



# OWPM COFFEE TALK

Oregon Women's Prison Ministry



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## Freedom Behind Bars...

Here is an example of Freedom Behind Bars as told by Jamaica in her own words...

"Even though my body is in prison, I am free on the INSIDE... free indeed! My testimony is Romans 8:28 'All things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose.' What Satan means for evil, God will turn and make for good! As in my situation. God has given me a prison outreach ministry. God may not have planned me to end up in prison; yet is taking this experience and working it to the good for HIS glory. I'm not waiting until my release to begin my ministry. It has started right here, by divine opportunity.

God has taught me to be content in whatever state that I am in. Yet, NOTHING will separate me from the love of God!

Sister Una used the illustration of an organ transplant and how the organ must be placed into another body within a short amount of time or it would die. So it is with women being released from Coffee Creek. We are metaphorically that organ that must be transplanted into a

body of Christ.

OWPM is a phenomenal ministry! Sister Una, Christina and Penny show up and show out! These women are about their Father's business! They come into the Minimum side of the prison without an attitude or indifference; and only an attitude of sisterhood and love! The love that permeates from them is so contagious that it has become a chain reaction.



Through each woman here that they encounter and plant that seed, each woman plants a seed and before you know it, we'll have a full-blown harvest soon."

Each week we have women come into our classrooms and share similar experiences they have had with God. They have gone down the road of addiction, crime and sorrow. And yet when they come to know Jesus Christ as Savior, they experience the freedom of soul they have longed for. It is so important that we are there to help them find their way toward God. It is such a privilege to serve God by serving them. Please pray for Jamaica and other women who are striving to live for Jesus at Coffee Creek.

## Did You Know?

- Hundreds of inmates at Coffee Creek have mental health needs and most of them take medications for these needs.
- Anxiety disorders -either by themselves or associated with other diagnoses such as post traumatic stress disorder and drug and alcohol associated anxiety disorder-are among the top problems plaguing women.
- We at OWPM have a vital role in assisting these women to deal with their mental / emotional needs and to allow God to heal their minds and hearts.
- We are teaching inmates how to change their "autopilot" (thinking) by #1 Taking every thought captive and making it obedient to Christ (2 Cor. 10:5) #2 Being transformed by the renewing of your mind (Rom. 12:2) and #3 Thinking on these things (Whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent or praiseworthy-Phil. 4:8)
- We need your prayers for mental / emotional healing for these women and wisdom for the volunteers as we minister.



## An Inmate's Story

This is the story of Tracey. She has experienced salvation and is growing in Christ. "I was born with medical problems prematurely. I was adopted into a home of addiction and abuse. I was sexually abused at 8 years old and began to call myself 'the girl who wasn't meant to be.' I thought that God had forgot me because I wasn't to be born. I went through years believing this and even went through treatments where God was my "Higher Power". I knew of him, but didn't believe he knew of me. When I'd get to the 5th step (become ready to have God remove your short comings), I couldn't. He didn't know me. 'How could he do that for me?', I would ask. I would be stuck at that point.

Christina came into my life during my second prison term or 3 years. I had been floundering with no direction for 43 years now and given up 6 years to the prison system. Isaiah 44:2 says 'I am your Creator. You were in my care even before you were born.' This is the verse I have open my eyes that, Yes, God did know me and had a plan for me even in my mother's womb. He has walked with me through my life to lead me to who I am today and wants to use me for His purpose to show His mercy and love to others. How? I don't know. I pray for direction and continue each day to learn more of the love I have had with me since birth. Thank you, Christina, for your much needed ministry."



## The Truth Will Set You Free



Philippians 2: 1-11 "If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

## What's Perking?

This September 29th, OWPM will be hosting our first ever celebration dinner at the Embassy Suites near Washington Square in Tigard. We hope you will all mark your calendars now and plan to attend. It will be an evening of good food, special music and you will get to meet some of the former inmates who have been touched by God through OWPM's ministry. It will be a celebration of the fruitful harvest we are experiencing at Coffee Creek.

Right now we are looking for people to host tables of 10 people. Would you consider helping us in this way? We want everyone to be a

part. The cost is \$500. You could either host a table and invite your friends to fill it, or sponsor a table and we can invite people to fill it. Corporate sponsors will be listed in the program.

There will also be an opportunity to get involved in OWPM that evening by helping to meet our fundraising goal. There will also be opportunities to learn how you could volunteer either inside the prison or outside the prison.

Email us at [Owprisonministry@hotmail.com](mailto:Owprisonministry@hotmail.com) if you are able to help in any way or for more information!



## Inmate Prayer Requests

Brooke—Help me to get along with the people I have to live with. Help to not be so sensitive to others. Also for my son to be healthy and happy and my parents to watch over him. Help me to get into treatment soon. Not only to help my addiction, but to be at home with my son soon.

Varetta—Pray I will get moved to another dorm or moved to another bunk. Also that my family will come and see me. That my mom and dad will have good health. Pray for my 3 boys and grandchildren. Pray for all the women at CCCF

Ginger—Pray for more women to come to me so I can bring them here and open their eyes of their hears. All glory to God. My appeal and my amendment. My body heals itself from the inside out. Pray for my son Kyle, Angela and baby Jewell, that they will do everything possible to be a family united. Also that they contact me. For Jason to contact me, turn himself in on his warrant so he can begin anew. Also for Doug to get through his trial ok. Get a job. For Esmerelda's early release to go home to her 10 children.

Dawn—Spiritual battles, for me to be gate-cleared, for me to submit, for me to trust and for my faith to grow. For my out date to be before January. For my family to find God and be able to forgive me and trust me again. For my husband to get the visiting applications and consents back to me very soon and to come see me soon.

Jacquelyn—I'm severely fighting some battles spiritually. Pray for my aunt who has cancer of the esophagus. And that my family would please answer my calls

Tertia—Continued strength and protection from evil, temptation and influence. To give me an environment of peace and harmony. Continue to teach me and help me understand. For continued protection of my family and my ferret, Chopin.

Lisa—Pray for babies and children out on the rivers and pools, that their parents watch them. I do what I need or wants me to do while I'm here. Keep my family healthy and safe. And for all women in medium, that the spiritual warfare stops.

Elvira—I'm trying to get an interstate compact to go back to Colorado to take care of my father. Keep praying for my father's recovery with his kidney cancer. Keep my children and boyfriend safe. Also to be able to get funds for bus/train ticket to go back to Colorado for me and my 2 boys.

Maxine—That the Lord help me through today. Also for my family to come and see me. Also that my

shoulder would be healed.

Billie—Please pray I continue to listen to my Holy Spirit. Not to stop praying because of distractions. Please pray for my grandfather. He has colon cancer. I pray he will reach to the Lord. Also pray for the hate in this place to go. That we will be looking toward God.

Tammy—Pray that I can go into treatment soon so I can go home and be with my daughter and family. Pray for me to have wisdom and be able to walk completely by faith. Also for a good life, good job and home. Pray for my family to have peace and happiness. To have a financial blessing for the burden will be lifted off them. Pray for my mom to be healed, that her lungs get strong. Pray that my daughter, Nicole, is able to remain in good hands with my parents.

Ingeborg—For the Lord to open up doors for me to get into drug treatment program by the 20th of June. For my son and I to get our mother/son relationship back again. Also for patience, wisdom and understanding of His word.

Deitra—Pray I get into AIP and help to stay strong. For Amanda & baby Adrian, Robert, dad, mom, Dougie, Dawn, Dyance, Danelle & baby, Bubba, Matthew, Jason & Marshall.

Roxie—For OWPM, Christina, Una, and Penny. Also that my petition to the court for my good time goes through.

Rhonda—I really, really want to go to treatment. I want to go so I don't go back to my old life. And without treatment, I'm really afraid I will. Pray also that my boyfriend, Tom, stays clean once he is released and that my friend, Jamie, gets well soon.

Susie—Well, it's getting close for me to parole and I would like for you to pray for me that everything goes well for me out the gate. Also pray so I can parole to my mom's place so I can help her in whatever I can. Also that my SSD will be accepted so I can get SSD. Also pray for my son, Roy, and family that moved to Reno that whatever their needs are, for the Lord to help them and bless them. Also for my other son, Raul, and his needs. And for my son, Uvaldo, Jr. that is in OSP in Salem, that he won't get in any trouble while he's in there with the guards and other inmates. And for him not to worry so much about his boys and mostly his daughter that's in a foster home. Also pray for my granddaughter, that she's safe.

Sonja—To keep good health and for protection.

Lynn—That my knee will heal and I get a good job.

Norma—For my son, family, friends and for troops.



Cordelia—That I get the help that I need. Pray for my dad. He is losing his battle with cancer and he may be gone when I get out.

Esmeralda—I need prayer for strength and courage to keep going. Also would like a prayer for early transitional leave because I have 10 children waiting for me at home. Please pray for my children, that they will feel hopeful and keep the faith and be healthy. My son, Carlos, is really hurting, needs me, and he's acting out and getting in trouble. And my daughter, Amanda, who is 19 and trying to raise her brothers and sisters. Pray for strength and courage and faith that I will come home soon. Thank you.

Misty—Please pray that my anxiety/depression continues to decrease. Give my family strength and comfort during my incarceration and that the negative behavior subsides in my dorm.

Carol—Pray that our visiting that's in appeal process is granted. Pray that my family is doing good and healthy and for my nephews, one in Afghanistan and the other soon to be in Iraq.

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Coffee Creek Correctional Facility—Wilsonville, OR

## Vision for the Future...

If you have been reading this newsletter over the last several months, you know that OWPM has some pretty lofty goals. We believe these started with a vision given to Christina by God many years ago, and have been clarified and clearly defined as the ministry has grown. The first of these goals is to open a ministry center, which would house our offices, meeting rooms, storage space for donated items and a computer center for inmate training and job searches, etc.

The second goal is to build a mission home to assist paroled inmates with getting on their feet in a Christian family atmosphere. Many of the women we encounter have nowhere to go when they get out of prison and end up in terrible living situations. We want to change that!

And the third goal is to someday open a bakery in which released inmates could work and learn skills that would help them to support their families. Most businesses won't hire someone

who has been in prison. This would give them a chance to work and learn in an environment that understands where they have come from.

These are goals that will require money and the right people to help us fill each position needed to run an expanded OWPM.

But the main goal, which *has* always and *will* always be the same, is to see women who have committed crimes and find themselves incarcerated come to know **Christ as Savior**, to grow in their relationship with Him while in prison and then to continue walking with Him upon their release. And along with that is to see a revival that rocks the walls of Coffee Creek! We want that place to be claimed for Jesus Christ! May women continue to find His grace and mercy at a time of great suffering and sorrow!

If you would like to be a part of OWPM and what God is doing at CCCF, contact us at [Owprisonministry@hotmail.com](mailto:Owprisonministry@hotmail.com).

