

OCTOBER 2015

To Give Unto Them, Beauty For Ashes

Isaiah 61:3

MENDED WINGS MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

encourage

PUBLISHED BY MENDED WINGS MINISTRIES - CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Are you
discouraged or
sad?

Reading Bible
verses gives us
comfort and
hope. The
word of God
inspires us.

Romans 15:4 (KJV)

For whatsoever
things were
written afore
time were
written for our
learning, that we
through patience
and comfort of
the scriptures
might have hope.

Continue to seek
the truth and
read your Bible!



Message from Mended Wings

Greetings,

We hope you enjoy the first issue of our Washington State based Mended Wings Ministry Newsletter.

Our goal is to bless you with Bible based scriptures and personal testimonials that will encourage you in your walk with our Lord Jesus.

We would love to hear from you. Submit your questions, feedback and testimonials to *Mended Wings Ministry - Church of the Nazarene, 1525 SW Dash Point Road, Federal Way, WA 98023.*

— God Bless!



Guidance to God for the Incarcerated



TWO MEN LOOKED THROUGH PRISON BARS,
ONE SAW DARKNESS OTHER SAW STARS

Q&A: Questions and Answers

Q: Why is this so hard to continue to do the right thing?

Michelle M. - Crain Unit, Gatesville

A: Sin will dig a groove when we practice unrighteousness for a long time. Pulling ourselves out of that groove is very difficult. Hebrews 12:2 says, "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith." And Psalm 119:105 says, "...without me you can do NOTHING." It will take your total dependence on Him. That's why prayer is such a necessity. It's not in fancy words or the position you pray but in the openness and honesty of your heart to desire to walk in His ways. Sometimes it's just saying, "I need you; I'm so tempted. Please help me." Watch Him make a way of escape from your temptations. A right way will always be demanding in its price. Michelle, God

loves you and wants you in Heaven more than you want to go. Keep your heart and ears open for what's right. He'll show you. Remember He called you His little sheep.

Q: Government leaders say, "it's okay to be gay." I see a lot of homosexuality in jail and frankly as a Christian, it makes me sick. Many say, "Hey, I'm only 'gay for the stay.'" What does the Bible say about this?

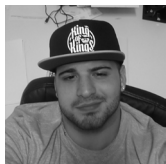
Yvonne Y. - Dawson Unit

A: The best answer we can give you is straight from the word of God. Here's the scriptures, **Rom. 1:27-32**, **Lev. 18:22-27**. No matter what anyone says, God's word is truth, even when it is offensive to someone. Please do not forget them when you pray. God still loves them but also warns them.

Testimonial: I've Been There

By Adam Sham

Brooklyn, NY | September 8, 2015



When Jesus (YAHUSHUA) called me into HIS kingdom over 4 and a half years ago, HE put me through many tests.

One of those tests was to see if I'd obey when HE told me to cut myself away from my past and fully give myself to HIS service. In the still of the night HE'd call to me, lovingly convicting me and leading me away from my sin. Many don't know just how dark my past was. A seemingly endless cycle of crime, drug abuse, selling of paraphernalia, robbery, almost getting arrested, street brawls, evading police and every other moniker that came with the ignorant "thug" lifestyle. I spent most of my heathen life on the streets and learned to live and act accordingly.

As I struggled to live holy after getting saved as a baby believer, one of my biggest stumbling blocks was my heathen "friends". At the time in my ignorance I thought while being around them, my holiness would "rub off" on them in a sense, and they'd have a desire for it too. Oh how wrong I was, lol. The enemy of our souls used them to bring me down in so many ways. How many times have I randomly walked into a group of friends that offered me drugs or wanted me to go jump someone or rob a store with them? Only Jesus knows. It wasn't easy, but I realized the importance of the calling on my life and gradually burned all the bridges to my past, including all those I'd "ride or die" with. Ultimately it was one of the best decisions I'd ever made and was instrumental in my spiritual growth and

refinement. Never underestimate the importance of surrounding yourself with those who are on the same mission and path as you. Light has no fellowship with darkness and righteous character will always be corrupted by wicked company.

Now as I look back...I see them all reaping the fruits they sowed. Some of them are dead, some are in prison, but nearly all of them are broke, drug addicted, jobless, severely depressed, unable to support themselves and their habits and still living in their childish ways with no hope of a stable future. Often-times I wonder where I'd be if I had rejected Jesus's calling on my life. If I did, I can almost guarantee I wouldn't be alive to even share this small portion of my testimony with you.

*Never underestimate
the importance
of surrounding
yourself with
those who are on
the same mission
and path as you.*

Whereas Satan sought to take my life and have me join him in his future home...Jesus has given me a calling, a purpose and a new beginning through the name and shed blood of HIS Son. A true FATHER to a fatherless child like me. I owe my life to HIM and I now live it solely for HIM.

Some now call me crazy, some call me insane, some call me weird, and almost all of them would probably cross the street to avoid me if they saw me (luckily Jesus pulled me out of Brooklyn so I don't have to deal with it anymore)...yet I remain faithful to what I know to be true, for no man or woman comes before my relationship with my Creator. Despite what anyone may think of me, including those in my past, they now know where I stand and where I will remain, forever on my knees before my KING.

Mended Wing Ministries wants to hear from you. Submit your testimonial to Mended Wings Ministry - Church of the Nazarene at 1525 SW Dash Point Road, Federal Way, WA 98023.

A time to laugh

Proverbs 18:22 *A merry heart doeth good like a medicine...*

Just Joking

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed between the pages.

'Momma, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'What have you got there, dear?' his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: 'I think it's Adam's suit!'

Safe to Swim Here

While sports fishing off the Florida coast, a tourist capsized his boat. He could swim, but fear of alligators kept him clinging to the overturned craft. Spotting an old beachcomber standing on the shore, the tourist shouted, "Are there any gators around here?"

"Naw" the man hollered back, "they ain't been around for years!" Feeling safe, the tourist started swimming leisurely toward the shore. About halfway there he asked the guy, "How'd you get rid of the gators?" "We didn't do nothing'," the Beachcomber said. "The sharks got'em." - Darlene, Texas



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1525 SW Dash Point Road, Federal Way, WA 98023

253-839-6085

www.federalwaynazarene.org