

# FLOYD

(1 OF 3)

DEAR HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH,

(1) MY NAME IS FLOYD SMITH, CDCR#K-72700, PAPYRUS COLLECTIVE PROJECT COORDINATOR, LEAD WRITER AND CONTRIBUTING EDITOR FOR THE WODZ (WORLD OF DIE ZINE) SERIES. WITH THIS MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH TO SISTER KATHY AND THE CONGREGATION, THIS IS MY TESTIMONIAL.

(2) ONE MORNING, WHILE PACING THE SMALL SPACE OF A OUTSIDE HOLDING CAGE, A MAN IN THE CAGE NEXT TO MINE NAME WESTLEY, NOTICED MY LOW SPIRIT AND SPOKE TO ME. HE SAID THAT HE WANTED ME TO MEET A LADY NAME KATHY HE KNEW, BECAUSE THE CHURCH WHERE SHE WORSHIPED WAS PUTTING ON A BAKE SALE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR PRISONERS IN NEED DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY. HE TOLD ME THAT HE ALREADY HAS SUPPORT, AND WANTED TO OFFER HIS BLESSING FROM THE CHURCH BAKE SALE TO ME.

(3) ~~WHAT WESTLEY DIDN'T KNOW IS THAT I WAS IN A VERY DARK PLACE THAT MORNING. UPSET WITH GOD, BECAUSE MY 16 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER WAS IN A HIGH SPEED CHASE THROUGH LOS ANGELES IN A STOLEN VEHICLE, WHICH TURNED INTO A FOOT CHASE THAT ENDED IN THE OFFICER DRAWING HIS GUN ON MY BABY. ESPECIALLY SINCE I WAS TOLD THAT MY DAUGHTER WAS PREGNANT. ALL OF THAT HIT ME SO HARD THAT I HAD DECIDED TO COMMIT SUICIDE THAT DAY.~~

(4) MY DAUGHTER, PREGNANT WITH MY FIRST GRANDCHILD INSIDE A JUVINILE FACILITY SOMEWHERE, AND WOULD BE BORN INCARCERATED (THREE GENERATIONS INCARCERATED). BOTH MY DAUGHTER AND GRANDCHILD COULD'VE BEEN SHOT AND KILLED THAT DAY. TO THINK ABOUT IT, SOME COP HAD TO GO HOME AND TELL HIS WIFE THAT HE ALMOST SHOT SOMEONES 16 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER. IN THIS CLIMATE IN AMERICA WHERE HOSTILITY AND TRAGEDY BETWEEN THE POLICE AND INNER CITY YOUTH IS ALL TO OFTEN THE RESULT OF SUCH ENCOUNTERS. IT ALL REALLY PUSHED ME TO THE EDGE THAT PARTICULAR DAY.

\* NOTE TO JOE: TRY TO ARRANGE EACH LINE OF TEXT THE SAME WAY IT IS HERE - EXCEPT TRY TO KEEP AMOUNT OF CHARACTERS / WORDS @ NO MORE THAN 17-19 EACH LINE. (w/SPACES)

\* NOTE TO TRANSCRIBER: PLEASE TRANSCRIBE THE HIGHLIGHTED (YELLOW) TEXT IN ALL CAPS.



(5) MEETING SISTER KATHY, AND HER INTRODUCING ME TO ROBAIN, WHO I CAME TO KNOW DURING OUR VISITS, BOTH, MAKE ME LOOK BACK AT THAT MOMENT AS A DIRECT MOVEMENT OF GOD INTO MY LIFE. BECAUSE NEITHER WESTLEY, KATHY NOR ROBAIN KNEW THAT I WAS IN TROUBLE UNTIL AFTER I ENGAGED THEM. AND ALTHOUGH ROBAIN CAN'T VISIT ME ANYMORE, HE MADE A GREAT IMPRESSION ON MY LIFE FROM THE TIMES HE DID. ( ROBAIN IS THE REAL DEAL )

(6) THAT ACT OF KINDNESS THAT WESTLEY EXTENDED 4 YEARS AGO THROUGH HIS BAKE SALE BLESSING, SUSTAINED ME, AND MY HOPE TO ONE DAY HEAR FROM MY DAUGHTER AND MEET MY GRANDCHILD. TODAY, I SHARE THE BAKE SALE BLESSING WITH OTHERS, AS WELL AS SISTER KATHY'S PRISON MINISTRY WHICH BRINGS THOSE FROM YOUR CONGREGATION ( LIKE ROBAIN ) INTO THE VISITING ROOMS. THIS LAST HOLIDAY I WAS ABLE TO SHARE THIS COMBINED BLESSING FROM BOTH "BAKERS" AND MINISTERS WITH SOME "NEW SOULS" AMONG A NEW GENERATION OF THE DEATH ROW POPULATION HERE AT SAN QUENTIN, THANK TO SISTER KATHY EXPANDING THE EFFORTS AND RESOURCES TO ME, FROM THE CONGREGATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH.

(7) AS A RESULT OF THAT NEW EFFORT ( ONLY 2-3 MONTHS SINCE AS I WRITE THIS LETTER TO YOU ) SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL HAS BEGAN TO EVOLVE FROM THESE YOUNG MEN, WHO CAN'T STOP TALKING ABOUT KATHY AND THEIR NEW FOUND FELLOWSHIP WITH THOSE PEOPLE AMONG YOUR CONGREGATION. AND SO IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR THIS "MESSAGE" FROM THESE NEW SOULS TO COME TOGETHER TO EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION. I TOLD SISTER KATHY THAT WE NEED TO CALL THE VISITING ROOM EXPANSION "FEAST AND FELLOWSHIP" WITH NEW SOULS.



BURON, MARCUS, WAUMON, THOMAS, TYRONE, AND RAYON;

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ ARE THESE NEW SOULS WHO'VE BEEN TOUCHED IN A POSITIVE WAY BY YOU. IT MAY BE OBVIOUS THAT WE ARE NOT A PART OF THE USUAL CROWD OF "BIBLE BUDES" AROUND HERE, WHO DON'T ENGAGE OUR GENERATION AT ALL, LET ALONE ANY NEW SOULS BEING BROUGHT TO THE LORD BY THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN HERE SINCE BEFORE MANY OF US LEFT MIDDLE SCHOOL. IN FACT, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ THE VAST ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ POPULATION OF DEATH ROW PRISONERS CONFINED HERE AT SAN QUENTIN, MOST OF US DON'T ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ KNOW EACH OTHER. WHETHER IT BE FENCES AND WALLS, OR BARRIERS OF THE MIND, IT'S A CLICHÉ ALL TOO COMMON HERE TO FIND OUR GENERATION MORE AT ODDS WITH WHATEVER PEOPLE MORPH INTO WHILE "PLAYING" CHRISTIAN. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

(8)

IF IT WASN'T FOR THOSE HERE LIKE RU-AL, AND WESTLEY, SETTING AN EXAMPLE OF GODS GRACE TOWARDS US AS WE COME HERE AS YOUNG AND WILD LOST SOULS, THERE WOULD BE LITTLE TO NO EVIDENCE OF GODS MERCY HERE IN REAL TIME. IF NOT FOR KATHY AND THOSE OF YOU WHO BAKED, WROTE LETTERS, CAME TO VISIT, WITHOUT PREJUDICE OR JUDGEMENT, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ THESE TESTIMONIALS ARE A CONFIRMATION THAT THROUGH YOU, GOD IS GETTING OUR ATTENTION.

(9)