



OWPM COFFEE TALK

Oregon Women's Prison Ministry



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Fruits of New Life

How often do you really get to see the "fruits of new life"? At OWPM, we see these "fruits" on a regular basis. Women who have been caught in a lifetime of sin and then who have experienced the grace of Jesus Christ. "Old things have passed away. New things have come." (2 Cor. 5:17) It is the most exciting thing to be a part of the process!

On September 29th OWPM is hosting its first ever "Fruits of New Life" banquet. The event will take place at the Embassy Suites Hotel located at 9000 SW Washington Square Rd., Tigard, OR 97223 and will begin at 6 pm.

This evening will give everyone an opportunity to see for themselves these "fruits". Several inmates will be there to share their testimonies. There will be a video which was shot inside Coffee Creek Correctional Facility earlier this year. And the founder of the ministry, Christina Gould, will share how OWPM began, where it is today and her vision for the future of the ministry. Other volunteers will also be on hand to

share their perspectives on working with women in prison.

A delicious meal will also be served and there will be an opportunity to give to the ministry of OWPM. Won't you join us for an evening to celebrate the "Fruits of New Life"? We still need a few people to sponsor tables at \$500 each for 10 people and we still need a few people to host a table and invite their friends. Let us know if you will attend and if you would like to sponsor or host. Just email us at cbanister@wecareoregon.org to RSVP. You can also call us at (503)706-7142.

Hope to see you there!



**"So if the SON sets you free, you will be free indeed."
John 8:36**



Did You Know?

A large majority of the women at Coffee Creek have other family members who are also incarcerated or have been in the past. There is definitely a cycle of dysfunction that is perpetuated through the generations. Whether these women grew up in homes where a parent was in prison or whether they have spouses or boyfriends or children who are in prison, you can see how this adds to the difficulty in breaking the chain of sin (addiction, abuse, even violence).

Really, the only hope they have is found in Jesus Christ, and even then they will have a difficult time. How strong would your walk with God be if all the people in your life used drugs, drank alcohol, com-

mited abusive acts against others, etc. ?

As we preach Jesus Christ each week, women find hope for their future, but not only that. They also find POWER through the Holy Spirit to help them be rid of addictions and completely transform their lives. But they can't go it alone. We stress the importance of finding churches when they parole and building healthy relationships with others who are attempting to follow Christ. If one of these women comes to your church, will you open your arms to her? Will you walk along the road of life with her? Will you model Jesus Christ to her?

An Inmate's Story

This is the story of Kiva, a young woman in her 20's who has spent the last year at Coffee Creek. She made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as her Savior during the intake process and has been attending OWPM services ever since. At times she would only come for a few minutes because of her work schedule, but she would stop by to let us know she was still around and to let us know how we could pray for her.

Kiva is currently in treatment for drug and alcohol abuse. She continues to come by and let us know how she is doing and share her needs with us, even though she can't always make it to our class. She struggles with all the rules in treatment, and sometimes fails to keep them. Be-

cause of our relationship with her, we are able to encourage Kiva in her walk with God. She wants nothing more than to honor God in her life, but it isn't easy in this environment.

Kiva's mom died a few years ago and she never knew her dad. She has a sister and nephew, as well as a grandfather who are there for her. But when she paroled later this year, she will most likely go to the YWCA or one of the missions downtown. She is planning now to continue the relationship with some of the OWPM volunteers after she leaves Coffee Creek in order to follow through with the commitment she has made to live a Christian life from here on out.

Will you pray for Kiva ?



The Truth Will Set You Free



Luke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." Then Jesus told them this parable:

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?

And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."

What's Perking?

- Fruits of New Life Banquet, September 29th at 6 pm, Embassy Suites Hotel near Washington Square in Tigard. A great opportunity to hear first hand about the ministry of OWPM.

- Purpose Driven Life study continues in both the Minimum and Medium areas of the prison. We continue to see new women each week, as well as good core groups who come back week after week.

- Christina traveled to Korea in August and was able to visit inmates in two different prisons there. Is OWPM going international ? :) She was also interviewed on Korean television for a program

that is widely watched. Please pray that God would use this message for His glory!

- Coffee Creek and OWPM welcomes Chaplain Dennis Holmes to the Medium area and says farewell to Chaplain Ron Borden as he moves on to another prison. Thanks Chaplain Borden for all the help you gave OWPM. We will miss you!

- Chaplain Bean has left the Minimum side. We will miss her as well. Thanks Chaplain Bean for supporting OWPM. Please pray for God's best person to fill her shoes.



Inmate Prayer Requests

Tamara- Pray that my head problem isn't a tumor or anything serious. Pray that my son and my parents stay strong during the custody battle that we are all in. Pray to give me faith and pray for all the women and their families.

Casey- I pray that the Lord gives me patience and the strength to be the best mom I can be in prison. I pray that my family has all the resources they need to remain healthy and to care for my child. Praise! My mother got custody of my daughter, thank the Lord!

Lepa- Pray for things to continue to go well and for my family too and for others.

Misty- Pray my relationship with Jesus gets stronger, remembering prayer. More understanding and patience in my relationship. Also for Robin, Liesa, Gretchen (my sisters), Dad and Mom.

Varetta- Pray I do go home March 4, 2008 because I may get another program fail. I also need wisdom from God! For my children (adults) to be safe and they give themselves to God! My brother and sister get well that live in Seattle. For Veronica and Pearl, the women at Coffee Creek.

Kelly- Pray for me to have serenity/peace/calmness during my stay at CCCF. Protection/happiness for my children. Health for my mom and sister. For my friend, Brandy, to hear from her mom.

Jackie- Once again, I still don't know if my sentencing has been fixed. Also my niece who gave up her twins is having a very tough time (Felicia).

Karen- That I get into treatment soon. To keep my family strong and safe. Keep praying for Judy. She was given the news she has breast cancer.

Cordelia- Just that things go good for me and my kids. Please, please keep my dad and mom deep in prayer (health, spiritual decline).

Tanya- Can you please pray that my dad writes me and can forgive me and let me back in his life. My son's birthday is 9/17/07. Pray he has a good b-day and that I get some photos of him. Please pray that my mom can come visit me. Thank you for praying for me.

Lisa- For my memory and recovery from addiction.

Rosemary- Pray for strength in this place. To keep everyone in good health. For DM and the biopsy comes back with good results.

Donna- Fast recovery from my upcoming surgery next week. Mr. Powell will approve my upper dentures to be sent in. For God's will for my children. Emotional healing with me and my sister.

Pamela- Pray that I may soon see pictures of my new granddaughter and to hold her soon.

Rim- Please pray for me for my personal life of being picked on. Please pray for my boyfriend and our son—that everything will be okay while I am in here. Please pray for my good friends in here for support.

Virginia- I pray that I get my AIP soon, so I can get treatment and go forward with my life. I pray that I can find a mentor that will walk with me in the Lord. Say a prayer for my daughter and her husband and my grandson. My granddaughter, Aria, that she knows that I love her. And my brother and his family. A prayer that goes with my friends that are going home, that the Lord be with them and walk their path with them.

Laura- God speed my time and give me inner peace that reaches beyond any chaos. Give my family the security and love and peace, especially my son!

Carol- To make it through all my trials and hard times. Like my grandkids' birthdays, Christmas, my fiancé's birthday and mine too. And to continue to grow in my spirituality and to get credit for my 30 days I never got. That my nephew, Micah, if he goes to Iraq comes back alive and well. That my son-in-law stops drinking and going to detox and looks at my at my daughter and grandkids and goes back to AA instead. And my grandkids do well at their BMX bike races.

Maxine- That I get out soon and that I can go to Ohio. That my family comes to see me. That my fiancé, Chris, gets out soon and that he is okay.

Julia- For some strength to love others as myself. For my family, to keep them safe and love them always. For my husband, John, that he gets into Powder River Correctional Facility.

Lori- Please pray that I have patience waiting for my AIP. Please pray that my husband comes around and gets back to God and writes me. Pray for Lisa G., that she has patience.

Ledema- That my detainer is lifted and that my children contact me.



Tertia- Pray that I find what I am seeking answers to. Also healing for my ear and over-all good health (mental, physical and especially spiritual). I also would like to be blessed with creativity and focus and energy and a humorous relationship with Him again. I miss that! For all my family, mom, dad, step-dad, step bros and sisters, aunts, uncles, grandparents and especially children (Jeff, Danna, Darian and Jorey) and Chopin (my ferret). Also for Brenda, Arnicia, Salina, Shelly, Sonja, Tamy, Angie, Brendon, Austin, Ivan, Todd and Ralph Sherman (keep him in good health). Ginger- Pray my appeal is won on gun charges. That I am directed to wisdom to share with others in need of love. That I get into computer tech. That my time is filled with joy, peace and flies by. That Kyle and Jason (sons) lean on each other. That Kyle and Angela get Jewell into a home and become a real family. That Kyle and Jason get great jobs. That Jason and Chrystal work together on their relationship. For Becky and Esmerelda and family. Also Doug needs a job (boyfriend).

OREGON WOMEN'S
PRISON MINISTRY



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If you would like to make a donation, you can do so through the website at www.owprisonministry.org
Just click on the Pay Pal link!



Coffee Creek Correctional Facility—Wilsonville, OR

Vision for the Future...

At OWPM the future looks bright! We have some big dreams for the future, but we have a HUGE God, and nothing is impossible with him! The ministry has been growing steadily for the past several years and we truly sense that God is moving us to the next phase of ministry. Thus far, we have mostly been involved with ministry inside the prison and jail. But as the needs grow and people come along side to help, we are able to do more.

Recently we have had several inmates parole from Coffee Creek who were in need of transitional housing. They had no family that was suitable to live with and no place to go, except to government-provided housing. The problem with these housing arrangements is that it throws all the inmates together in one place. People who are all struggling with addiction and who have poor coping mechanisms. Many fall back in to bad habits because they don't have adequate support systems and those around them are also falling.

Our dream at OWPM is to one day have a transi-

tional home that will be centered around Jesus Christ and godly principles. It will be a place where women are supported and encouraged in their spiritual life and where they are held accountable too. Mentors will be there to teach and model Jesus, to teach basic life skills and to provide a functional family unit.

We also plan on opening a ministry center as soon as possible. Right now we have a PO Box. Soon we need a place where former inmates can come and access computers and office equipment to aid them in job searches and skill training. We also need storage space, a conference room for volunteer meetings and a place to conduct the business of the ministry. Right now, everything happens from Christina's home. But we are out-growing that space!

All these dreams require money and people. As the ministry grows, more people are needed to financially support the work, as well as to volunteer and get involved in a "hands on" sort of way. Is God tugging at your heart as you read this newsletter? If He is, won't you respond by contacting us at the email address listed above? The blessings received far out-weigh any sacrifice you might make to be a part of this ministry.

