

SITUATION

1-25-20

I originally entered prison with a seventh grade education, a hopeless drug addicted alcoholic.

Having discovered a Spiritual Path, I now glory in a life of freedom and Recovery, & work in counseling others in Recovery. Having now earned three A.A. Degrees, as well as a Bachelor in Christian Ministry, I work in the education Department here at San Quentin as a teaching Assistant as well as an "unofficial" Educational Counselor. I have Microsoft Certification in WORD, ACCESS, EXCEL, POWERPOINT as well as my Vocational Office Services and Related Technologies Certificate. I've "Maxed-Out" on educational opportunities in prison. But I have a long way to go, amen.

As of this date I have earned 88 units from Community Colleges and approx. 65 from Bible Colleges. My combined GPA is above a 3.5.

I am now being promoted to a "Peer Mentor" in a new Inmate Peer Literacy Program. I will be paid \$1 an hour, up from my current .11¢. This raise has me now considering advancing my education to a never before dreamed of level.

Adams State University in Colorado offers a Bachelor Degree program in which they will except 78 of my units in transfer. I need complete just 42 units in house (14 courses) to earn their B.A. Degree, with a major in Business and a minor in Social Work.

My hearts desire is to begin this next, but not yet final stage, of my educational endeavors in January 2021 and complete four courses per year for the next three and a half years. I can, Lord willing, earn that B.A. Degree by June 2024, then parole in Fall of that same year.

Having paroled in the Fall of 2024 with my B.A. I am eligible to enter UC Berkeley's Graduate School under the "Underground Scholars Program". I have made many connections with Berkeley Professor who come to teach here at San Quentin in my current Junior College, which is under Prison University Project (PUP). I am assured of all the assistance I need in being excepted to Berkey if I can succeed in this. :)

With my Masters Degree in Psych, with undergrad in Business my earning potential is effectively doubled. This equips me to better serve God and others and to "work with my hands to provide for my needs and the needs of others", which is what I am called to do.

Needs;

14 courses @ \$615 per	= \$8,610
\$70 books and expenses per 14	= 980

Each six month period I will need \$1,370

I will only be able to save \$370 for that first semester due to state restitution deducted from inmate payroll (\$700 owed), thereafter I will have approx. \$550 towards each semester's fees.

So I need to raise, either through a loan or fund raising the following, all of which would go directly to Adams State University:

Jan. 2021	\$1,000	July 2021	\$800
Jan. 2022	\$800	July 2022	\$800
Jan. 2023	\$800	July 2023	\$800
Jan. 2024	\$800		

Mission Complete!

As an added bonus this will earn an additional 17 months off my time to serve. (42 Milestone Completion Credits and 26 Earned Merit Credits, each credit equals one week off my sentence).

There are many scholarships and grants available for one such as I entering that Underground Scholars Program. I took into consideration my age, the cost/benefit analysis, time off sentence, and all other factors as I thoroughly examined this situation in prayer over a long period of time. Success is assured, I just have no idea how God will enable me to do what He has so clearly outlined for me as His will.

So, I have 11 months to put this together. I will ask both Doc and Dana if they might be willing to build me a "Go-Fund-Me" page, and I will ask Dad for a Loan commitment in the absence of donors.

I weep tears of joy as I now see clearly the Truth of "more than we could ever think or imagine". I have this sense that all has changed, my destiny has now begun. I am thrilled by the opportunity to watch Him work this all out! :)