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DEC. 25, 2014  
THURSDAY PM

RE: CHRISTMAS DAY, (POST),

GREETINGS,

I'M SITTING HERE WATCHING A BASKETBALL GAME BETWEEN OKLAHOMA AND SAN ANTONIO. NOT ALL THAT INTERESTING BECAUSE KEVIN DURANT ISN'T PLAYING.

I WAS WRITING A LOT OF LETTERS THE PAST DAY OR TWO, THANKING FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR CARDS AND THOUGHTS.

MY NEPHEW JONATHAN HAS REALLY BEEN DOING A LOT FOR ME, HE KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS THE SITUATION I'M IN.

BUT WHAT HE AND A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T KNOW, IS THAT PRISON AND GANG LIFE HAS ITS GOOD AND BAD MOMENTS.

LIFE IS WHAT ONE MAKES OF IT. REGARDLESS OF THE SITUATION AND ATMOSPHERE, BUT IT'S MUCH EASIER WHEN YOU HAVE SOMEONE TO LEAN ON WHEN YOU NEED IT. AND THIS IS WHERE MY NEPHEW AND SISTER MAGGIE HAVE COME IN. I DON'T KNOW WHAT DECISIONS I MAY HAVE MADE WITHOUT THEIR LOVE TO KEEP ME GROUNDED.

SEE MOST PEOPLE EVEN FRIENDS DON'T KNOW ME, NOT REALLY. VERY FEW HAVE BEEN ALLOWED INTO MY MIND AND HEART. I KEEP MY PERSONAL LIFE AS PERSONAL AS I CAN, AND JUST ABSORB ALL THE WARMTH THEY RELEASE AND SEND MY WAY. IT'S LIKE A RECHARGEABLE BATTERY. THAT ENERGIZES ME.

THEY ALLOW US TO MAKE PHONE CALLS NOW. AFTER 30 YEARS I FINALLY GOT TO CALL MY FOLKS AND NO ONE CAN IMAGINE HOW IT FELT TO HEAR MY FOLKS. THE ENERGIZER BUNNY DON'T HAVE NOTHING ON ME.

I'VE BEEN TAKING THESE SELF HELP COURSES AND THROUGH THEM MET A LADY NAMED JANE WHO WAS MY SUPERVISOR. SHE HAS KEPT ME FOCUSED, NOT LETTING ME GIVE UP. AND I WANTED TO. MANY TIMES. SHE ALWAYS SEEMS TO COME THROUGH WHEN I NEED THAT SHOVE.

TODAY I THINK OF ALL OF THEM AND WISH I COULD DO MORE TO SHOW MY APPRECIATION. SO FOR NOW I SEND A MERRY CHRISTMAS WISH TO THEM AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. I'M GLAD I HAVE THEM. AND I FEEL SORRY FOR MANY PRISONERS WHO HAVE NO ONE, EXCEPT US TO LEAN ON.