

FALL NEWSLETTER

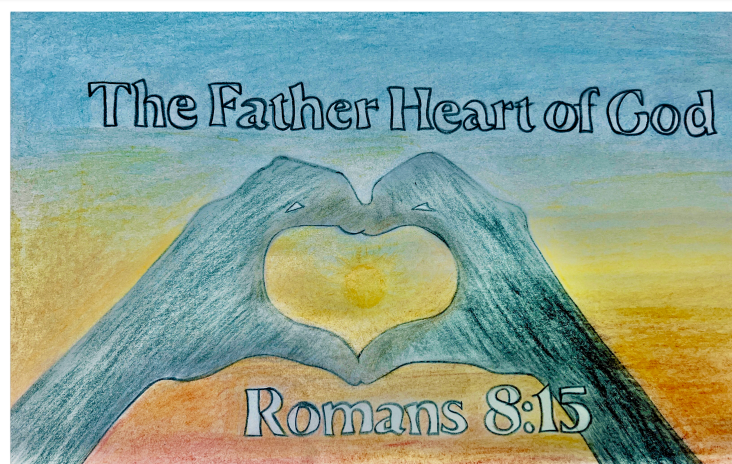
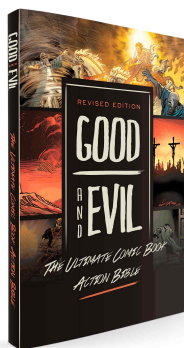
Serving Incarcerated Youth Since 1985

Protestant Chaplaincy Ministry

Most of the contents in this newsletter are from articles and artwork submitted by the youth for the PCM Youth Newsletters that are handed out at my church services. So far this year there have been four editions.

The photo on the right was one of the two submitted by the young lady I testified for at her court hearing in June. I asked her to draw something for Father's Day like she had done for Easter. She will be sentenced in October and end up at the Youth Guidance Center for at least a couple more years.

In my Spring Newsletter, I mentioned having twenty-six donated Comic Book Bibles. At every church service I challenge the youth to earn one by saying the twenty seven books of the New Testament and often recite them myself but only five individuals have been able to accomplish the task so far.



Patience and Trust

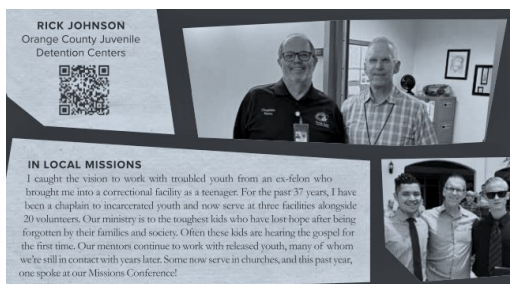
It seems like everyday is a completely different time in my life. The problems and angers, the joys and blessings are different but the crazy thing is that God has never changed. He has been a patient parent watching me go through every single emotion and is there for me.

I used to ask God to give me a sign to prove his existence but never got one. As I became a stronger believer, I began to see evidence of his presence all around me. He literally takes care and looks out for me! Like if he actually understands me. It's unbelievable how much he helps me out on a daily basis.

There were so many times that a simple mistake could have changed my entire life in a negative way. But God chose to be that patient parent and stop it. He didn't try to explain it to me because he knew I wouldn't understand. Now he is showing me where I went wrong, mentally, physically and most of all, spiritually.

After years of hearing about God and who he is, I'm finally on the journey to figure that out. Patience and trust are the main ways to do that. I know that my mind will never totally be able to understand why things happen the way they do. So I have stopped trying to make sense of this mysterious thing called life.

Isaac - Youth Leadership Academy



Last December I was interviewed by a staff member at Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa and a write up about the ministry was placed in their annual report.

Jesus and the Outcast

After teaching verse by verse through the Gospels of Mark and John, I decided it was time for Luke. Instead of covering every verse, I chose to use a theme.

Luke was written because the Lord wanted one gospel to be written by a Gentile. In the first verse, Luke said that many others had written an account of Jesus' ministry. But not everything written was accurate so Luke's goal was to carefully investigate and write an orderly account. He may have written it to help one person (Theophilus) meet Jesus.

I learned that Luke's goal was to emphasize how Jesus made time for the outcast. His gospel contained stories of outcasts not in the other three.

Jesus and Zacchaeus
The Prodigal Son
The Good Samaritan
Jesus Delivering Mary Magdalen
Jesus Healing Ten Lepers
Jesus and the Criminal on Cross

Let Him Take The Wheel

I came to the United States with my parents when I was six months old. I grew up attending a Pentecostal Church so I have known about the Lord all my life. My mom left my sister and I for her boyfriend when we were teens. Life turned bad around age 14 when I was arrested for stealing and brought to Juvenile Hall. I had been homeless and slept in a carport at an apartment complex. Those were my teen years and I did a lot of bad things and burned a lot of bridges but somehow Jesus always looked out for me.

I experimented with drugs and found out really quick that they weren't for me. Alcohol, though, became my poison and the devil used it to make me addicted and alone. I knew I was a child of God but I listened to the lies of the enemy instead.

I went to prison at the age of 22 after having a son with my girlfriend. I loved to fight but in prison there were other inmates who love to fight even more and I got humbled. I began to question God after losing contact with my son and girlfriend and began to think like an atheist. I went in with a 10 year sentence and was released after 7 years. I could've gotten out sooner if I hadn't been a knucklehead.

Now I am 35 years old and thankful to have found Chaplain Rick again. He also visited me when I was locked up as an adult. I am married and have a two year old daughter. A few months ago, she began waking up crying at night and I realized it was a demonic attack. God used this to turn me back to faith in him.

Some of you know that there's an angel watching over you. Some of you know that Jesus has blessed you with your health, sanity, and his love. Nothing can touch you when you accept him into your life. Proclaim him and let his light shine through you. Surrender to him and let him take the wheel. Think of all the silly things you've done for love. Even if you have turned away from Jesus, he will never turn away from you. His arms are open and he's waiting for you to take that next step.

Luis - Brighton, Colorado

PACIFIC YOUTH CORRECTIONAL MINISTRIES. #003

PO Box 8875

Redlands, California 92375

(714) 721-6688

chaplainrj@sbcglobal.net

