

Testimonies Received In November 2013

Sanjay

Fiji

After reconciling, following an incident with a fellow inmate, the Chief Officer asked if I had anything to say. I said, "Yes, this is my 10th year in prison, this has never happened to me before. I have known you for a 10 years and I respect you, and I also respect him. I want him to respect me also, just as I respect him. I have learnt in prison to forgive because of Jesus Christ. I have learnt to forgive and forget". We then hugged each other, shook hands, kissed each other, and shook hands with the Chief Officer. "God and the Bible teaches us that we forgive others as God forgives us".

Andrew

Aus

I came to know Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour whilst in prison in solitary confinement. I grew up in a Christian home, but I rebelled as a teenager and soon went down a path of drugs and crime ending up in prison. I still got in trouble in prison until God reached out to me in Solitary. Through reading His Word my heart changed, desiring to know Jesus Christ more and wanting to do right. Crossroad has helped me to study the Word of God, and to understand God's plan of redemption. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement.

Napoleon

Aus

This will probably be the most important part of my life because I have learnt that I have more freedom and power of God than an unsaved person has outside of prison. I am in a different position in the sight of God than I have ever been before in my life. Romans 10 verse 13 says, "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved". I am grateful God has healed the situation that sin caused in my life. He changes my circumstances into blessings. I call myself a prisoner of hope. I expect God's favour in my life. He is breathing new hope into my dreams.

Franklyn Aus

Right here in Long Bay Prison, God is using me as a witness for His Word. Because of His constant love, I found peace, calm and direction in Him. I pray that as I learn to trust God more and more, to lean on Him alone, and not on my understanding, that my faith and belief will also grow stronger, and that His peace will cover my life.

Rudgard Sol

Recalling the first few months I was remanded in custody last year, life seemed so challenging to me. I experienced a lot of difficulties. However, with the personal relationship encountered with Jesus, I felt peace and strength that gave me hope in Him. Being confined in prison has taught me that God is all I need and that Him alone I can depend on and trust. Had I not devoted myself to God, being in such a place would have been really difficult for me.

Andrew Aus

I was locked in my cell and had nothing to do. So I read the gospel of John. I said the sinner's prayer and became a Christian. I believe in Christ. Before prison I was a member of a bike club and was a drug dealer as well. I was a heavy use of pot and coke. About two weeks after I became a Christian, God put on my heart a scripture that changed my life: 1 Corinthians 9:22 "to the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some." From that time I started to study. I started Crossroads and started buying and reading Theology books. I came to prison in 2009, became a Christian, and was baptised in 2012. I'm studying to become a Chaplain or pastor when I am released.

Ruosi

Aus

I would love to give thanks to God for listening to my prayer about my new charge. I got sentence of conviction without penalty added on 19th Nov, 2013. Hallelujah! I can go home on my release day which is Christmas Eve. How amazing is God's grace! May you share the joy and the thanksgiving to God with me

John

Aus

I really loved this study and learned and grew from it especially cause something else I'm reading tied up with it. Silly me to think I knew all I need to know about the "garden story", but I'm humbled to have learned a whole lot more and inspired to do some more delving and searching around the garden! My people are interested in 'beginnings' and so am I. I really feel blessed by what I've learned so far. I feel God is urging me to go the extra mile. I found it interesting that Adam wasn't deceived but still sinned cause he chose to follow Eve rather than God—so it's a lesson in how easily we can be tempted by what others say and do, and I really got to be on guard. God bless!

Peter

PNG

I feel very happy to study these courses because they help many of us in prison to know the love of God and His promises of everlasting life. These course also help me in my normal life in prison to stay righteous and humble. So please pray for me that our merciful God will fill me with His power and His Holy Spirit as I walk out of this prison gate. I will walk out of this prison on the 27th November. I will go out to my society to help my friends and family to know about the gracious promise for everlasting life with Him in heaven. So thank you CBI for your wonderful works that you have done for us as prisoners, and also a very big thank you goes to our heavenly father for making these courses very possible for us in the prison to study and understand the right way to walk in our normal daily life in this sinful world.

Paul

Aus

This journey with incarceration has been a long and sometimes a dark one. Most days I have remained with my chin up and found the strength to fight on but some days get the better of me. I will be a complete liar if I said I did this on my own. The courage, encouragement and strength I received from God are second to none. My family held my hand like a rock. Then, I had beautiful people like you. I wonder how this journey would have been if I did not have this support. Though this journey is still not over, the clouds have broken and a ray of sunlight is bringing hope.

Lency

Solomons

I was sentenced to life imprisonment. I was involved in a fight that resulted in someone's death. I have now spent 15 years in prison. The Crossroad Bible studies have really blessed my life and changed it. It was a joy to discover that there is a Saviour who died to save me and who also forgives me of all my wrong doings and short comings. Just last month I reconciled with my victim's family in the prison chapel and at the prison headquarters. What a blessing and joy for me. God has worked in miraculous ways. I will continue to trust Him. I am looking forward to my next study. Remember to pray for me. I will also pray for you. God bless

Jose

Aus

I am deeply touched by your support [CBI instructors] . Ultimately, when this part of my journey ends, I will endeavour with God's blessings and guidance to 'belong' to a church. But for now, I can take comfort in the fact, I do have brothers and sisters in Christ out there, right now in the community. Although, we have never met, because of God's grace, and through this course, you know more about me than the people I have known my entire life. Once again, I say 'thank you'. No words can sufficiently capture the gratitude I feel for making this program available to me.