



# SOMEONE CARES PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER



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Quietly Changing Lives

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See Don and Yvonne

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IT IS REALLY TRUE  
GOD LOVES YOU.

BECAUSE OF YOU,  
SOMEONE CARES.

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Someone Cares is a faith  
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corporation; all donations are  
tax-deductible.

## HEAVEN CAME DOWN AND GLORY FILLED MY SOUL



No matter what Satan throws at us it never hits us. Reflecting on the years past, it is sometimes hard to be a Christian. I recently looked at our computer database and all of the names we have added over the years, while trying to remember all the names we have lost.

So many of you are our best friends, and yet we have never met. When we all get to Heaven, what a gathering that will be! I am amused at the patience God must have had dealing with me, especially in days gone by.

In Heaven all the questions we have will be answered. What animals were put on the Ark? Where did the others come from? So many questions, but when we are in Glory, I have a feeling some of those questions won't matter anymore.

My prayers these days are more often and a lot longer than they used to be. I always pray about the slip-ups I make, even now. It's nice to know that God answers our prayers, even realizing that some of the answers may be a NO.

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”

1 John 5:14 (NI V)

## SOMEONE CARES PRISON MINISTRY

We first started in a mobile home in California, and then moved to Kentucky as I threw a dart at a map. Next we went to Michigan, but were later called back to California, and then to Indiana. Everywhere we went the Ministry took a lot of space. The mail in and out was always a massive amount.

Yvonne and I have been through so many things, including three riots we lived through and an accident when we were hit by a very big car. Then there have been the health problems and Yvonne's surgeries. She has an eye issue and no longer drives. But we keep on keeping on, as Jesus is in charge.



# Letters

## THANK YOU

I am a corrections officer in a major prison and wish to thank your Ministry. My life was broken as I had gotten into drugs and providing stuff for inmates, including drugs. My marriage was a mess and my wife took the kids and left me.

One night an inmate was stabbed and I took him to the hospital. During our wait for a doctor he asked me if I was a Christian, I answered no. He told me that he knew of my dealing and if I did not change I would end up an inmate. He shared with me his conversion and connection with your Ministry. I called you that night. You told me of your background and how you changed through Jesus. You told me how to get into a Bible study.

I would love to share all, but it is too long. I did enroll (in the Bible study) and called you several times. I went to AA and found the will to quit drugs. I also started seeing a change in the inmate population as several Christian groups were formed. A couple of heavy weight gang members also accepted Christ.

I contacted my wife and we started dating and soon were back together. I also found a bunch of Christian officers and joined them. I now look at inmates in a different light and have helped them. Jesus on the Mainline, thanks to folks like you.

From, A Saved Sinner

## TIME TO RETIRE

This is Nancy Crest, and after 30 years with you all I have to retire. I have written to 60 inmates over the years and it has been a blessing. A few problems, but with your help it was worked out. The six inmates I now have my grandsons are going to take. I want to thank you for all your help and direction. I knew Yvonne's folks when they pastored here. Like you, I look forward to some day meeting some of those I wrote, and also know that all will not make it but maybe they live a better life now.

## MORE THAN A PRISONER

I am more than a civil confinement resident: I am a Christian forgiven by God, and I pray. I am a man with a bald head, baggy clothes, and my life is renewed. I am a human and a child of God, though recluse. Claiming this truth I am embraced by every circumstance. I am blessed. I am energized and at peace. I live in congruence with my beliefs, please! I speak words of faith and truth about life within these walls. My spirit is both personal and transcendent. God is always with me. I am dependent. I do not hold the love of God for protection, but rather for forgiveness and affection. I am more than a prisoner, no doubt. I am a child of God straight out. Don Brusso

# Letters

## BECAUSE OF THEM

You may not often hear how much your Ministry has done. In most cases you may never (*not often*) know about the lives you may have impacted until you meet them in Glory. We wanted to share with you part of a letter we received. Joe is a good writer and expresses himself very well.

### FROM JOE

*I see all the guys in here who don't get any mail, I don't see how they make it. Often when someone dies and the mail and everything stops. You have always written me and it has been about three years. I save all your letters. I thank God for the both of you every day. Your letters have kept me alive and have made me feel like family. You are true Christians who care about people. Thank you.*

Note from Someone Cares: We ask all of you to remind your pen friends about Someone Cares, that you are writing to them through this Ministry. Also remember you can continue writing when they are released.

## WHAT A DEDICATION

I met Don through Yvonne's parents. I have been blessed to see what God can do to a person. No education, a runaway at 13 and a life in Satan's world. Then he accepted Christ and started Ministry three weeks later. Both Don & Yvonne went in a direction done by few. Not only did they start a Ministry they did it with little help from Church or State or Prison. Claiming God's promises they have been blessed. Never a big staff, always working out of their home. Making appeals for money, not just for themselves but others, such as Voice of Prophecy. Don and Yvonne got ordained and they have both been through Police Academy in three states for training.

When they go to a prison they are not escorted, but are allowed almost anywhere. Yvonne and Don now both have eye issues and soon will not be able to drive, but I assure you it will not affect their Ministry. Ronna will add being a chauffeur to her duties. Many church organizations use the experience of this Ministry to help their folks. Keeping up is hard and expensive, so they do need supporters and more pen friends. So go to their web page: [www.someonecares.org](http://www.someonecares.org) and read some past newsletters. If you can't write a letter, write a check or have special prayers.

From,  
A Supporter

## NEVER GIVE UP



*When you believe you are  
crushed – you are.  
Defy not the odds – you lose.  
Claim not the victory – you fall.  
Settle for one goal – you  
grow stagnate.  
But when you learn from your  
struggles – you resolve.  
Ignore the put  
down – you grow.  
Choose success – you soar.  
Believe in yourself – you  
gain strength.  
Toil unceasingly – you achieve.  
Press on – you achieve.  
Fall and start over – you win.*

**WHAT IF . . .**

...We have a winter like last year? We pray we do not. It's a great thing that we can proudly say, God works these things out. Jake has a big four wheel drive truck and several times he has had to cart us around. Ronna will also act as a driver. We also have a four wheel drive and we can manage it if my eyes don't get any worse.

We would like to request that each one of you pray for us and this Ministry. Each one reaches one. Maybe when I'm 90 we can retire. But in the meantime, as time goes by we are still thinking of implementing Care Groups in every State.

Of course we do pray that Jesus will have cleansed this earth and that we all will be in Heaven. What a pot luck we can have!

“For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

2 Corinthians 5:1 ESV

**RONNA'S COMMENTS**

I have several letters here and I don't know who to send them to! Here is a list of names:

*Anne Richardson, Laurie, M. Tirado, Jean K., Al Kindle, Elizabeth Theis, Priscilla Fern, Esther Elmore, Moore Family, Jean Leslie, Jackie Paradise, Vivienne, John Johnson, Brian J., Sara Gonzalez, Kaye Clark, Pat Ann, J. Carlson, Hallie Bailey, Eddie B., Joanna Bond.*

Please understand these are all letters from INMATES to PEN FRIENDS! I would like to get them to you as soon as possible, so if you see your name or your alias please contact us at 260-387-7423 and ask for Ronna. Thank you so very much.

On another note, I have a pen friend on death row and I'd like to share something he wrote:

**RELIEF**

To these bones of mine, I say: I hurt, I ache, I swell, as grief comes to devour my life. O Lord, to Thy hand I give my soul, take me Lord. Take my hand, guide my soul and love my being as I give thee my all. O Lord, my eyes weep and my heart hurts. To the maker of my soul, I give my heart. O Lord God, do not leave me nor forsake me, for I am your child. All I seek is to come home to Thee. O Lord, why? Why must I stay? Take me home. Breach the boundaries of time today and take me up into thy loving arms forever. Come to my rescue, O Lord take me home. “I come, my child. The body I gave thee is not ready to sleep. It is not time for thy flesh to return to the dust. Remember, my child, my hand will guide you through the fire and the water. Your weakness is a call to my strength, and one day you shall rest in the palm of my hand. I shall grant rest to your bones on that day. When the time comes for your flesh to return to the earth from which I formed it. And I shall breathe upon it once again: new life, ever lasting life.”

By David

<sup>1</sup> Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits at God's right hand in the place of honor and power. <sup>2</sup> Let heaven fill your thoughts. Do not think only about things down here on earth. <sup>3</sup> For you died when Christ died, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> And when Christ, who is your real life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory. – Colossians 3:1-4 (NLT)