



TITUS HOUSE MINISTRIES
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Tijeras, NM 87059
October 1, 2015
Phone (505) 286-8807

Dear October Friends,

WHAT ARE YOU INTO THESE DAYS? Presidential Election, Blood Moons, the Pope, Climate Change, Planned Parenthood, Obama and Putin, LONG Prison Terms, Civil Commitment, Lifetime Supervision or? Or have you dropped out of it all? I received a phone call today from a man who would like to drop out of the misery he is in – solitary confinement, feeling he is out of control of anything in his life. He is a Christian but he wonders where God is right now. I hope you are praying for this ministry and for those who are tempted to give up their faith.

PRAYER PARTNER: Bonnie Wiggins in Texas wants to be your prayer partner. She believes in serious intercessory prayer. Call her at 682-554-1224. She is a prison parent and she will understand you.

PENPAL –Brendan Bohannon wants to hear from you folks. He is an inmate in a southern prison and will be released this year he hopes. He was interested in New Mexico, is a professional cook, a great singer, a man with lots of talent and he loves the Lord. If you want to encourage Brendan here is the info: Brendan Bohannon #451452, SUN-L-2/#6, 27268 Hwy 21, Angie, LA. 70426.

BLESSINGS FROM BILL: Bill has been sick recently – please lift him up. Bill writes a short paragraph which I will try to restate. He states that the fullness of God is now, that we can have all of God right now. He meets our needs now, not for us just to look hopefully to the future. Bill in his seventies has learned this – God is enough right now. Bill also adds a fact of life: 50% of released inmates are returned to prison because of violations. He believes that the purpose is to protect the public from people who are not taking their crime seriously. A word to the wise!

DAVID IN LOUISIANA – composed a beautiful song. Perhaps someday we can have him sing it for us. Here it is “This mountain that I’m facing seems impossible to climb. Each day is a struggle with doubt wanting to cloud my mind, but when my strength fails me and I stumble and fall, I lift my eyes toward heaven because I know upon whom to call. You see, my Shepherd He is faithful and when He hears my cry, He wraps me in His loving arms and wipes the tears from my eyes. He whispers words of comfort telling me not to fear. He will never leave nor forsake me; He will always be near. And when I’m in His Holy Presence, in my mind there’s no doubt, if I can’t climb this mountain on my own, my Shepherd will carry me to the top.”

CIRCLE OF CONCERN – October 11th 6:00 – 8:00 PM at Foothills Church, corner of Tramway and Candelaria in Albuquerque. Potluck dinner and sharing time – over 18 welcome. Come!

Hebrew 13:3 - [Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.](#)

ALICE'S RAMBLINGS – I have made a pledge to read through the Bible and have been on this track since early June. I am reading three chapters a day and I am in II Kings. It isn't easy on some busy days to get it done! Let me share some thoughts on the kings of Israel and the frustration God must have had with these people! Most of the kings departed from a true belief in God, from His commands in the 10 Commandments and if I had been God I would have said, "Enough of you – I will pick another group of people to have a chance of following me." But God hung in there and punished the evil doers even with death and blessed the sincerely good ones. For us as parents let me recount a few kings: Hezekiah was basically a God-follower until the latter years of his life. His son Manasseh was very evil, putting up with the worship of heathen gods and sinful practices. His son Amon did the same and suddenly we have the account of 8-year-old Josiah, from evil father and grandfather, choosing to put God first and bringing the nation of Israel back to worshipping God. This spoke to me of trying to be an example to my children, but realizing they will make their own choice – to obey God or to resist Him. My job is to role model my faith to my children and grandchildren but expect them to make their own choices. My continuing responsibility is to pray for them daily and leave the results up to God. This is also true for Titus House. Thank you for your financial support, prayer support and encouraging letters and phone calls. We greatly need to know you are with us in this ministry.

Message from Don: We at Titus House Ministries like to be positive and encourage you. But sometimes we need to tell it like it is and not sugar coat the issues we face who are labeled sex offenders. It bothers me when we hear of so many people violating their parole. The consequences of such actions are sad. For those in New Mexico and can make it to La Pasada the waiting list is about 18 months. Those who can pay \$1,200 for half of the first and last month's rent are put to the top of the list (the State pays the other half). Those who want to get out as soon as possible pay \$2,400 each month. If you get violated once you have been to La Pasada it is very very hard to go back. I've been told by the administration they want to give those who have never had a chance of paroling out a chance. Which does make sense. It is still up in the air what happens to those on a 5-20 parole who don't have a place to parole to just what happens. Perhaps those who are in this situation can educate me so I can give hope to others. It is a sad that we only have La Pasada which only has 110 beds. The other program which I've heard about is the STOP (sex offender treatment program) program in Las Vegas, NM. I just called them and they told me that they closed the program.

It is hard being on parole and going through the requirements and the hardships we face as a Returning Registered Citizen. There are housing restrictions, not to mention just how hard it is to find housing, we do have a list of apartments that do rent to former sex offenders but we ONLY share it once you get out. It is very hard to find a job but it is possible, we have a long list where other sex offenders work, again we only share this once you get out (the media would play havoc if they got ahold of this). Then there is Therapy treatment you have to attend and GPS to wear. In some States you have to pay a fee to Register and send out notices to your neighbors. Turning out your lights and not answering the door on Halloween. Can't attend the State Fair. There are the normal parole rules of no drugs, no weapons, and no association with felons, reporting to you Parole Officer, home visits, and no entering bars. A lot of these requirements sound reasonable and should be followed, these boundaries are there for a reason. But the truth is a lot of people do not follow them and return to the belly of the whale, prison.

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I don't know a whole lot about sports, but I do know that certain plays in a game aren't "good" if the player goes out of bounds. In baseball, your pitch isn't considered good unless it is right over the plate. In a football game, you can't score a field goal unless the football goes directly through the uprights. Staying within the boundary lines is extremely important in order for a team to score or better yet win the game. It works the same way in our requirements from the parole or probation officer. But this isn't a game - it is our freedom. Furthermore, God has placed boundaries for us to follow which are found in the Bible. He placed them there for our own good and protection. God is forgiving if we do slip and fall, but my brothers the parole officer and society is not. Therefore we need to pay close attention to what they require. God commands it- Romans 13:1-5 "All of you must obey the government rulers. Everyone who rules was given the power to rule by God. And all those who rule now were given that power by God. ²So anyone who is against the government is really against something God has commanded. Those who are against the government bring punishment on themselves. ³ People who do right don't have to fear the rulers. But those who do wrong must fear them. Do you want to be free from fearing them? Then do only what is right, and they will praise you.

⁴ Rulers are God's servants to help you. But if you do wrong, you have reason to be afraid. They have the power to punish, and they will use it. They are God's servants to punish those who do wrong. ⁵ So you must obey the government, not just because you might be punished, but because you know it is the right thing to do".

Biblically speaking, boundaries are related to self-control. The Bible commands us to control *ourselves*, whereas our human nature desires to control *others* ([Titus 2:12](#)). This is Titus House Ministries life verse. Read it. If left unchecked, our natural desires run roughshod over others. Personal boundaries help to limit our selfish inclination to control or manipulate others. Likewise, boundaries protect us from those who have no self-control and who wish to control us. A person with clear, healthy boundaries communicates to others what is and is not permissible, saying, in effect, "This is my jurisdiction, and you have no right to interfere." Therefore, God has set up His boundaries called the 10 Commandments.

I hear people saying to me once they get out they want to find a woman. They are dying to have sex, but my friend the Bible tells us sex outside of marriage is a sin. If God has called you to marry we need to find a good Christian girl who loves God. I know many people who have gone back to prison because they hooked up with the wrong woman (and for you gals, men).

I hear people in prison say I'll attend church once I get out. You need to attend while you are there, yes it is good to do your own private readings, Bible studies, prayer and fellowship with others in the pod/unit. But it is also beneficial to go the chapel and be a part of the family of God. Luke 14:6 says, "Jesus went back to Nazareth, where he'd been brought up and as usual he went to the meeting place on the Sabbath." The Bible tells us that "as usual" or another translation of the Bible says "as was His custom" Jesus went to the place of worship. This is in keeping with obeying one of the Ten Commandments which is, "Observe the Sabbath by keeping it holy." When we say we are followers of

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Christ, we're supposed to do what Jesus has done. What would Jesus do? Jesus would go to church and we as followers of Christ should do the same. If we take seriously our relationship with Christ, then we should go to church regularly.

Lastly, I want to say that when we get out we need to get involved in changing the laws and educating the public that we are NOT monsters. I want to encourage you to get involved in Reform Sex Offender Laws (RSOL) and other organizations that help to change these draconian laws. We need to educate our State Senators and Representatives and other law makers on the Federal level. We need to talk to our neighbors and not hide in our little closet. When I attend the New Mexico RSOL called "Liberty and Justice", I see very few people coming to the meeting or are getting involved. I ask myself "why", are we so fearful? 2 Timothy 1:7- "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind". Once we get out we need to build a bridge for our brothers which we left behind in prison. We put our actions into work whether it is supporting these organizations financially or laboring with our brothers elbow to elbow or praying to God to change our hearts and those who have the power to change the laws or providing more places to parole to. We can do it together! It has been said: **"There are three types of people in this world. Firstly, there are people who make things happen. Then there are people who watch things happen. Lastly, there are people who ask, what happened? Which do you want to be?"**

I want to leave you with this thought from Philippians 4:5-8 ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Blessings,

Please remember Charles Wesley who recently passed away from illness.

Don & Alice



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