

# PRAISE News

Foundation of Praise • P.O. Box 2518 • Escondido, CA 92033-2518 • 760.741.2755 • www.foundationofpraise.org



## Are You Good Enough?

By Merlin Carothers

When landing an airplane there are two things you must not do – land too fast or land too slow. Either mistake could cause you to crash. When trying to live a Christian life there

are two things we should not do: Believe that we are better than we are or worse than we are.

We may be tempted to be discouraged when we think we have made some wrong decisions. Most of us could fill pages with the things we know we could have done better. I sometimes ask people if they are going to Heaven. Many answer, “I hope so.” When I respond with, “what would you have to do before you would be certain you are going to Heaven,” they often say, “I would need to be a better person.” Yes, Romans 12:3 (NIV) does say: *I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought.* We don’t want to feel and act self-righteous, but we can also be so critical of ourselves that we forget what Jesus came to give us. John 3:16 tells us what we should believe: *God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

God does not want us to concentrate on our failures. He wants us – imperfect though we are – to be victorious in what Jesus has done for us. We may wish we were living a perfect life, but God wants us to believe in and tell others what *Jesus has done* for us. He paid a high price so that we can proclaim that *we are* a child of God.

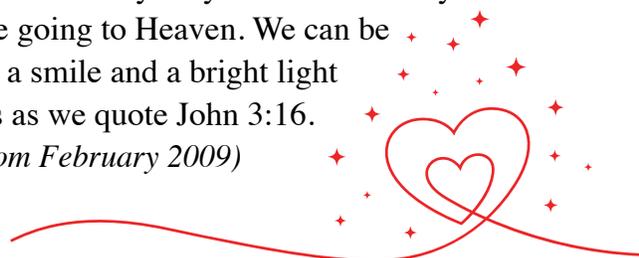
Why would God make a person like you, His child? It is not because you did, or are doing, anything good! It

is because Jesus did something wonderful. He lived a perfect life here on earth and He made it possible for His righteousness to become our righteousness! *Now God says he will accept and acquit us – declare us “not guilty” – if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins.* (Rom. 3:22 TLB)

What a gift God has given us! If anyone asks if we are going to Heaven that is our perfect opportunity to tell them what Jesus has done for us.

Why are so many of us uncertain and even discouraged? We cling to our failures as if they were all we had. The marvelous truth is that God wants us to have and enjoy the gift that Jesus purchased for us. On the other hand, Satan wants us to fret and stew over the mistakes that we have made. If we do that, we are more aware of our own failures than we are aware of what Jesus has done for us! We must understand that: *It is from God alone that you have your life through Christ Jesus. He showed us God's plan of salvation; he was the one who made us acceptable to God . . .* (1 Cor. 1:30)

We must think of ourselves as a person that Jesus has saved and is changing. Yes, we make mistakes, but when we were born again, we became a child of God! He accepts us, loves us, and wants to help us to become more like His Son, Jesus. God really loves His children and wants us to rejoice in what He has done *for us*. Our joy may cause another person to think, I would like to believe that too. They may even ask us why we are so sure we are going to Heaven. We can be ready with a smile and a bright light in our eyes as we quote John 3:16. (Reprint from February 2009)





# Pearls

By Mary Carothers

Do you have anyone in your life that irritates you? **Really** aggravates you?

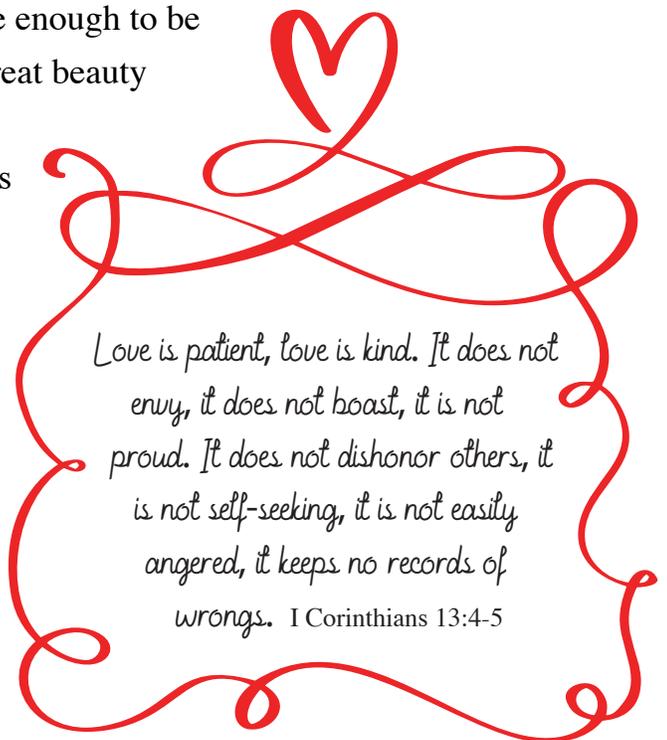
If so, you can take comfort in the fact that *most of us do*. You may say,

“Well, so what? That’s no comfort. This person drives me nuts.”

Let’s think about something for a minute. Let’s think about how a pearl is

formed. I’m no expert; I only know the simplest facts about how it happens. At some point an irritant is introduced into the oyster. Because it is a constant source of irritation, the oyster begins to cover it with mother of pearl. Each layer that is laid down over it covers some of the rough edges. By the time all sharp parts are covered, the pearl itself is large enough to be an irritant. And so the process continues until a pearl of great beauty is produced.

God allows us to have someone in our lives who causes us stress and irritation. He has a *purpose* in doing this. He desires that we begin to cover that person with love and grace, just as Jesus has done for us. His goal is to encourage us to grow more like Jesus. As we cover this person with God’s love and extend grace to them, again and again, it is possible with the Holy Spirit’s help that they, or we, just may become a beautiful pearl in the hand of the Lord.



Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no records of wrongs. I Corinthians 13:4-5

## ♥ The Foundation of Praise has received gifts

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

### IN HONOR OF:

**Rita Jo Parker-Callahan**  
By her husband Michael  
of Bella Vista, AR

**Wolfgang M. Gielisch**  
By Timothy Bernardin  
of Lockeford, CA

**Gail Smith**  
By Margaret Grow  
of Rome, NY

**Duke Yore**  
By Cynthia Yore  
of Moreno Valley, CA

**Thadd Koonce**  
By Betty Koonce  
of Georgetown, TX

**Catherine “Kate” Wardell**  
By her husband Weston  
of Wilmington, DE

**Darnell Hanson**  
**Margie Chalker**  
By Deborah Jay  
of Jacksonville, TX

**Doug Lund**  
By his wife Jackie  
of Winter Haven, FL

**David Lester**  
By his wife LaVonne  
of Manteca, CA

**Our loss is Heaven’s gain! Our prayers  
are with those who loved them.**





MYRLIN CAROTHERS

# Prison to Praise Reports



I enjoy giving away *Prison to Praise* to people I feel need them. I tell folks to read it again and again because you get more spiritual help with each reading.

My friend gave me *Prison to Praise* many years ago while I was going through a divorce. I needed the “anchor” of praise and thanksgiving in “all things.” I’m so thankful for this book.

I’ve meant to write to you over the years but never got to it. God used *Prison to Praise* to help heal me of chronic depression and life-long low self-esteem. I was given a copy of *Prison to Praise* when it was first published and have tried to keep copies to give away. I told everyone that you were my favorite author.

I picked up *Prison to Praise* when I went to visit my husband in prison. They were at the reception desk for free. This book is AWESOME! Whenever I have to sit and wait for more than a few minutes, I am reading this book. I’m halfway through the book and already wishing I could share with many others.

I just finished reading *Prison to Praise* and it had me in tears. When I came to this prison I was against God, but this book has brought me joy and I now want to live a righteous life in Christ.

I read *Prison to Praise*, and the book is awesome! I am now praising the Lord for all my difficulties, and I want to share the book with others.

*Prison to Praise* blessed me over forty years ago and I recently ran across it again. I was so blessed that I want to order a lot more copies to give to others.

I first picked up *Prison to Praise* on a table at my church in 1971 and it continues to inspire me today.



*Your faithful support has enabled us to send free praise books to the following facilities!*

- City Jail, Bristol, VA
- State Prison, Raiford, FL
- Ada County Jail, Boise, ID
- State Prison, Reidsville, GA
- County Jail, Sunnyside, WA
- Youth Center, Saint Charles, IL
- Correctional Center, Bridgeport, CT
- Craven County Jail, New Bern, NC
- El Dorado County Jail, Lake Tahoe, CA
- Magic Valley Chaplains, Inc., Twin Falls, ID
- Vigo County Security Jail, Terre Haute, IN
- Livesay Correctional Institution, Una, SC
- Transition Center for Women, Tallulah, LA
- Downtown Detention Center, El Paso, TX
- Central Women’s Facility, Chowchilla, CA
- Correctional Ministry Services, Zanesville, OH
- Franklin County Correctional Center, Pasco, WA
- Roger D. Wilson Detention Facility, Knoxville, TN
- Taconic Correctional Facility, Bedford Hills, NY



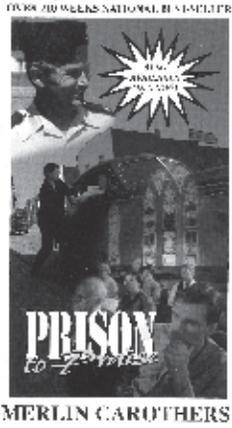
## How About You?

Nearly every person who reads this believes that we would be better off following the teachings of Jesus. But most of us realize that folks will not follow Him until they understand why they should do so. For people to know the “why”, someone needs to help them. Jesus told us why many would never hear His message. He said few people would do what was necessary to get His Good News to others.

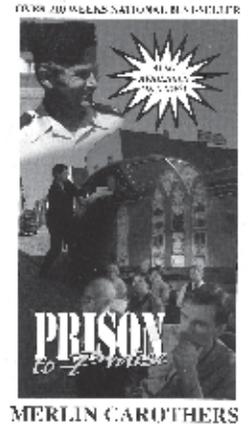
The Bible tells us that people will find many excuses as to why they cannot help others know Him. All of us have used excuses to exempt ourselves. We permit ourselves to put off doing what needs to be done *until a more convenient time* (see Acts 24:25).

How about you? What have you put off doing until a more convenient time? If you want to do more we are offering bulk price discounts on *Prison to Praise*. We hope this will enable you to do what will cause you to one day hear, *Well done thou good and faithful servant*.

Use our books and tracts, or other Christian literature, but please don’t put off doing whatever you can to be obedient to Christ. His command was to get His message out to everyone. If you make the right decision, God will help you do great things for Him. Decide today what you will do! For eternity you will be glad.



# Looking for an Opportunity to Serve the Lord?



You can begin by paying attention to places where people have little to do but wait. Places like doctors and dentists offices, hospitals, waiting rooms, airports, and train and bus stations. You can give them a copy of *Prison to Praise* or leave it there for the next person. Please pray and ask the Lord to guide you to those who need to hear the Good News of the Gospel. God will bless your efforts to share the message of praise with others.

**Go into all the World and preach the Good News to every creature (Mark 16:15 NKJ).**

BOOK QUANTITY	PRICE PER BOOK	TOTAL RETAIL VALUE	USPS SHIPPING	TOTAL COST
1,000	.55	\$5,000	\$160	\$710
500	.60	\$2,500	\$80	\$380
200	.65	\$1,000	\$32	\$162
100	.70	\$500	\$16	\$86
50	.75	\$250	\$14	\$51.50
25	.85	\$125	\$9	\$30.25
10	1.00	\$50	\$6	\$16

These are “Not for Resale” copies and this special does not apply to the Giant Print or Spanish versions of *Prison to Praise*. This offer is available through the month of March - while supplies last! For credit card orders call 1-800-PRAISE1 (1-800-772-4731). Shipping applies to one U.S. address. Please call (760)741-2755 for foreign rates or for additional shipping information.

PLEASE SELECT OPTION, CLIP, AND RETURN IN ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *Prison to Praise* for the Total Cost of \$\_\_\_\_\_

I will distribute these books. Send them to me at the address below:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Do not send the books to me. Use my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to have the *Foundation of Praise* distribute for me.

THIS OFFER EXPIRES ON March 31, 2022. LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE.