



Dan and Marilyn
"once was lost but now they are found"

JULY 2015

Dear prayer partners,

"We are near the end of all things now, and you should therefore be calm, self-controlled men and women of prayer. Above everything else be sure you have real deep love for one another, remembering how love can 'cover a multitude of sins'." I PETER 4: 7, 8

Early this spring our hearts were broken and our spirits crushed when we received a phone call from our daughter Melanie telling us that our 15 year old grandson had been arrested for the fourth time and ordered to appear before a Judge. Before the court date, Mel asked us to pray for wisdom and God's intervention for when she and Nathan would appear before the Judge the following week. Our prayers were answered when the Judge agreed that Nathan could be sent to Teen Challenge in Vero Beach, FL. An occupancy for Nathan became available the first week in April. Here he will spend 15 months which will include his 16th and 17th birthdays.

Three weeks after Nathan arrived at Teen Challenge, aka the Vero Beach Boy's Ranch, we received our first letter from him. Our spirits were lifted and we were all but *dancing in the street* after reading what God has done in his life. The boys in the program attend a local church three times a week. According to Nathan the pastor is a "super guy." They've had the opportunity to hear some wonderful evangelists, singing groups, bands, and testimonies. He mentioned "Miracle Night" when he went forward in church and two men from the congregation prayed for the Holy Spirit to give him victory over his short temper and anger issues. Last week we received our 5th letter from him and we'll have to admit that each letter gets better and better and gives us reason to rejoice and thank God for His faithfulness. In the past four months Nathan prayed and asked Jesus to come into his heart. He's been baptized in the Holy Spirit and in water by emersion. His grades have come a long way from where he was failing every subject in school to now where he's making all A's and B's. He must be eating well too because he's gained 15 lbs and says he loves working out lifting weights. In July his probationary period will be over and he will receive his first visit from his parents. We trust that this visit will go well as he shares all the great and mighty things that God is doing in his life. We

ask that in the days ahead you please pray with us for our dear Nathan's complete recovery in all areas of his life and pray for a bright future for him as he walks with Christ.



Grandma Marilyn, our "new grandson" Nate, our daughter Melanie

Our daughter Tiffany and grandson Jake were truly lifesavers when they drove to the other side of Tampa to Wesley Chapel to pick up 61 cases of Bible studies. These workbooks are truly a blessing to those we minister to in the **Faith-based Prisons** of Wakulla C.I. and Gadsden C.F. The title of the three volume sets is "**How to Win in Spiritual Warfare**". The title just about tells the theme of how a person can win the Spiritual battle the rages all around us. The secret to winning that "battle" is changing your character by exhibiting the "fruit of the spirit" in your life on a daily basis. It is a wonderful and insightful study that has helped many an inmate in their quest to become a "better person". We thank Katie Smith, widow of Joe Smith who authored the series, for the donation of almost \$20,000.00 worth of workbooks. **We know this study has changed lives!**

This has been a busy summer for us. The Spanish worship services in the 4 men's prisons have been blessed by God with 9 Hispanic inmates giving their lives to Christ. The new class of Men on Mission also had a young man come forward to accept Jesus as his Savior as well. We ask that you keep these men in your prayers asking the Lord to help them grow in their faith and become totally devoted to Him. Marilyn and Arryal continue to minister at the women's prison weekly to teach, encourage and disciple the women in the Faith Based Dorm. Currently they are studying Henry Blackaby's *Experiencing God*. By the time of their graduation in July they will have also covered Joyce Myers' *Battlefield of the Mind* and Joseph E. Smith's *How to Win in Spiritual Warfare*. It's always an awesome experience during their graduation to watch as they stand before the congregation and recite the entire 6th chapter of Romans (KJV). Marilyn has been fortunate in that she's been able to attend most of the Kairos reunions at Gadsden CF. this spring and over the summer months. Approximately 50 women who have been through the **Kairos Inside Weekend** gather together monthly with the volunteers for a time of praise, worship, testimony and prayer. The testimonies of how Christ has changed and completely transformed their lives are amazing.

We're always astounded at the number of requests we receive each week from inmates in prisons around the country asking for Spanish New Testaments and Bibles. This year alone we've shipped out almost \$2,000.00 Bibles, New Testaments and Bible Studies to inmates in Federal Prisons in Mississippi, Texas, South Carolina, California and Georgia. The dollar amount reflects the cost of postage in addition to the cost of the materials. Also the Hispanic Bible Correspondent Studies have been very successful in the six prisons where Dan ministers. He has awarded over

\$500.00 worth of specialty Bibles...large letter, bi-lingual, RVR60 (with concordance and dictionary) and miniature size complete Bible that is very popular with the Hispanic inmate.

Right before Memorial weekend we took a week and a half to go camping...in a tent. Our dear friends Niels and Sonia were kind enough to loan us their magnificent Chevy Silverado truck to haul all our camping paraphernalia. We arrived at Grayton Beach State Park campground (in the Florida Panhandle) and set up the campsite in record time. The beach was absolutely beautiful (no seaweed) the water crystal clear and really warm, just the way I like it! The waves were perfect for some great body surfing. We got a lot of reading done while relaxing under the umbrella and did a little beachcombing too. There's a lovely lake between the campground and the sand dunes on the beach so one day we took the opportunity to rent a canoe and paddle over to Watercolor which took about a half hour. We could have made it in less time but the person steering the canoe kept us going in circles and came really close to ramming us into a bridge. Next time I'll let Dan steer.



Camping at Grayton Beach affords us the opportunity to hold up the moon!

The Sunday before Memorial Day we attended church at the Seaside Chapel where we heard an inspiring message. After the service we drove 2½ hours to Calhoun C.I. where Dan was the guest speaker for the Memorial service. Calhoun C.I. has a Veteran's chapter and about 100 men were in attendance. Did you know that 25% of incarcerated men are military veterans? Speaking of Memorial Day we were able to see the movie **Unbroken**. It's the unbelievable heroic story about the life of Louie Zamperini...an Olympian, soldier and an outstanding Christian. You can order the family-faith edition of the DVD from www.cbd.com or www.amazon.com. We highly recommend this unbelievable portrayal of how God changed a man who able to return to Japan after the war and forgive those guards who tortured him.

Thank you for your prayers and support. We are enjoying a season of wonderful health and ministry to the incarcerated of North Florida...19 professions of faith in Jesus Christ!

Marilyn and Dan

JUST THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW: Harvest of Life Ministries is not supported by any one Church or Denomination. We count on the prayers and financial donations of those receiving this newsletter. We are grateful for you and we pray that God would bless you abundantly!

