuation of apostolic teaching. Paul, nearing the end of his ministry, writes to Timothy, urging him to "preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season" ([2 Timothy 4:2](#)). Paul's letters to Timothy emphasize sound doctrine, perseverance, and the passing on of the faith to future generations. This transition underscores the necessity of faithful leadership in the Church and the ongoing mission of spreading the Gospel.

These transitions in leadership demonstrate God's sovereignty and faithfulness in guiding His people through different eras and challenges. Each transition serves as a reminder of the importance of obedience, faith, and reliance on God's promises.

Leadership Transition at Onesimus Ministry



FOUNDER'S GREETING

Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters,

It has been a while since I've reached out to you all after my retirement three years ago. I didn't realize how quickly time has passed, and this summer marks the third hot season since then. I pray that you have all been well in the peace that the Lord provides. My wife and I are doing well by the grace of God. My health has improved significantly, and although my eyesight is still not fully restored, I am able to drive for about an hour, for which I'm truly grateful. My wife, too, is recovering after back surgery; though not fully healed, she is doing much better.

Today, I write to share with you the news of the Onesimus Ministry. Three years ago, after undergoing eight eye surgeries and being diagnosed with kidney cancer, my doctor urgently recommended the removal of one kidney before the cancer could spread. Even after surgery, I tried to continue my ministry, but my health made it impossible. To make matters more difficult, my wife—who had been my right hand—had to undergo back surgery just two weeks after my own operations. With both of us in recovery, it became clear that I could no longer carry on in ministry. I felt convicted that it would be unfaithful to continue serving when I could not give it my full strength. Thus, I urgently sought a successor and handed over the leadership of the ministry and church to Pastor Joon Sung Choi and his wife, who have served for the past three years.

However, this past April, due to personal reasons, Pastor Choi resigned from both the church and the ministry. The board of directors received this as the Lord's leading and began searching for a new leader. In God's providence, He reminded me of a pastor I had met after retirement while occasionally visiting brothers together in Sober Homes. After three years, God brought him back to mind, and we reconnected. He is now appointed as the new pastor of Onesimus Mission.

His name is Pastor Derek Yim. He shares a vision for reentry ministry similar to ours. At 57 years old, he has lived in the United States for 50 years and is fluent in both Korean and English. His wife has been an educator for over 35 years and shares a vision for preventative ministry to the children of immigrants in the local community. Currently, both are in a season of learning and transition, and we share this news with you through our newsletter. I humbly ask for your prayers—that they may serve with the heart of the Lord and become faithful, humble servants in this generation.

Until Pastor Derek becomes fully accustomed to the ministry, I am continuing to mentor, support, and assist him with the ministry. The phone number remains the same: 714-739-9100. Please don't hesitate to call or write if you need spiritual or emotional support, so we can share the grace found in Christ. I also ask for your continued prayers for my wife and me.

May you stand firm in the Lord's peace, endure temporary hardships, be transformed in faith, and be shaped into the image of Christ for His glory. All of us at Onesimus Ministry pray that you become those who are built up in Christ, who accept His training with gratitude, and who live for His purposes. May the grace of the Lord be with you, your families, and your households.

-Pastor Sukki Kim



ONESIMUS MINISTRY

Here is What is Happening!

JAIL AND PRISON MINISTRY

County Jail: Every Friday, we visit Orange County Jail in Santa Ana. Many of those visited are young inmates. There's growing concern that post-COVID, more youth are being drawn into worldly temptations, resulting in increased mental health issues and drug-related incarcerations. The Bible warns of these end-time conditions and calls us to stay alert and resist the devil (1 Peter 5:8). **Please pray for the next generation in our communities.**

Prison Visitation: Starting in July, the team will resume visits to prisons and reentry facilities. **Anyone wishing for a visit can notify the ministry by letter or phone.**

Prevention Ministry

Starting in July, Onesimus Ministry will launch a new youth outreach through the "Short Stop Program" in partnership with the court. The goal is to prevent delinquency and guide youth away from sin and temptation. We invite those with life experience to share their stories—through testimony, letters, or direct involvement—to help mentor and lead. Your real-life experiences can make a powerful difference. **Please consider joining us in this important work.**

New Life Ministry

For those deported to Korea, Onesimus Ministry provides help with housing, jobs, and reconnecting with family. **If you need support, please reach out.** We are one family in Christ. "The valley is the path to green pastures." – Psalm 23

ONESIMUS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY (OST)

Many inmates are studying God's Word through OST and are experiencing transformed lives that glorify the Lord. **Those interested in joining can contact the ministry to enroll.**

In San Luis, Mexico, OST runs a reentry seminary led by Pastor Daniel, his wife, and Missionary Kim Myung-Chul. For the past nine years, they have served local prisons and youth facilities, training over 130 Spanish-speaking leaders in reformed theology through seasonal intensive courses. As of May 20, 2025, they have expanded to weekly sessions, with participation from both inmates and local students. **Please pray for their ongoing mission to grow God's kingdom in the region.**



ONESIMUS MINISTRY

LOOK What Else is Happening!

Volunteers

On June 6, Onesimus supporters held a garage sale to raise funds. The money will be used to buy shoes for 79 children in Haiti starting school this September.

Brother Dellman, a former inmate and OST graduate from Prison in New York, now serves as a Onesimus missionary in Haiti. For the past 8 years, he has faithfully cared for children in need.



"LOVE FOR THE CONFINED"

Concert to support Onesimus Ministry

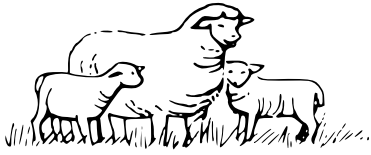
We're excited to announce the Onesimus Ministry Benefit Concert on Sunday, October 12, 2025, at 6:00 PM! This special evening will be a time to celebrate what God is doing, strengthen our partnership, and share a fresh vision for the future of the ministry. We warmly invite all support committee members and volunteers to join us and be a vital part of this meaningful event. Your presence and support will make a difference!

Prayer Service

Every Friday evening is filled with joyful worship and praise! We pray for our ONESIMUS families. Come pray with us to expand God's Kingdom through Onesimus Ministry. If you have a prayer request, please send it to us. Our prayer warriors are ready to intercede on your behalf.

Date & Time: Every Friday at 5:30 PM
Location: Onesimus Ministry Main Sanctuary





FOUNDER PASTOR SUKKI'S STORY

“So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them...”
(Genesis 1:27)

This year, I turn 75. As I look back, it has been 35 years since I arrived in Gardena to begin seminary at the age of 40—with nothing but a single travel bag in hand. Today, as I reflect on these decades of life in America, my heart overflows with awe and gratitude. The first 40 years of my life in Korea were lived entirely for myself. I had never once considered living for others. My life was consumed with chasing personal satisfaction and selfish ambition.

Coming to seminary, not even knowing what I was getting into—as a friend once jokingly reminded me—marked the beginning of a new journey. Alongside me were my faithful wife and our two beloved children. Looking back now, it all feels like a dream. And if I could sum it up in one sentence, I would say: It was all God’s grace.

After retiring, I came to fully realize that the life I lived in the United States was a life poured out for God. This is my testimony—it was not by my wisdom, strength, or merit, but by His unwavering grace. Sometimes I ask myself, “What if I had stayed in Korea?” The answer is always the same: “It would have ended in ruin.” My life in Korea was full of restlessness—chasing after things that could never truly satisfy. Though I worked confidently in my family’s business conglomerate and lacked nothing materially, I was empty inside. I didn’t know why I was alive, nor could I define the purpose of my existence.

It was only through seasons of hardship that I came to understand this truth: a life without purpose is a hollow life. When our family business eventually collapsed, everything I had placed my hope in—status, wealth, human trust—crumbled before my eyes. The very foundations I had built my identity upon were destroyed. That painful breaking point became a revelation. The idols I had revered were powerless. What I once thought was secure vanished in an instant. I realized then: this world only responds to power, not truth.

Through the cracks of my pride and self-sufficiency, the question began to rise: Why do we live? What is the true meaning of life? I had believed that money, pleasure, and power would fulfill me, but like Solomon, I too came to confess, “Everything is meaningless.” (Ecclesiastes 1:2)

FOUNDER'S STORY CONTINUE

To awaken me, God allowed my life to unravel. He used the collapse of everything I once cherished to redirect my heart back to Him. At the time, it felt like judgment—but in hindsight, it was mercy. Just as God called Abraham out of Ur, He was calling me out of my former life.

So, I left everything behind and came to seminary in America. My friends thought I had lost my mind—leaving behind wealth, family, and stability to start anew with nothing but a suitcase. Yet, I was not shaken. The Word that confirmed my steps was Genesis 1:27: “God created man in His own image.” I realized that human beings are not just physical creatures—we are spiritual beings created to live in fellowship with God. Apart from Him, we lose our identity and our purpose.

That one truth dispelled my lifelong confusion. Without God at the center, everything becomes meaningless. But now, I had met my true Master. My soul turned toward Him in gratitude and praise. That’s when I set off for seminary—at the age of 40.

Yet, I misunderstood God at first. I thought that by giving up everything to follow Him, all things would be smooth and easy. But just as the Israelites grumbled in the wilderness after leaving Egypt, I too faced disappointment and confusion. I didn’t realize then that God's ultimate purpose was not just to change my circumstances—but to transform me. He wanted to break down my pride, uproot my idols, and rebuild me into the image of His Son.

He stripped away my attachments to worldly things—even removed my assets in Korea. My U.S. residency took 10 long years and involved enduring three cases of immigration fraud. Yet, in it all, God was teaching me to trust Him alone. He never abandoned me. He faithfully provided.

Eventually, I graduated from seminary and became a pastor. Our first church was planted with just my wife, son, and daughter. We paid \$150 in monthly rent. At night, we cleaned buildings. During the day, I went door to door, evangelizing. For nearly a year, I met only one person—a Korean couple who had just immigrated. But even that small act of obedience led to something greater. A pastor who heard my story was inspired to plant a church. Hallelujah!

FOUNDER'S STORY CONTINUE

Soon after, God led me to jail ministry. He opened doors I never imagined—from Orange County jails to federal institutions. The verse that became my guide was Philippians 2:13:

“For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose.”

Even though I struggled to preach in English, God sent people like Aaron and Hur to hold up my arms. God was never asking for my perfection—He was asking for my obedience. And when I obeyed, He opened every door, brought the right people, and showed His power.

When I gave everything up to follow Christ, He began to heal my entire world. My environment changed. My relationships transformed. The atmosphere around me shifted from competition and greed to grace and blessing.

As Colossians 1:13 declares:

“He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves.”

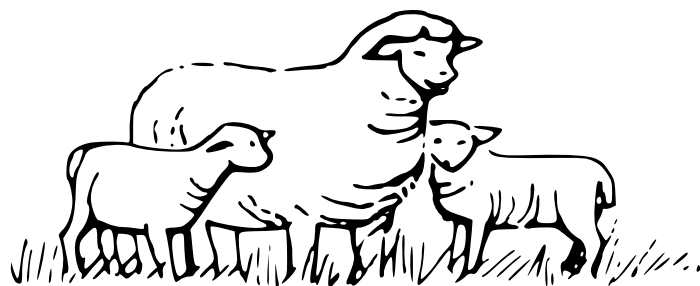
Amen! What greater blessing is there?

God poured out His abundant grace on someone like me. In giving me Jesus Christ, He gave me everything. He took my broken, self-centered life and made it new. For the past 30 years, my wife and I—who once lived without purpose—have been called to love, serve, and minister to the incarcerated. He has given us this blessed life.

Now, as I look ahead to the remaining years of my journey, my prayer is simple:

That my life would be like a fragrant letter of Christ—loving, serving, and testifying to His goodness on this earth.

To God be all the glory.



PASTOR DEREK'S SHARING

My name is Derek Yim—my Korean name is Yim Tae Woo. I was born in Daegu, South Korea, the youngest of three children. On April 19, 1975, at the age of eight, my family immigrated to the United States in search of new opportunities and a better life.

Before I came to know the Lord, my life was filled with partying and a deep sense of aimlessness. I sought fulfillment in all the wrong places, wandering in sin and searching for purpose. But everything changed in May of 1988. During a college revival service at Oriental Mission Church, I encountered the grace of Jesus Christ. In my brokenness, I surrendered my life to Him, and from that moment forward, I began a new life, rooted in His love and truth. A verse that has anchored my journey ever since is Galatians 2:20:

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.

The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

This verse reminds me daily that my life is no longer my own, but belongs fully to Christ and must be lived by faith.

God has graciously opened doors for me to serve in many ways—three years as a youth pastor, various leadership roles within the church, and in April 2012, I was ordained as a deacon. But the calling God placed on my life began even earlier.

In the summer of 1995, while leading a college retreat, God gave me a clear vision—a burden to create a Dream Center to serve the marginalized: those caught in addiction, violence, homelessness, and incarceration. That night, the Holy Spirit ignited a fire in my heart that has never gone out. Years later, while pursuing my MBA at BIOLA University, I shaped my final project around this very vision and eventually launched an LLC to begin laying the foundation.

But like Jonah, I ran. I allowed fear, distractions, and excuses to delay obedience. Yet even in my wandering, God never gave up on me. His mercy kept calling me back.

Now, I am ready. I'm all in for Christ—fully surrendered, fully committed. I long to bring the light of Jesus into the darkest places, to offer hope where there is despair, and to see the vision birthed in 1995 finally come to life.

The Scripture that fuels this calling is Luke 4:18–19:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Joining Onesimus Ministry is not just an opportunity—it is a divine appointment. It is a holy calling to bring the message of hope, healing, and restoration to those who need it most. I believe this is the moment God has been preparing me for—a sacred convergence of calling and timing—and I step into it with joy, humility, and unwavering faith. To God be the glory!



Missionary Sang K. Jun's Testimony

A Gift That Moved My Heart



After finishing my day's work and returning home, I opened an envelope delivered to Sarangsam. As I read its contents, I struggled to hold back tears. Inside was a \$100 check issued by the state government—from an inmate in a women's prison.

Back in 2017, I had started a praise team with the purpose of worshipping alongside inmates. As I spent more time with them, I learned that they earn between \$0.16 and \$0.75 an hour, with a maximum daily wage of \$2 due to state law. Knowing this, I could only imagine how long it must have taken this sister in prison to save \$100. The gift overwhelmed me.

What made it even more meaningful was a memory from some time earlier. A male inmate had written me a letter asking for prayer, a Bible, and a calendar made by our praise team. On the back of the envelope, I noticed a red stamp that read, "Indigent." I later learned this meant he had no financial support or family connections. As I prayed for him, tears filled my eyes and I cried out to God the Father.

Two days after receiving the check, I sent a picture of it to Pastor Sukki Kim at Onesimus Ministry. He replied with words of deep encouragement. Referring to Mark 12:41–44, where the widow gave all she had, he reminded me that God was shining His light on our praise team through the offering of this faithful sister. He prayed that the Lord would be with her and with us. I was deeply moved by God's grace.

My own journey began back in September 1980. After completing military service in Korea, I became the last member of my family to immigrate. I purchased a flight to L.A. on a 24-month installment plan and eventually settled in Fairfax County, Virginia. Among first-generation immigrants, there's a saying that your job is determined by who picks you up at the airport. My older brother, who worked at a dental lab, picked me up—and the very next day, I started work as a deliveryman in that same field. I've now been a dental laboratory technician for 45 years.

As I neared 60, I reflected on my life. I had arrived in America as a young man with no money and little education, yet I became a husband, a father of two, and a professional. I was deeply thankful for the opportunities this country had given me. I felt called to give back—not someday, but now—by sharing what I could with others. That's when I gathered like-minded friends to form a praise team, using our talents to serve inmates through music and worship.

Our journey began with a visit to Soledad State Correctional Facility near Monterey. There, I had dinner with Pastor Byung-Deok Min, who oversaw the prison ministry. He asked me, "Do you know what inmates need the most?" I paused, unsure. He said, "A calendar." At first, I didn't understand—until he explained that inmates count the days to their release and pardons. To them, a calendar is a vital lifeline.

Having studied photography and known the family of Edward Weston—a pioneer of modern photography—I had taught high school students alongside them. I proposed an idea: to create calendars using student-submitted photos with Bible verses printed on them. Pastor Min loved it, and we moved forward with the project, producing and donating them to prisons.

All of this began with a simple desire to worship and share. Today, that desire continues to grow, fueled by unexpected moments of grace—like a \$100 check from a sister behind bars, whose gift reminded me again that the heart of worship is sacrifice, and the greatest offering comes from love.

Sang K. Jun's Testimony Continue

On our way back from an early visit, we stopped by the home of Kim Weston, grandson of renowned photographer Edward Weston. After discussing the idea and receiving his support, we began working with students at the Weston Collective facility. In March 2019, we produced our first 1,500 calendars, which we donated to the Correctional Training Facility in Soledad, California.

The following year, we distributed 3,300 copies, and in 2023 and 2024, we printed and donated 11,000 calendars to 29 prisons across California. The thank-you cards and letters from inmates, along with powerful testimonies from those released and adjusting back into society, have greatly encouraged our Love Spring Praise Mission Team. As requests from prisons increased, so did our visits and the number of calendars needed. Through it all, I realized this was God's plan—that giving back to the society that once gave to me should begin when I am able, not later.

Spending more time with inmates has changed my perspective. Society often portrays all inmates as dangerous and violent through movies and media. While there are indeed some who must be isolated for public safety, the truth is that many inmates are just like us—ordinary people, some highly educated, many with deep spiritual understanding. I realized I needed to grow in my own knowledge to serve them better.

At Pastor Sukki Kim's encouragement, I began studying theology through the Onesimus Mission Society. After a year and a half of study, Pastor Byung-Deok Min, senior pastor at the Correctional Training Facility, recommended I continue my theological education at Berkeley School of Theology. By God's grace, I graduated last May.

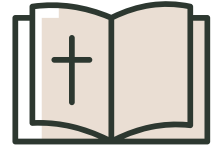
On the way home from my graduation ceremony, I was overwhelmed with emotion. Who would have imagined that I—someone once lost, uneducated, and far from God—would graduate from seminary? But this was God's plan all along. Even when I did not know Him, even when I turned away, His love never left me. Time after time, He rescued me from the brink and shaped my life with grace.

Now, I prepare to enter graduate school this September. I am reminded of the truth in James 4:13–17: knowledge without application is arrogance. The greatest distance in this world is often the one between the head and the heart. That's why we strive to live a faith that acts, not just understands.

One moment that deeply touched me was when a prisoner—too poor even to afford stamps, requiring the state to send his letter—received our calendar. It opened his heart to God, and he sent us a \$100 check—likely everything he had. His gift reminded us of the widow in Mark 12, who gave all she had to the Lord. As Pastor Sukki Kim said, "We must learn the small but enormous value of that \$100 from this prisoner who gave out of deep poverty."

May we never forget that true faith expresses itself in action, in sacrifice, and in love.

BIBLICAL ADVICE



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THOSE FACING TRIALS

-Pastor Derek Yim

Life is filled with troubles, and they won't cease until our final breath. The Bible reminds us that this world is not our home—we are merely passing through. Jesus clearly teaches that our journey will not be smooth or easy, but often marked by trials and hardships. Many of us came to this country pursuing the American Dream, yet we face challenges and struggles every day. A split-second mistake can bring overwhelming consequences, and if not handled with wisdom, such moments can lead to tragedy for ourselves and our families. Scripture teaches us that what matters most is not why we face these problems, but how we respond to them—with faith, courage, and trust in God.

"... In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." -John 16:33

We often assume that problems arise because we went against God's will and that He is angry with us. But that's not always the case. In many instances, God allows or even orchestrates difficulties to shape us and improve our lives. Instead of relying on our own perspective, we must learn to view our struggles through spiritual eyes. When we do, we begin to see that God is at work—even in our troubles—fulfilling His greater purposes for us. God doesn't just work around our problems; He works through them.

1. He Leads Us

God often uses difficulties to redirect our lives and create momentum for change. As Proverbs 20:30 says, "Blows and wounds scrub away evil, and beatings purge the inmost being." Adversity is not outside of God's plan—it is often the very tool He uses to transform us. Our sinful human nature can be so stubborn that true change rarely happens without trials.

In 1 Kings 17:2–7, God led Elijah to the brook of Kerith, where He provided food and rest. But then, God allowed the brook to dry up. Why? Because He had a new direction for Elijah—He was preparing him for the next assignment. Similarly, when Jonah fled west instead of going east to Nineveh, God sent a storm and a great fish to reroute him. Through that hardship, Jonah eventually obeyed and went where God intended.

When we face problems, our first response should be to ask: What is God trying to show me? Where is He leading me? Instead of resisting, we must seek His direction and trust that He is working through our troubles to fulfill His greater purpose.



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THOSE FACING TRIALS

2. He Makes Us Look Within

God uses problems to help us examine our inner selves. In times of hardship, we are invited to reflect on our hearts and motives. As Deuteronomy 8:2 says, "Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty 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."

Though the journey from Egypt to Canaan could have taken just two weeks, God led the Israelites through the wilderness for forty years. Why? To humble them, test their faith, and reveal whether they were truly ready to enter the Promised Land. God tested them seven times, and each time they failed, He led them back into the wilderness to refine their hearts.

3. He Sets Us Right

Life is like a school, and its textbooks are difficulties and adversities. David wrote in Psalm 119:71, "It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees." We often learn more through failure than through success. Though this method is painful, it is sometimes the only way we truly grow and gain wisdom.

God uses hardship to correct our course and realign our hearts. Instead of focusing downward on our problems, we must lift our eyes upward to God. When we do, we begin to see a way through our troubles and experience His grace at work in us.

Bankruptcy teaches us the value of money. A son in jail may come to understand the depth of a parent's love. When a husband is imprisoned, a wife may come to see his true worth. Divorce can awaken someone to the value of love and commitment. In all these ways, problems become powerful teachers.

So let us not avoid our weaknesses or run from our struggles. Let us face them honestly, trusting that God is using them to set us right.

4. He Protects Me

Sometimes, the difficulties we face are actually hidden blessings. Many young inmates have confessed, "If I weren't here now, I would be dead," or "I would have become a drug addict." What seemed like a tragedy became a turning point that saved their lives. As 1 Peter 3:17 says, "It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil."

Years ago, a church member was pressured to engage in unethical business practices. If he refused, he risked losing his job. After seeking counsel, his pastor encouraged him to stand firm in his faith and reject the deal. He obeyed—and was fired. Just two weeks later, the company's owner and several employees were indicted and exposed in the news for illegal dealings. God had used the difficulty to protect him from being caught in the fallout.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THOSE FACING TRIALS

None of our trials or failures happen outside of God's sovereign will. We must believe that even our problems are allowed by God for a purpose—and then respond with faith. Faith is not automatic; it must be applied. When we face difficulties, we must view them through the lens of our faith, asking: How will I respond? Will I trust God's hand in this? The most important question is not why the problem came, but how we face it—with faith, courage, and obedience.

***"FOR EVERYTHING GOD
CREATED IS GOOD, AND
NOTHING IS TO BE REJECTED IF
IT IS RECEIVED WITH
THANKSGIVING."
-1 TIMOTHY 4:4***



5. He Makes Me Complete

God uses problems as tools to shape us into the people He desires us to be. His highest purpose is not our comfort, but our character—to make us more like Christ. He is not focused on making life easy, but on forming in us the character and likeness of His Son.

Life's ups and downs, when placed in God's hands, become blessings. Through our circumstances, God molds and refines us, transforming us into new creations in Christ. What truly matters is not the problem itself, but how we respond to it. Every difficulty is an opportunity for growth and transformation.

Whatever struggles we face, we can be assured of four truths:

- God sees our problems—nothing escapes His notice.
- He is at work in our problems—actively sustaining and guiding us.
- He can change and redeem our problems—using them for our good.
- He desires to make us new through our problems—developing His holiness in us and drawing us deeper into His purpose.

As 1 Timothy 4:4 reminds us, "For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving." Even our trials, when received with a heart of trust and gratitude, become part of God's perfecting work in our lives.



Letter from Pastor Manuel

6/8/25

To: Onesimus Prison Ministry

From: Manuel Antere Xoro

Testimony Letter

First of all I thank you to God to give me the opportunity to work in this Ministry. through Pastor Kim, my testimony is very very ~~long~~ long history I am original from Veracruz Mexico. at the age of 17 Year I emigrate to USA. ~~to~~ San Fernando Valley near to Los Angeles, after 3 year staying there I got involved into the gang. step by step I began used drugs and many others bad things, I did it, so I spent more than 10 years in prison for a different cases, but one day when I was in Cuno state prison, I assisted in the service church. a few weeks later I receive Jesus Christ as my Savior there after time I finish serving my time in prison ~~then~~ then I get Release, in 1999, I try to do my life in the right way but I get arrested again, the government of the United State don't want me to be in the USA. any more because of my bad record. So they took me to M.D.C Los Angeles building a few weeks later they took me to federal Court, and the Judge saw my record they try to sentence me 20 years, I realize there is no way to go, I call God to help me and please give me one opportunity, I really believed God listen to my prayer, in 2002, I got sentence 57 months almost 4 years so at the same year the B.O.P transport me to San Pedro terminal Island federal prison. in terminal Island I attend the worship service me and Pastor Kim we meet each other and a few brothers from Onesimus Ministry so we begin having a good ~~re~~ relation as a brother in Christ. My life was changed as a New Creation. 2 Cor 5:17

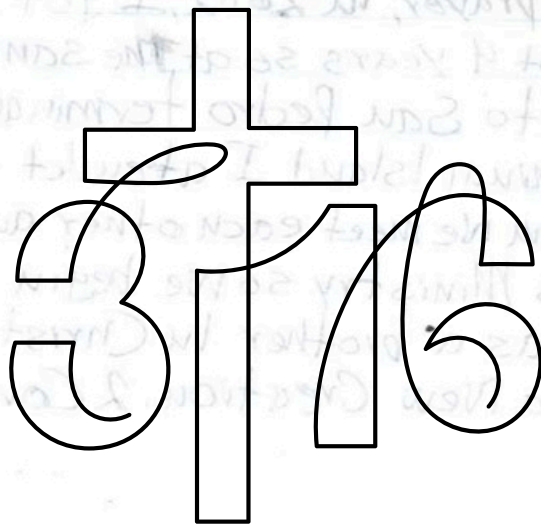
The time in Prison has passed very fast in October 2004
I get release from Terminal Island. after that they
Took me to Santa Anna Immigration detention Center

I remember pastor Kim visit me in Santa Anna. He told
me to get prepare for ministry. I never forget He read
The Bible in Joshua 1:2, Get ready to Cross the Jordan
river. I know God use Pastor Kim ~~to~~^{he} put it in my way
After deportation pastor found a Seminary in Tijuana
Mexico. I finish Seminary study, ~~and~~ Since that time
I being serving to God. In 2009 I get marry with my
Wife Sosana. We both serving to God in Onesimos
Ministry. We open a Church Mission in Terrazas del Valle
Tijuana, and one more in Veracruz. Me and my wife
Sosana we having passed through to many things
but God ~~is~~ always been beside us. God is good
I am sorry for my poor English I hope my testimony
Can Motivate Who ever Read it.

Thank you God

Thank you Pastor Kim

Thank you to all the brothers from onesimos Ministry
from: Manuel Anteile Xolo





Onesimus School of Theology



"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."
-2 Tim. 2:15

> Mission

The mission of Onesimus School of Theology is to equip believers with a foundational understanding of Scripture and essential church doctrine.

> Purpose

Onesimus School of Theology is a Christ-centered academic institution committed to honoring Jesus Christ. Our purpose is to raise up Christian leaders who are faithful to the Great Commission and dedicated to serving the Church by shepherding God's people. We seek men and women who will diligently study the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God—striving to be approved workers, unashamed and rightly handling the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

> What Does Onesimus Mean?

The name Onesimus comes from the New Testament book of Philemon. Onesimus was a runaway slave who had stolen from his master, Philemon. Although the details of his encounter with the Apostle Paul are unclear, we know that Paul was in prison when he shared the gospel with him. As a result, Onesimus experienced a radical transformation (v. 10). After his conversion, Paul wrote a powerful letter of reconciliation to Philemon, urging him to forgive Onesimus and receive him—not as a slave, but as a beloved brother in Christ (v. 16). Paul affirmed that although Onesimus was once unprofitable, he had now become useful to both Paul and the household of God.

> History

Onesimus Ministry has been serving as a jail and prison ministry since 1994. What began as an evangelical mission to reach inmates has grown into a discipleship program known as the Onesimus Correspondence College. In 2000, Onesimus Ministry began offering a Bible study program, and since then, hundreds of students have successfully completed it. In 2018, we launched the Onesimus School of Theology, which now offers a 120-unit hour curriculum in biblical studies.

> Education Objectives

1. Nurture the spiritual, moral, intellectual, and devotional growth of students in their understanding of God, His Son Jesus Christ, and the core doctrines of the Christian faith.
2. Instill a deep awareness that true worship of God encompasses every aspect of life—faith and practice—regardless of one's circumstances or environment.
3. Encourage a lifestyle of Christian humility and sacrificial love, recognizing these as powerful testimonies to both the Church and the world.
4. Cultivate a sense of responsibility and active engagement in evangelism and global missions.
5. Equip students with the knowledge and grace to humbly defend the Christian faith and boldly proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world.

> Certificate and Degrees

CBM: Certificate of Bible Missions (30 units)
ABS: Associate of Biblical Studies (60 units)
BBS: Bachelors of Biblical Studies (120 units)

Contact Us:



714-739-9100



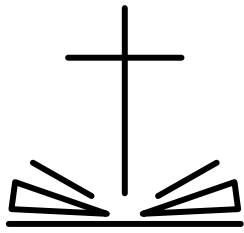
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Onesimusministry.org



Memorize God's Words



"Humble yourselves therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. Cast ALL your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

1 Peter 5:6-7

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

"He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart."

Psalms 91:4

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."

Psalms 147:3

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you."

Isaiah 54:10

"The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

Exodus 14:14

