## The Cannons Missionaries to the Inmates

Isaiah 42:7 "To open blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house."

September 2013

Dear Praying Friends and Supporters,

Psalms 31:24 "Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." Life sometimes seems so hopeless. This is especially true for those men and women who find themselves in jail or prison. They often feel ashamed, rejected, unloved, and forgotten. They need to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ so that they can learn of God's love for them, that Jesus Christ died for their sins. They learn how they can be saved by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. The inmates must hear, read, and study God's word in order to find how God wants them to live a "New Life in Jesus Christ". Those who are saved go from Shame to Eternal Hope in Jesus. Please read the enclosed tract written by one of our faithful inmates at the Pender prison services. His life has drastically changed, and he is a great servant for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you for allowing us to have the privilege to share the gospel with between one hundred-fifty and two hundred inmates each week. We received this testimony from an inmate "Believing in Jesus Christ has helped me a lot, I quit cursing, and forgave all people who did me wrong. I have started to be more patient and some times I share the word with other inmates. I want to give my heart and soul fully to our Lord Jesus Christ." In a few of the cell blocks in our largest jail, some of the men are holding Bible studies. Also in the women's cell block they are holding a prayer time together each night. Some of them have seen answers to their prayers since they started doing this.

Joe's eye continues to improve. It has been four months since his last surgery, and He still has the oil in his eye that was put there by the surgeon. The doctor has not told Joe how long the oil must stay in his eye. Meanwhile, he cannot drive at all, so Carolyn still has to do most of the driving.

Your prayers and faithful support allow us to continue to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and its hope with those that feel hopeless.

Your missionaries to the inmates, Joe and Carolyn Cannon

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- 1. Please continue to pray for us and our volunteers as we go through these challenging times.
- 2. Please pray that our Lord will continue to save souls and help those who are saved to grow in grace and the knowledge of Him.
- 3. Please pray that Jesus Christ will receive the honor and glory in all that we do.

## **PRAISES**

- 1. Joe's eyesight is improving.
- 2. Praise the Lord for all of the volunteers that helped with grading the inmates' Bible study lessons and some of the driving, at times.
- 3. Praise the Lord that we have seen inmates saved and new visitors coming to the prison services each week.



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received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" You can pray right now and ask Jesus to come into your heart and save you. Romans 10:13 - " For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." When Jesus saves you, you'll have joy and peace you've never had before, knowing that your sins are forgiven. You will have a new life in Christ 2Cor. 5:17 -"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Your heart and mind will be transformed by the Holy Spirit who now dwells within you. You will have a desire to serve and please your Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He will give you the power to overcome sin and share the gospel with others. Life will have a purpose and God will give you grace to live it, even if it means living in prison the rest of your life.

I am ashamed of my past, but I'm not ashamed of Jesus my Saviour. I know He can save anyone because He saved me. Trust Him today and begin a new life worth living! CC

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## TOO ASHAMED

HOW I FOUND
HOPE TO LIVE
WHEN THERE WAS
NO HOPE

I am one of the many people around the world in prison for committing a terrible crime. The crime was so bad I am too ashamed to tell you what I did. The specifics do not matter. What ever you think would be the worst crime of all can be used to fill in the blank. Maybe you are ashamed of your life and feel like there is no hope or reason to live. Please let someone who knows what that feels like explain how there is hope for you.

I was 29 years old when I found myself in jail, so ashamed of what I did that I could see no reason to live, and planned to kill myself. But the more I determined to end my life, the more real a place I'd heard about as a child called hell seemed to be. If anyone deserved

to spend eternity in hell, I did. What could I do? I had some religious background growing up. I was taught to do good and hoped it would be enough to get me to heaven. Now, I knew I couldn't depend on myself to be good enough. I was a slave to sin and had done something far worse than I ever thought I could. I delayed my plans to kill myself when I decided to read the Bible for the first time. I was sent to prison, where I met a preacher who showed me in the Bible that God loves me and you. John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.." Jesus died for the sins of the whole

world, even for someone as bad as me. He doesn't want anyone to die lost and spend eternity in hell, so He made a way for everyone who will believe to be saved and have eternal life in heaven with Him. He offers it as a free gift to anyone who will receive it. Romans 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Do you believe you are a sinner? The Bible says we are all born sinners. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Do you believe Jesus died for your sins? 1Cor.15:3,4 "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also