

PRAISE News

September 2022

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



will move. Nothing will be impossible for you (Mt. 17:20 NIV).

I had often prayed for more faith to be able to move mountain-sized problems but realized that I could not move even one grain of sand. But I knew that Jesus intended for His words to, in some way, help my faith grow.

After years of thinking about this verse, a picture appeared in my mind, when I wasn't even thinking about a mustard seed. In a garden I saw a tiny, green sprout coming to the surface. I knew it was a mustard seed coming to life. The Holy Spirit had opened my eyes! Jesus was telling me that my tiny amount of faith *could* grow! And keep on growing. Like a mustard seed it could become stronger, more useful and keep revealing the power that God had given it. All I needed to do was to keep using it. Even when my faith seemed to be buried in the ground and useless, I could believe that in due time it would peek out of the ground where even I could see that it was alive and growing.

If Jesus had said, "If you have faith as a grain of sand" that would also have represented a small amount of faith. But I suddenly realized that there is a big difference between a grain of sand and a grain of mustard seed! Sand *doesn't* grow in size! A mustard seed *can* grow! Year after year it can increase in size and even become a tree.

Have you ever felt helpless, or even hopeless, when facing severe problems? You may have felt that you had

FAITH



By Merlin Carothers

to find practical ways to solve your problems. But sometimes our own efforts do not accomplish anything. So, what do we do? Cry, try harder, scream, get mad or, what?

I could help my faith to grow by studying what Jesus did with His faith. I could think about the tiny faith His disciples had. They had almost no faith, but they eventually learned to work many miracles.

How long would it take before I could learn how to let Jesus' faith work in me? That doesn't matter. My purpose, and yours, is to learn how to let Jesus' faith *grow in us*.

We face a powerful enemy who fears nothing but our faith in Jesus. Even though He was sinless Jesus had to: *Increase in wisdom and stature...* (Luke 2:52). So, Christ was able to prove that Satan *can be* defeated.

You and I take much longer to learn – anything – but we can learn and grow! Our faith can grow and grow if we will permit the Holy Spirit to help us. One step – or half a step – at a time. One grain of faith at a time. God's almighty power and perfect love are watching for opportunities to help us!

If you ever feel discouraged about a problem, don't feel that there is no solution, or that you are too unimportant for God to work a miracle for you. We are all helpless! That's why Jesus came to help us. Even if you are the worst failure you have ever known, God has planted a mustard seed-sized faith in you. Believe that He *will help you*! Don't expect instant answers. Just keep believing. Your trust in Him will cause your faith to grow and grow until the miracle of its power will do what you cannot do for yourself. God has proven this to me over and over. I've tried the best I know how to explain this in my books, but I keep searching for new ways to help all Christians to grow in faith

(Reprint from August 2010).



CHOICES



By Mary Carothers



Every day we make many choices: what we wear, what we eat, what we do.

This is also true in our spiritual lives – we choose between *our* will and *God's* will.

Often the Holy Spirit convicts us through the godly example of another Christian. When He does, we make a choice. We can choose to humble ourselves (see I Peter 5:6) and submit to His correction and training, or we can choose to resist the Holy Spirit (see Acts 7:51). When we do resist, we nearly always become angry with the person God is using as an example. Early in my walk with Jesus, I observed this reaction among some Christians. I had a young friend who loved Jesus with all her heart. She was a beautiful example of a godly young woman and was an inspiration to me. Yet to my amazement, many of our Christian friends could say nothing good about her. The kindest critique was, "She is going overboard... she is becoming a fanatic!"

I wondered then how on earth they could feel this way, but through the years I have gained a little insight. As I now understand it, God used her example of a committed walk with Christ as an instrument to bring conviction to those of us with whom He desired a closer relationship. We each had a choice to make. We could submit ourselves to the mighty hand of God and let Christ be formed in us (see Galatians 4:19) *or* we could resist the Holy Spirit. Those who resisted the conviction of the Holy Spirit, responded by criticizing her. This led me to believe that a critical spirit is often born out of a heart that is resisting the Holy Spirit. Conviction of sin is one of the primary functions of the Holy Spirit in the life of every believer (see John 16:8).

Now when I feel anger or resentment, I check myself to see if the Lord may be trying to say something to me. Are my words and actions pleasing to Him? What about my attitudes? Jesus, are you trying to teach me something?

Let's ask the Lord to help us grow in having a humble, teachable spirit.

The Foundation of Praise

has received gifts
IN LOVING MEMORY

Geneva Showers

By her nephew
Eddie Showers
of Harrold, TX

John A. Schoeff

By Dianne Morris
of Valleyford, WA

IN HONOR OF:

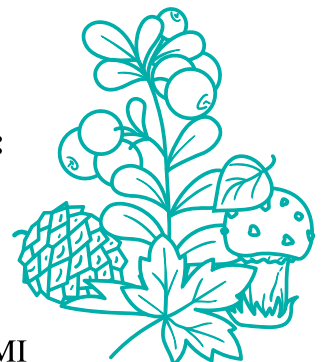
Kathy Harmon

Happy Birthday
By her brother
David Firchau
of St. Clair Shores, MI



"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men..."

Colossians 3:23





Spreading the Message of Praise Through Prison to Praise!



Loved *Prison to Praise* back in the '70's and still do!
BILL, WI

Let me share with you how I got the book *Prison to Praise*. We had to call a repairman to fix our air conditioner and we had prayed for the Lord to send the right person. When he completed the job, he gave us a copy of *Prison to Praise*. My husband and I had been in a terrible rut and that excellent book brought back the fire for the Lord. Thank you for continuing Merlin's ministry.
SHARON, KY

I read *Prison to Praise* in the 1970's and now our Lord is encouraging me to share them again to those who truly need a blessing.
BESS, HI

It is almost my anniversary with Jesus. A sergeant gave me a copy of *Prison to Praise* in 1974 and I was born again after reading that wonderful book.
LEONCIA, IN

Prison to Praise means a great deal to me and is encouraging as it reminds me to stay in the spirit of thanksgiving. I cried when read it and I could feel the love of Jesus.
JADE, NC

I want to thank you for *Prison to Praise*. I read it here at Richland Parish Jail and it has changed my perspective from negative to positive and now I am full of hope.
ORACLE, LA

I shared *Prison to Praise* with my family and my son knelt and prayed with me.
CYNTHIA, CA

I started reading *Prison to Praise* yesterday and I could not put it down. I started thanking God for everything, good and bad, in my life. Here in my cell at the Tucker Unit I am happier today than I was when I had all those worldly possessions.
JOSHUA, AR

Thank you for the donation of *Prison to Praise* books. The men and women at Ben Hill County Jail are happy to receive them. The first time I read *Prison to Praise* I was blessed and passed it on to others. God bless you.
CHARLOTTE, GA

Thank you immensely for the kindness of your book, *Prison to Praise*. I pray God will reward you and your praise partners for sharing them with us at the Treatment Center.
MICHAEL, MA

Thank you for the generous donation of your book, *Prison to Praise*. The men here at the Fresno County Detention Center are eager to read them.
GALEN, CA

Thank you for the *Prison to Praise* books you sent for the Falkenburg Jail. We have over 3000 inmates and can use any books that you can send us.
PAMELA, FL

We have been blessed with the *Prison to Praise* books that your ministry provides us here at the Tarrant County Jail. They are often requested by the inmates and well received. Any additional books you can send would be greatly appreciated.
WES, TX

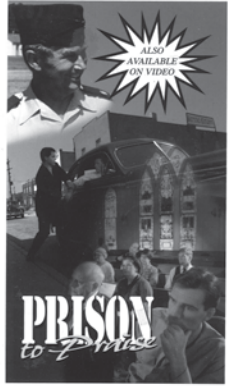


A Good Way to Do It!

When we give a copy of *Prison to Praise* to someone, it is important that we do our best to convince that person to read it. Usually, it is easier to just hand a book to someone and then move on. That's far better than nothing, but we should seek ways to encourage people to want to read what we give them. I always feel better if I simply say something about the book as I place it in their hands. I may say this is the best book I have ever read. If you agree with me, please try to get another person to read it. You can tell by the way the person looks at the book if he or she is interested. If we feel confident that we have done our best, we can have full confidence that God will do the rest. As we leave the person we can pray, "Thank You, God, for giving me the opportunity to be a witness for You!"



OVER 210 WEEKS NATIONAL BEST-SELLER

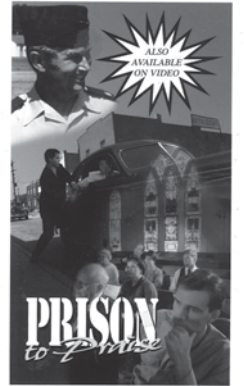


MERLIN CAROTHERS

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.

OVER 210 WEEKS NATIONAL BEST-SELLER



MERLIN CAROTHERS

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	YOUR TOTAL COST
1,000	.65	\$5,000	\$190	\$840
500	.70	\$2,500	\$95	\$445
200	.75	\$1,000	\$38	\$188
100	.80	\$500	\$19	\$99
50	.85	\$250	\$14	\$56.50
25	.95	\$125	\$9	\$32.75
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 October - 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.

☐ **Yes, 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 October 31, 2022. LIMITED QUANTITY AVAILABLE.