

Masterlife Ministry, Inc

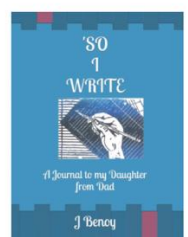
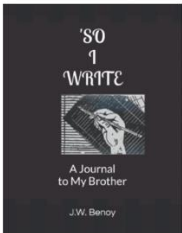
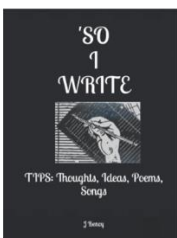
Travis Mileur
P. O. Box 21
Pryor, OK 74362-0021

Masterlife.ministry@gmail.com

www.Masterlifeministry.org



'SO I WRITE JOURNALS



- Do you long to communicate with your children or loved ones?
- Do you have a child or loved one who you can't talk to?
- Do you want to be able to counsel and nurture them? Tell them how amazing they are or simply say I love and miss you!
- Are you weighted down by pain, guilt, shame and/or despair?
- Are your children being left to wonder if they did something wrong, or if you have forgotten them, abandoned them or stopped loving them?

'SO I WRITE journals provide an incarcerated parent the alternative to risking their letters being rejected, hidden, or destroyed. They can safely record all of the conversations, thoughts, dreams, and ideas that they long to share, while holding on to the hope of one day handing this journal to their child or loved one, saying "not a day has gone by that I did not think of you, miss you, love you, and wish I could be there with you----

'so, I wrote.'

Check These Out!!!



available at

amazon

What is MasterLife-Ministry, Inc. (MLM)?

MLM is the great Commission in Prison

In the United States, there are currently more than 2 million adults behind bars. Some of them will be released back into society one day, while others will never return to the free world again. Many of these men and women are trapped in a revolving door cycle, a cycle that they do not know how to escape.

The church sends faithful volunteers to go into the prisons, holding church services and Bible studies in an attempt to help these men and women make the changes needed to become productive members of society; however, volunteers are limited in what they can do. For instance, they cannot get involved personally or invest one-on-one time in the lives of individual inmates. Therefore, there is a serious lack of mentoring and discipleship within the prison system. This brings forth an important question: *who's discipling the incarcerated?* **Be assured, they are being disciplined and indoctrinated by someone.** The codes, creeds, ideologies, and world views that are taught within the prison system are creating more problems than solutions and many inmates are returning to society in worse condition than when they left. How can we remedy the problem? Well, MasterLife Ministry (MLM) has found a solution, a solution that has proven successful—Discipling, training, equipping, and adopting inmate ministers.

MasterLife Ministry, Inc. is a prison contextualized discipleship program developed by Travis Mileur and James Benoy. Mileur has over forty years of experience in discipling Christian men. Benoy has over twenty-five years of prison experience and has developed an understanding of the kinds of ideologies and issues that plague the prison systems. In 2008, Mileur decided to invest in the life of Benoy—discipling, supporting, training, and adopting him. God used these men's combined experience and commitment to develop what is now *MasterLife Ministry, Inc.* This ministry gets involved by training ML-Ministers who live within the prison system. MLM also connect these ML ministers with ministry partners on the outside who will support and co-labor with them just as Mileur did with Benoy.

FURTHERING THE GOSPEL BY JAMES BENOY (LCI)



How am I doing?

Using the words of the Apostle Paul, contextualized, and applied to my life.

"None of these things move me:

neither do I count my life dear to myself, that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24)

"You know from the first day that I came to [your prison] in what manner I always lived among you, serving the Lord in all humility with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of [my haters] how I kept nothing back that was helpful, but proclaimed to you, and taught publicly from [dorm to dorm] – conducting Christmas parties, serving burritos, planning Sunday services, teaching Discipleship groups, and giving liberally to all – testifying to [everyone] repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ. And now I go bound in spirit to [another prison] not knowing what will happen to me, except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every [prison location] chains and tribulation await me. But none of these things move me, nor do I count my life dear to myself, that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry given to me by the Lord Jesus Christ, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Vs 26 – "I testify that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I did not hold back but declared to you the whole counsel of God. Therefore, take heed to yourselves and to the flock among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers to shepherd the Church of God which he purchased with His own blood. For I know that after any departure savage wolves [with liberal teachings and pluralistic philosophies] will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, from among yourselves, men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore, watch, and remember, for [15 years of my incarceration] I have not ceased to warn you night and day with tears... I have coveted no one's [money or canteen]. Yes, you yourself know that [my family and friends] have provided for my necessities, and for those who labor with me. I have shown you in every way [by my actions]

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Contact Information.....	1
'So I Wrote Journals.....	1
What is MasterLife-Ministry?.....	2
Letter From The Editor.....	2
Welcome New Team Members.....	3
The Corner Desk	13

TESTIMONIES FROM MLM ACTIVITIES

Testimonies from ML-Ministers.....	4
------------------------------------	---

TESTIMONIES FROM MLM DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Hambone's MLM.....	5
Anthony Long 's MLM.....	6-7
Ralph Getty's MLM.....	7-8
Jonathan Ramirez's MLM.....	8-9
Weston Benoy' MLM	9-12

that you must support the weak [reach out to the poor, love one another, your neighbor, your enemy, and strive for unity] – remember the words of the Lord Jesus, "it is more blessed to give than receive".

Philippians 1:12-19

"But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel.

And it has become evident to [the wardens, administration, the volunteers, the staff, and the yard at 7 prior Prism locations, that I'm all about Jesus Christ, MasterLife, and love for the convict]; and most of the brothers [on the yard] have become bolder to speak the Word without fear. [And have learned a strategy and method of ministry in prison by my example] Now some indeed preach Christ from envy and strife, some for good will: the former preaches Christ for selfish ambition not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; but the latter out of love knowing that I am ordained for the defense of the gospel. [So how do I respond to all of this?] Christ is preached, and in this I rejoice, yes and will rejoice! For I know that this will turn out for

my deliverance through your prayers and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. What was meant for evil, turned out good to save many lives”

Hello, My Brothers, I know what you're thinking; Benoy and his long-winded introductions. LOL! So, how am I doing? “Steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Lumberton is great – and as always, the Lord has gone before me preparing my way, rolling out the red carpet, opening doors, connecting me with all the right people, and has placed me in my favorite fruit-bearing job – The Barber Shop! 😊

So far, the MLM DIET PLAN Ministry here at LCI: Modeling the life, loving God and people, making connections on the yard, all has led to a MasterLife group where we are developing relationships, identifying underlying issues, examining eternal solutions, and training for the battlefield, population outreach programs, leadership training, Adopt-A-Life support, and newsletter responsibilities. MLM DIET PLAN 😊

God has put together an awesome group of diverse personalities in LCI MasterLife program. And he has ordained men on the yard to approve, support, and promote the positive changes that are transpiring here. God is already delivering men from drug addiction, reconciling broken families, restoring backslidden men to Himself, and pulling in the convicts off the yard. All I'm doing is being faithful to what He has called me to do.

I have to tell you guys, I feel renewed, strengthened, and truly immovable. It's as if I was tried, crucified, and buried; but then I was resurrected – Hallelujah!!! And I am better than ever. God has shown me that He is faithful, and I can count on Him to fight my battles, clear my path, and use my life for His glory under any circumstances.

Shoutout to all you ML Brothers! I pray the Lord is blessing all of you in your knowledge of Him and continuing to reveal Himself through your love and obedience.

I miss all my brothers across the state, as far as Avery and Alexander to Caledonia and Nash.

God Bless,
Brother Ben

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Due to TextBehind regulations, we are not able to print as many pages in our newsletters as usual. Due to those restrictions, we couldn't get everything in this issue. To solve this problem, we will be publishing more newsletters. Our hope is to release a newsletter bimonthly! Just remember this is only possible if you guys are submitting testimonies and words of encouragement!

ART INCREDIBLE UPDATE

Temporarily suspended, due to lack of inmate MasterLife volunteers, to organize, promote and collect art to take on this ministry. We pray that one of you will feel led to take charge of this part of our ministry.

JOURNALS

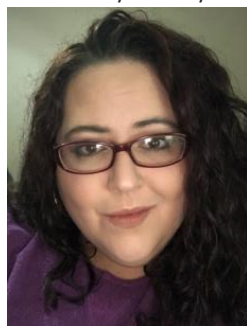
MLM, Inc. has published several journals, some are designed specifically for your quiet time, while others are designed to keep for your loved ones. All proceeds from sells goes to MasterLife Ministry, Inc. which in return goes towards, our groups, Christmas parties, and MasterLife after prison ministries. More information can be found on page 1. You can get yours on Amazon now.

Welcome New Team Members

We are excited to tell you that we have 2 new staff members: Mrs. Donna Rose and Mrs. Teresa Vickers. Mrs. Donna has already taken on the newsletter and is ready to help in any way possible to help lead people to Christ. Mrs. Teresa is on fire for the Lord and ready to help with the next project, that is currently being worked on.

MRS. DONNA -

Hello everyone! My name is Donna Rose, I am excited to be joining the MasterLife Ministry Team. I have been praying for the Lord to show me how can I best serve Him, and that's when my longtime friend Kevin Jolly came to me about this



ministry, He got me in touch with Benoy and everything just started to click. After praying more, God has showed me this is exactly where he wants me. I will be helping with all aspects of the ministry including working on newsletters, community outreach, social media, etc. I am excited to see what our Lord Jesus Christ has in store for this ministry. I have faith, this is only the beginning! I am

praying daily for all of you. Keep strong, stay faithful, continue to be a lighthouse for others. GOD IS WORKING!!! Looking forward to what the future holds!

Donna Rose

MRS. TERESA



Hey everyone, I am Mrs. Teresa! I am looking forward to helping with the ministry! I am praying for each of you and hope to be able to assist in helping this ministry have nothing but success moving

forward. Lord help MasterLife Ministry to flourish and grow to help lead as many people to you, as possible. Take care of yourselves and each other.

Mrs. Teresa

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT

DON'T OPEN YOUR MOUTH:

1. In the heat of anger – Proverbs 14:17.
2. When you don't have all of the facts – Proverbs 18:13
3. When you haven't verified the story – Deuteronomy 17:6
4. If your words will offend a weaker brother – 1 Corinthians 8:11
5. If your words will be a poor reflection of the Lord or of your friends and family. – Peter 2:22-23
6. When you are tempted to joke about sin – Proverbs 14:9
7. When you would be ashamed of your words later – Proverbs 8:8
8. When you are tempted to make light of holy things – Ecclesiastes 5:2
9. If your words would convey a wrong impression – Proverbs 17:27
10. If the issue is none of your business – Proverbs 14:10
11. When you are tempted to tell an outright lie – Proverbs 4:24
12. If your words will damage someone's reputation – Proverbs 16:27
13. If your words will destroy a friendship – Proverbs 25:28
14. When you are feeling critical – James 3:9
15. If you can't speak without yelling Proverbs 18:21
16. When it is time to listen – Proverbs 13:1
17. If you may have to eat your words later – Proverbs 18:21
18. If you have already more than one time (then it becomes nagging) – Proverbs 19:13
19. When you are tempted to flatter a wicked person – Proverbs 24:24
20. When you are supposed to be working instead – Proverbs 14:23

PROVERBS 21:23 "WHOSOEVER KEEPETH HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE, KEEPETH HIS SOUL FROM TROUBLE"

TESTIMONIES FROM ML-MINISTERS

The testimonies below are from the men who have participated in a MasterLife group or program and joined MLM as a co-laborer in discipling others.

TIM JONES MLM SENIOR PARTNER & GROUP LEADER



I truly thank God for being allowed to once again to be allowed to serve as a group leader in the MasterLife Discipleship Program, it has been more than your average Bible class and I have been greatly blessed by it. There is no doubt that I learned as much as the men I was blessed to instruct and share the Word of God with. Looking forward to next year's class as there is a very honest yearning to see how God will work in the lives of the men here at Caledonia. All around us, we daily see men hurting and weighed down with guilt and shame, and these men have been given a very real program to direct them to the only place that they will find lasting peace – Jesus! MasterLife can't save them, but it sure leads them to the one that can – Jesus! There will always be programs seeking to help men change their lives, I can truly say that MasterLife is the one that sits high on that list, and God is pleased.

BRIAN "FISH" CROUCH PAMLICO/RICHMOND MLM SENIOR PARTNER & GROUP LEADER



I just wanted to say thank you to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, these brothers here at Pamlico, and MasterLife for once again making a great combination of spiritual growth, obedience to the Lord, genuine fellowship, and fun. I have sincerely enjoyed being with these men who have committed themselves to 3 months of MasterLife Discipleship Study as we went over each section with Jesus Christ as the focus and reason for it all. These guys have done a fantastic job memorizing the verses, listening closely to each lesson, and asking insightful questions about the faith, Scripture,

and how best to grow as a disciple who bears fruit for the Lord.

We learned a lot about one another, but more importantly, we learned a ton about God, His Son Jesus Christ, and this glorious lifelong relationship we have with them through this gracious gift of salvation. We continue forward now with our weekly MasterLife Study Group that includes the men from both MasterLife 1 and 2.

A special thanks to everyone who makes MasterLife possible, and especially to Benoy who taught me all of this. I refer to him many, many times throughout these studies in gratitude for the impact he made in my life back in 2009, his first ever MasterLife in N.C. I remember every bit of it, and I am thankful to carry on this responsibility to share with others what I have learned, bearing fruit for God, and making disciples as Jesus had called us to do. MasterLife was a major turning point in my life all those years ago, and I'm grateful to be a part of it. Much love to all my brothers and sisters across the state. D.J. too, I'm proud of you.

In Christ,

BRIAN "FISH" CROUCH
PAMLICO/RICHMOND

NO TRAINED SHEEP KEVIN JOLLY - CALEDONIA MLM SENIOR PARTNER & GROUP LEADER



When I first started as a leader in the MasterLife Program at Caledonia under Bro. J. Benoy, he had all the leaders, meeting once a week, a few weeks before we started the Program. After two weeks he asked us to write out what we thought made a good leader. While I was having Q.T. one morning this is what came to me. A good leader's example is in John 10:4 "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."

Jesus is our LORD, but our perception of a lord is often of a boss. And when we think of a boss, lord, or master, we see laborers, servants, or slaves. And they're always pushing, driving, or forcing their subjects into the work that's mostly for their benefit. Jesus, on the other hand showed HIS lordship as a shepherd. And a shepherd always works for the benefit of the flock. The one drives with money, the promise of fame, or with whips. The other leads with love, trust, and patience.

Let me say it this way. We all are in a ten-story building. There are twelve exits out. The building is on fire, and only one of the exits is accessible. You want to get everyone out. Only you know the way, to the only way. If you try to drive them or push them, they will go in the way that seems right to them, but if you lead them like a good shepherd and stay on the path that leads to the way out, all will be saved from the fire.

1 Peter 5:2-4, "Feed the flock of GOD, which is among you, taking over sight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being lords over GOD's heritage, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."

We should follow Jesus' example, John 13:15, "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you". Paul said in 1 Corinthians 11: 1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I am also of Christ." We as leaders should live by 1Timothy 4:12, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in the world, in conversation, in charity (love), in spirit, in faith, in purity." So, to be a good leader, we should follow the example of our LEADER and follow HIS lead.

KEVIN JOLLY

GOD SAID NO!!

I asked God to take away my habit. God said, No. it is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up. I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, No. his spirit is whole, his body is only temporary. I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned. I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No. i give you blessings; Happiness is up to you. I asked God to spare me pain. God said, No. suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me. I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No. you must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful. I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No. i will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things. I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me. God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

THIS DAY IS YOURS DON'T THROW IT AWAY...
May God Bless You.

HAMBONE'S MASTERLIFE MINISTRY AT PIEDMONT

ML TEAM LEADER – NASH LOREN HAMMONDS



Being a group leader for MasterLife takes a lot of responsibility. It entails leading by example. What better example than that of the Lord Jesus Christ?

Leading others requires intercession for those whom you lead. Praying each day that they will take seriously what Christ is calling them out of and into. Which is a life of service, service where dying to self is required. Leading takes on a whole new meaning when investing in a person's eternal life. Hence, whether they want to hear it or not, mentoring calls for speaking hard truths out of love. Why? Because their life is dependent upon it. Dying to self and taking up one's cross is not an easy task. However, this is what Jesus requires when following Him. It was a joy watching total strangers from different backgrounds come together for one cause, to learn how to make Jesus the center of their lives and to learn the Disciple's Cross illustration presented in the program. As the weeks went by, each member of the group became eager to share what God had said to them during their Quiet Time. This is the focus, spending time with the Master and making disciples for His glory.

BY LOREN HAMMONDS
NASH

BY DONPHAN LEE KNIGHT



My name is **Donphan Lee Knight**, recently I finished MasterLife Book 1, The Disciple's Cross. My MasterLife leader Loren Hammonds "Hambone" taught me that change is

possible when we put Christ at the Center of our Hearts. Basically, we have to learn to deny ourselves daily and take up our cross and follow Jesus. There is no other way!!! All my life I tried it my way which involves "self". The Disciples Cross shows us a new Direction for our lives, I've come to learn that mastering life involves a relationship with Jesus. It takes me disciplining my life to having a daily quiet time with Jesus. After all He is the vine and I'm the branch, in order for my life to blossom and

bear fruit, I must be connected to Jesus.
DONPHAN KNIGHT - PIEDMONT

JARRET HUNTER PIEDMONT/ALEXANDER



I had a great time listening to the brother Hambone, telling us today about the fruit of God, about us being the connection to Jesus through the Word of God. And having love for

one another. Thank you MasterLife.

JARRET HUNTER PIEDMONT/ALEXANDER

SHOUT OUT OF GRATITUDE BY TOMMY SHOEMAKER



What MasterLife means to me is to help others get closer to God. It has helped me get closer to God and my family. Thanks Hambone and God. God Bless.

TOMMY SHOEMAKER PIEDMONT

BY ANTWAN SPENCER PIEDMONT/ALBEMARLE



I learned today that the Lord is always with me no matter my situation, I was in my cell crying then Hambone came in my housing block to speak the Word of God. The Lord is letting us know He is with us

at all times. Praise the Lord! Amen!

ANTWAN SPENCER PIEDMONT/ALBEMARLE

BY TRISTIN LITTLE PIEDMONT/ALEXANDER

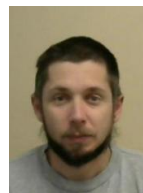


I learned through Hambone that through Christ I can change my life and walk a different path. A path of righteousness and clarity and comfort.

That I don't have to live addicted to drugs and that I don't have to live a fast life.

TRISTIN LITTLE PIEDMONT/ALEXANDER

BY BRANDON MILLS PIEDMONT/GASTON



I learned from Hambone today that through Christ I can change my life and walk a different path. And that I give my heart to God that I can get rid of all the

negative things and addiction that I've had in my life!

BY BRANDON MILLS PIEDMONT/GASTON

BY JAMES FLANAGAN PIEDMONT/CRAGGY



I learned today that no matter what we've been through or what we've done God loves us no matter what.

BY JAMES FLANAGAN PIEDMONT/CRAGGY

Masterlife Ministry, Inc

Travis Mileur

P. O. Box 21

Pryor, OK 74362-0021

Masterlife.ministry@gmail.com

www.Masterlifeministry.org

Scripture Writing Plan On

Controlling our Emotions

- Day 1 – 1 Corinthians 10:13
- Day 2 – Proverbs 16:32
- Day 3 – Galatians 5:16-24
- Day 4 – Galatians 5:22-23
- Day 5 – 2 Peter 1:5-9
- Day 6 – Philippians 4:12
- Day 7 – Ephesians 6:11-17
- Day 8 – Ephesians 4:1-32
- Day 9 – Proverbs 25:28
- Day 10 – Ephesians 5:15
- Day 11 – Joshua 1:9
- Day 12 – Proverbs 3:5-6
- Day 13 – James 1:19-20
- Day 14 – 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Day 15 – Colossians 3:15
- Day 16 – Romans 12:10
- Day 17 – Proverbs 29:11
- Day 18 – Proverbs 4:23
- Day 19 – Psalm 34:8
- Day 20 – 2 Timothy 1:7
- Day 21 – Proverbs 19:11
- Day 22 – Colossians 3:2
- Day 23 – Colossians 3:8
- Day 24 – Proverbs 15:1
- Day 25 – Proverbs 15:18
- Day 26 – Ecclesiastes 7:9
- Day 27 – 2 Corinthians 10:5
- Day 28 – 1 Peter 1:13
- Day 29 – James 4:7
- Day 30 – 1 Thessalonians 4:4

ANTHONY LONG'S MASTERLIFE MINISTRY GROUP NASH

BY ANTHONY LONG - NASH



Greetings MasterLife (ML) community, it is by the grace of God Almighty that I bring you my testimony. However, as a new member of the ML family, I would like to

first thank all of those involved in making this ministry possible. Over the past five years I have received much encouragement through the newsletters and all the stories of God working in the lives of so many through Master Life. Getting to meet brother Benoy is proving to be another blessing from my Lord and Savior. Throughout the first sixteen years of my life, I traversed nearly twenty foster-homes, four group-homes, and five juvenile centers. I was the third child of a teenage mother with mental and emotional problems. at the age of five I was beaten to the point of hospitalization leading to my first foster home placement where I went from physical abuse to sexual abuse. This transition started a tragic cycle I would never wish upon anyone. My constant moving from place to place created a sense of hate within my heart that has ruled most of my life. Not all was bad in my life, and I will not whine about the past allowing it to keep a grip on me. Although I never knew God during my childhood, He knew me and cared for me when nobody else did. Many times, I could have, and even should have been dead. God has kept me alive long enough to find Him and His purpose. And even though I do not know His full purpose, what I do know is, God now has me in a four-year ministry school offered through SEBTS college here at NCI. Regardless of how bad my past was and the wrongs I committed, God still has a plan for my life and throughout what time He gives me here on Earth I will consider it pure joy to serve Him however possible. I truly look forward to the next several years working as part of the MLM to disciple others and spread Gods love to as many others as possible. God bless all of you out among the ML community and thank you for all of your prayers and love. Keep up the good fight! Your brother in Christ our Lord.

ANTHONY LONG (RENO) – NASH

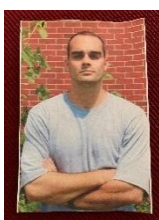
ON THE RIGHT PATH BY DANIEL - NASH

My name is **Daniel**. Frank invited me to join the Master life group. I joined the MasterLife group to help me stay straight on the right path. It helped me get saved last week. IT has

made my life better person and I just want to tell people what the Lord has done. I'm so glad that I participated in this group. They used to call me "walking dead" because I walk slow. But now I'm alive for Jesus. People say I'm shining now. Master life has been a solid foundation to me and built me up better than I was. MY favorite verse: "for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" Jn. 3:16). I believe this and I'm on the right path. Thanks Frank and Master life. **Daniel—Nash**

FROM SOCIOPATH/PSYCHOPATH TO HUMAN

BY JACOB AARON WHITFIELD



My name is **Jacob Aaron Whitfield**. I am 26 years old, and I have been incarcerated since I was 17. I was raised by my mom since my parents divorced when I was a child. Neither of my parents were serious

Christians. Thankfully though my mom and grandma took me to church and taught me about Christianity for a time. I didn't really care or take what they were saying seriously.

When I was around 10 years old I decided that I wanted to be like Spock from Star Trek and be able to control my emotions. I thought it would be cool. Being able to control my emotions was interesting, unfortunately it escalated into me deceiving myself into believing that I didn't have any emotions. This led to me becoming depressed and suicidal for years. All I did other than go to school for years was just watch anime, read manga, and play video games. I didn't really care about anyone or anything. What is surprising is that I never used drugs or drank, which is good, given how I was. Only God knows what would have happened had I done so.

It is sad to say but at the time I was capable of anything. I was so messed up mentally that for whatever reason I made the decision to not talk for a month, my grandma happened to be in hospice at the time and my dad had to beg for me to talk to her. I stopped hugging people and wouldn't tell anyone I love them or anything like that. I even thought it would be a good idea to choke my cat because I thought she didn't feel pain and I figured it would let me know whether or not she did, she is still alive today. Then one day the idea popped into my head that I should kill my dad and stepmom for money. Now I didn't need money, my parents spoiled me, and I had money, so there was no logical reason for this idea. In my mind there was nothing wrong with killing them or doing anything else for

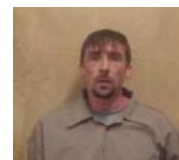
that matter. Unfortunately, I went through with the idea and killed my dad and stepmom.

Once I got to jail God reminded me of everything I was taught about Christianity and convicted me of my depravity and need for a savior. I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior while there. It took a few years for me get serious with my walk with the Lord, but thankfully I did. Now I am enrolled in the North Carolina Field Ministry Program working on getting a Bachelor of Arts in Pastoral Ministry with a secondary emphasis on counseling and I am also in a MasterLife group. Both are really helping me learn and grow in Christ. We truly do serve a wonderful God. ^,^,^,^

LOVE, JACOB WHITFIELD - NASH

GOD IS REAL!!!

BY ROBERT ADOLPH - NASH



Growing up, my first taste of spirituality was my mother's witchcraft. She had been a practitioner since she was in her teens; she took it seriously and she knew it well. When I was older she began to school me in the basics of the craft and told me in no uncertain terms that *all* witchcraft is demonic in its power. Many years before her telling me this I had seen her witchcraft work and was more than a bit fascinated by this dark power. As the years passed and I grew in youthful angst and rebellion I also grew an unhealthy love for all things dark and/or satanic; heavy rock & roll, drugs, horror movies, lots of black clothing, girls who loved the same, all that good stuff. So, when my mother told me that all witchcraft is demonic I thought it was that much cooler. Shortly after all of this, at the age of twenty-five I committed a terrible murder, turned myself in, confessed, and condemned myself to what I hoped would be a long natural-life sentence in the North Carolina prison system.

I came into the prison system with a raging drug habit that murder, and prison only seemed to make worse. I had little to live for except suffering the penance of my sentence, which I did well I must say, and trying to self-destruct mentally and spiritually, which I was also doing well. I was alone in the world, no family or friends on the outside spoke to me anymore and the loneliness was eating me alive; and I believed I deserved every bit of it. Ten years of this and a quote at the end of a horror movie started to wake me up. The movie was based, probably loosely, on real people and events but the quote at the end of the movie were the words of a demonologist in the movie saying "God is real, the devil is also real. The fairy tale is true. Our destiny as

a people depends on which of these forces we elect to follow.” These words were lent weight by the man who supposedly said them. Reading them, it occurred to me that I had seen the demonic power of my mother’s witchcraft. I *knew* it was real. So, I began to wonder if Jesus Christ might also be real. I asked a Christian in the block if he knew where I might find a Bible as quickly as humanly possible. He gave me one of his.

From there, the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit began their work in my spirit, and soul. I was still a drug addict, but for the first time I felt like I had a reason to fight my addiction. Utter truth became a way of life and the change in me was visible to those around me. After a few years of reading the Bible an opportunity to actually serve God in some official capacity became available through Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in the form of the North Carolina Field Minister Program. I applied the first year and was turned down. The second year I was accepted, and the demons from my past took this opportunity to attack.

My first year of this bachelor’s degree program started out well enough. I stayed sober for three-days-short of six months, the longest I’d been sober in almost twenty years. I went through the *Master Life* Program, enjoying the fellowship and learning for the first time the basics of discipleship. But alas, life began to exert itself as it often feels the need to do. Insecurities, loneliness, and stress upon stress led me back into drug use which led me into questioning God’s reality in the face of all of this world’s, my world’s, darkness. Where is this “Holy Spirit” we all profess to believe in? I couldn’t see or feel Him in me, and I certainly didn’t see Him in the church around me. I was blinded by anger, sin, and darkness.

I quit the *College at Southeastern*; but they let me stay until the next year hoping I could find the answers to my questions in the interim; I didn’t, but I started back to school the next year and promptly got kicked out again because of dope. That happened a year ago as I write this, and it has been an eventful year. But I can put it succinctly for the sake of space. On May 23 of this year, after 5 years of wrestling tooth-and-nail with the Gospel and after 40 years of only witnessing the power of darkness in this world, the Lord Jesus Christ Himself in a rather flagrant display of awesome power blessed me with the Baptism in the Holy Spirit (if you don’t know what that is, look it up) while I was praying in my cell. It’s all true folks: Father, Son, Holy Spirit *HAHA!!* It’s all *TRUE!!*

His blessing on me has changed my life (I write this now with tears of gratitude in my eyes). I wake up every day amazed at what God has done and will do for me and through me. My drug addiction? HEALED! The guilt and self-hatred? GONE! The Lord Jesus Christ healed me completely and has put me to work for His Kingdom; and now He has brought me back to a *MasterLife* group where I can develop the tools for practical Christian living in prison, while at the same time building new relationships within the body of Christ. I will joyfully spend the rest of this life serving Him, anxiously waiting for the next life *with* him. All Glory Be to God.

BY ROBERT ADOLPH - NASH

RALPH GETTY’S MASTERLIFE MINISTRY GROUP NASH

BY RALPH GETTYS
NASH ML TEAM LEADER



First, I give God the honor and praise for what He is doing in my life. I am from Charlotte North Carolina and was

given a 32-year sentence. I was raised in the church; my mother was a minister. I rebelled against the instruction God was giving me through His word as well as rebelling against my family. I moved out of my mother’s house when I was 16. Well, I was kicked out because I did not want to follow the rules of the house and most people know how that goes. 16-years old no job, no house to live in, no food to eat, one bag of clothes; so, I took to the street on a survival mission and ended up doing what I thought I had to do to survive. I dropped out of school and went to the streets. I stayed at different houses at first then I found myself living in the worldly ways of robbing, selling drugs, using drugs, dealing with women on a prostitution level (escort service, pimp), running a liquor house with friends, carrying guns, shooting at people as well as being shot at in my plight for success. I was Just totally out of character from my upbringing. I lived that type of life for 20-years. I ended up catching a murder charge in 2012 in which I thought I would get self-defense, but God had other plans for me. My mother use to always say, before you mess up what God planned for your life, He will sit you down to get your attention" and that's exactly what he did. He allowed me to put myself in a position to sit down and look over my life and how I got there and how I have a God given purpose for my life, and it did not include the way I was living.

While sitting in the county jail I made a promise to not go back into society the same way I left. My choices in life were more on the fact that, what I was doing on the streets was because I did not have any other skills to survive. So, in my attempt to be a better person I realized what the Bible was teaching me during all this time was to keep me safe from the predicament I was now finding myself in. I chose to rededicate my life back to Christ in 2012 and since then I have been doing my best to be an image bearer of God. I am a new person trying to lead my brothers to a better walk with Christ using the *MasterLife* disciple’s book. It is a weird situation how I got here in this position. I took *MasterLife* in 2020 when George Clowers asked if I wanted to partake in his disciple group. I did the 24 weeks and that was that, never in my mind did I think two years' later I would be leading a group myself (even though this is stated that this should be the outcome). In politics its stated that when one politician doesn't know its true agenda one should find something there compassionate about and go for it or you allow something to find you and your compassionate about it. I did not know what God had for me to do but it found me. In February me and another *MasterLife* representative Benoy, was talking and we decided to start up another *MasterLife* group and I told him I will be there for moral support, to back him up since I have already taken *MasterLife*. That was my plan! I know some have heard the saying if you want to make God laugh tell Him your plans for your life. It was one of those situations how I ended up being a *MasterLife* representative. See we all make plans, but God has the final say in which I found out. Two weeks into our *MasterLife* group Mr. Benoy is shipped to another prison and the group is left with a minor dilemma. Who is going to lead the group? Now I am the only one that has been through *MasterLife* in another prison and the group is left with a minor dilemma. Who is going to lead the group.

I am actually taking seminary classes with the Field Minister program here at Nash which should lead to one sharing what they have learned with others. But I still had a problem, I have never taught a bible study-yet alone a disciple group. At this time, I felt like a baby eagle being kicked out of its mother's nest. I was being forced to step up and fly. In class there was a saying by Philo Frego in which he said, "education should lead to action". However, I have been in school three years and have not stepped out to lead anything. I part took in many different ministries as a seat warmer but never said or did much. However, I was being observant and was watching and listening how they did

things (thank you guys). Well long story short, instead of allowing the 8 guys he was discipline, fall by the wayside, I decided I would take the position of discipline the group as well as keep this ministry going for future disciples. I was not the best person before; I tore down my community and hurt those closest to me by my worldly endeavors. Now, I'm doing the best I can by building up my community in here, as well as out there,

Most of these guys are returning into society, and what I want most of all is to see God's heavenly community built up by the men who will be forever changed by what Jesus does for them in this MasterLife program. It worked for me and gave me a better understanding on how to be a disciple, which lead to me actually walking a disciple life. Likewise, I pray it will be the same for these guys and they will be in position to lead others to a better understanding of being a disciple one day. And God did bless me with a great group of God-fearing men to walk this journey with and we're in book two now.

In the book of Job, it states, "Ask the former generations and find out what their fathers learned, for we were born only yesterday and know nothing, and our days on earth are but shadow. Will they not instruct you and tell you? Will they not bring forth words from their understanding?" (Job 8:8-10). I have dedicated my life to the uplifting of my community and spreading the Gospel. MasterLife is a tool that God has blessed me with to better help His children to be better men. This is where I stand in my life right now and standing on Philippians 1:6 "being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in [me] will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ". Continue to keep me in your prayers and thank you for your time.

RALPH GETTYS - NASH

**IT'S WORTH IT
BY SCOTT**

My name is Scott, and I am currently housed at Nash Correction. I have not been in prison long, but my experience with the "church" has not been great. When I came into the dorms, I was invited to a small group called MasterLife. I was pleasantly surprised; men are being truly disciplined. They are taught to memorize scripture and are even speaking publicly in the group.

Since joining the group it has truly given me something to look forward to every afternoon. The ability to witness to others and being able to express what we believe and why is invaluable to the faith. MasterLife is doing that for all of us in the group. If there is a group where you are, please attend. If there is not one pray about starting one. It will be worth it.

SCOTT - NASH

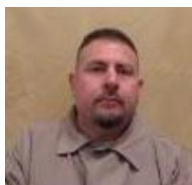


**ALERT
BY EMMANUEL RANGEL**

**Disregard The Physical
World,
This Is Spiritually,
Metaphorically, and**

Symbolically Written

**RAMIREZ'S
MASTERLIFE
MINISTRY
GROUP
PIEDMONT**



**BY JEREMIAS
PIEDMONT**

Mi nombre es Jeremías. Tengo 22 años. Empecé a ser un chico malo a una edad temprana. Tenía 14 años para ser exactos. Vivía en un barrio peligroso y tenía problemas con el alcohol y las drogas. Me uní a una pandilla. Esa vez fui muy irrespetuoso con mi familia. Estaba perdido en las calles. Lo único que me importaba era mi consumo de drogas y alcohol hasta el punto de robar. Hasta que cometí un delito grave que me llevó a prisión por mucho tiempo. Ahora mismo tengo 12-13 años por asesinato. Cuando cumplí mis dos años en la cárcel del condado, me di cuenta de que estaba en el camino equivocado en la vida. Realmente quería ser diferente.

Algo siempre me decía que no podía seguir haciendo las mismas cosas. Sentí que esto era una señal de Dios para mejorar mi vida. Desde ese día cambié muchos de mis malos hábitos. Ahora tengo un plan. Primero quiero caminar con Dios y ser uno de sus hijos para buscar el perdón de mis pecados y el perdón de mi familia y de los demás. En segundo lugar, quiero eliminar todo lo que causa problemas. Tercero, quiero ayudar a otros a saber quién es mi Salvador ya elegir un mejor camino en la vida.

Para completar mi próximo plan, debo completar el primero. Mi plan cuatro es trabajar en mi comportamiento. Mi quinto plan es terminar la escuela y aprender un oficio. Para poder completar estos planes deseo practicar las seis disciplinas del Discípulo Cristiano. Creo que estas seis disciplinas son una forma sencilla de comenzar una relación con nuestro Salvador.

JEREMIAS – PIEDMONT

BY MILTON ARTURO AYON QUINANILLA



Mi nombre es Milton Arturo Ayón Quintanilla. En primer lugar quiero agradecer a Jesucristo por entrar en mi vida y darme Su Espíritu Santo para comprender las verdaderas esencias de la Biblia, a Dios Padre por haber

encontrado el camino para salvarnos a través de la preciosa sangre derramada en la cruz por Jesucristo. nuestro Señor.

Tengo mucho que contar y muchos errores que cometí, pero seré breve para decir lo que realmente importa. Así me siento porque conocer a Jesucristo es algo grandioso, estudiar las escrituras me da paz, me hace sentir relajado y mi tiempo en prisión es más fácil de llevar. Me siento libre aunque esté encerrado. Tengo una forma diferente de ver las cosas en este momento. Todo lo que hago ahora es para honrar a mi Dios. Perdí mucho tiempo tomando en serio el camino que nunca debí abandonar. Desde niño supe de Jesucristo. Mi abuela siempre trató de inculcarme el cristianismo. Las cosas de Dios siempre me llamaron la atención gracias a ella. Pero el mundo me deslumbró cuando era adolescente me desvié del camino y empezaron los problemas.

En resumen, solo quiero decirles a las personas que trabajan duro en este programa Master Life que gracias por su paciencia, gracias por dedicar su tiempo a enseñarnos una meta de vida discipular con las seis disciplinas a nosotros que antes éramos delincuentes porque ahora yo me considero como decía mi abuela: uno "de esos" cristiano 100% gracias y que Dios los Bendiga.

**MILTON ARTURO AYON QUINTANILLA
PIEDMONT**

BY JOSE AGUSTO DIAS GARCIA



"Porque yo sé los pensamientos que tengo acerca de vosotros, dice el Señor, pensamientos de paz, y no de mal, para daros el fin que esperáis." (Jeremías 29:11)

Mi nombre es José Agosto Dias García y quiero contarles mi historia. Mi historia comienza como la historia de Job, un hombre que lo tenía todo pero que fue puesto a prueba por cosas del destino. Soy un hombre de familia con un pequeño negocio y grandes anhelos de tener una vida mejor en los Estados Unidos, esos sueños casi se truncan el 17 de marzo de 2017 cuando me

acusaron de un crimen que no cometí, me detuvieron mi mundo se vino abajo . Mi negocio estaba teniendo problemas para perder todo, mi esposa estaba embarazada de 5 meses; Le pregunté a Dios ¿por qué me haces esto? que te estoy pagando? Fue un tiempo de mucho llanto y de pensar en mis hijos. Al principio mi historia usó (Jeremías 29:11) Porque Dios es perfecto y tiene planes para nosotros y ¿Por qué digo esto? Pues yo era un hombre mentiroso que se aprovechaba de los clientes de mi negocio, también engañaba a mi mujer con otras mujeres, yo era un adúltero. Aquí en la cárcel pude darme cuenta de cuál estaba mal. Así como reconocer que solo aferrándome a Dios pude superar esta prueba y pude realizar los planes que Dios tiene para mí. Dios me dio una mujer ferviente, creyente en la salvación de Cristo, ella siempre mantuvo su fe. Una vez me dijo: "Solo tienes que aferrarte a Dios. Dios hace todo con un propósito, tal vez te puso en la cárcel para salvarte de la muerte" Mi esposa siempre me dice que ella confía en Dios, yo nunca había leído la Biblia. Fue mi esposa quien me envió una Biblia: ahí empezó mi relación con mi señor Jesucristo, comencé a asistir a las oraciones reconociendo lo que estaba mal. Le pedí perdón a Dios, en vez de culparlo por mis problemas, agradeciéndole por todo. Me concentré en cambiar mi vida en lugar de salir de la cárcel. Aunque me perdí el nacimiento de mi hija, en ese momento mi relación con Dios y mi liberación de los vicios fueron lo más importante, porque para mí es de suma importancia darles un buen ejemplo a mis hijos. Quiero contarles en ese momento obtuve mi libertad condicional y pude reunirme con la corte y obtuve mi juicio, donde el único cargo que me dieron fue conspiración, me quedan unos meses para reunirme con mi familia.

Te pido que digas que Dios es real, él hace milagros en la vida de todos aquellos que lo buscan de corazón. La prisión es un lugar oscuro y sin esperanza, es un lugar donde nos vemos obligados a hacer una pausa, donde podemos pensar en el daño que nos estamos haciendo a nosotros mismos y el daño que le estamos haciendo a nuestra familia. Lo más importante, aquí es donde nos alejamos de nuestros pecados y cambiamos para mejor. En este lugar Dios nos muestra que solo en él producimos frutos (Juan 15:5) Y que solo en él conoceremos la verdad. Estoy agradecido con días y con todas las personas que me han ayudado, con los ministros del campo. quien me introdujo a las seis disciplinas de la vida cristiana, estoy agradecido por .

**JOSE AGUSTO DIAS
GARCIA, PIEDMONT**



**BENOY'S
MASTERLIFE
MINISTRY LUMBERTON**

**PICKING BACK UP
BY JASON LEDFORD**



My name is **Jason Ledford**, and I am 38 years old. I grew up in a middle-class neighborhood with parents who were amazing with one younger brother who looked up to me my whole life. I had a great childhood playing sports, Boy Scouts, riding bikes with other kids in my neighborhood. All the fun childhood things a kid should experience.

By the time I reached high school I was already experimenting with drugs and alcohol. By the time I was 16 I was drinking, smoking weed, and taking the prescription pills called Xanax and I fell in love with them. I caught my first DUI went while I was still in high school at 17. When I was graduated I was partying, drinking, and taking pills heavy. So, at 21 I got I caught my next DUI and lost my license for four years during these years not much changed, I was still drinking, smoking, and taking pills. When it came time to get my license back I straightened up for a while but eventually started drinking on weekends and dabbling in taking Xanax again.

The next seven or eight years were a blur. I continued to hold a job, but I never quit partying. During those years I was back and forth to county jail. I totaled multiple vehicles messed up on pills and alcohol, and eventually I caught my third DUI and went to jail. I stayed in the county jail about six months got out and went to a Christian rehab. When I got out of Bethel I went to a halfway house at the beach and things were great. I wasn't there long, and I started drinking again and I got kicked out. I moved to Myrtle Beach and just kept partying and working. That is where I got introduced to methamphetamine and started using it along with alcohol and Xanax. I eventually quit my job and was just drinking, partying, having sex with multiple girls and getting high. I then started breaking in cars to support my habit. I eventually got caught and got arrested and came to prison with identity theft charges, fraud, and breaking into a motor vehicle charges.

When I came to prison at first I was turning to God and reading my Bible, but after so long I gave up because of the people you're around and everyone is trying to get over on you in

prison period all I learned in prison is how to be a better criminal, better scammer, hustler, etc.

Prison teaches you nothing positive period now three months before I'm about to be released Mr Benoy has moved into my block introduced MasterLife Ministries into my life. So now I have picked back up the Bible. I can't count the number of blessings I have seen since Mr Benoy has arrived and I have turned back to God. I want to thank Mr Benoy in MasterLife Ministries because without them I would have never picked the Bible back up. God is working in my life and has a plan for me, and I thank Him for bringing MasterLife Ministries in my life at just the right time. I will continue to grow in my walk, and I know God will lead me in the right direction. Thank you to MasterLife and everyone involved.

**JASON LEDFORD
LUMBERTON/TWF**

**PROUD TO BE A FOLLOWER
By NATHANIAL KIRBY**



Well, I guess, to tell you my testimony I should start by telling you that I was not raised in the church. My grandmother took me to church a few times, but it wasn't a regular thing either of us. So for a foundation in the church, I didn't have one until I was

older.

Whenever I was nine years old, my father committed suicide. I blamed God and then myself for that. I actually even cursed God for taking him away from me. At that point I didn't realize or maybe I just didn't want to admit or acknowledge my father's fault of making his own choice to end his life and leave his family behind. So, from that it only made me not want to go to church or seek out the God that I knew was there, but just didn't want to be a part of.

Now let's skip a few years. I'm living with my mom, stepdad at the time, and my older brother. I'm around 13 years old and we just moved into a house in Taylorsville NC. This house is right next door to Victory Baptist Church. Now, I've had my other grandmother that has talked a few times with me about God and church, but I still hadn't gone. It actually took another three years of her talking and God working in my life before I would decide to try out church. So, one Sunday I decided that with or without the rest of my family going with me I was going to walk over to the church next door just on the other side of a hay field. From that day I started to continue to go to victory Baptist on a regular basis. I was

going by myself I just couldn't get the rest of my family in the house to go with me.

After I had went to church a few times and feeling that tug to go up and get down on my knees to accept Christ into my life, I finally got saved. That is one experience that I will never forget. I had tears streaming down my face, snot running out of my nose, and a heavy burden weight lifted off from me replaced by peace and joy.

Now, I did good for a while, kept going to church even after I moved out of my mom's and got him my own place my senior year of high school at 17 years old. I would have the churches van come and pick me up but as I'm sure you've guessed I fell from the righteous path and into drugs, alcohol, sex, porn, and etc. All I was doing was creating for myself false idols. I continued to fall into sin as I started cheating on my girlfriend while I went to the LBJ Job Corps LLC in Franklin NC. From there I came home for about a year and ended up going joining the US army in 2004. Still not making myself right with God cause now not only was I pushing Him to the side for drugs, alcohol, and sex but also my own pride got in the way. The reason I say pride got me is because I straightened some of my life up in the military and only credited myself and not God. I was proud to serve my country and wear the uniform. I focused on that instead of God.

My life to me was a constant spiral of sin with drugs, sex, alcohol, pride, porn, theft, selfishness, lies, etc. Then one day in 2019, I ended up in prison for the first time. At the time I didn't know it, but God had planned for it to happen to me. While I was at Newton prison, I found Him again. They had so many Christian programs it was hard to ignore. So I started to go to them all. There was YokeFellow, Celebrate Recovery, study group, Bible study, Christian prayer circle, and church. I was truly on fire for God and loving it.

I got out of prison on July 8th, 2019, and God gave me a job at Elite Comfort. I read my Bible and prayed every day, but I didn't go to church. After about a month, I started using meth again and I laid my Bible back down. All I wanted was another shot of dope. I fell away from God and right back into my old ways.

Now I must say that I know God really wants me because I was that lost sheep He left the 99 others to go find and bring back to the flock. After four months of digging a hole and running from the word of God I was locked up again January 3, 2020. At first, I thought, oh great I'm being punished. Slowly, while in jail, I started realizing that I had been leaving God out of my life again. So, I got back into my Bible

and reconnected with God. By His grace alone I was spared a heavy punishment and only sentenced to about four years. He has placed me where I have been blessed over and over. Yes the pandemic has made things rough by not having any services but, I've gotten to be around people that have helped me on my walk with God.

I wanted to thank my brother in Jesus Christ TO, he was the first person here at Lumberton Correctional Institution that I would stand by his bed for hours and just have some really in-depth discussions on the word and God. There are others that I would join with at night just to pray together then there is James Benoy who has introduced me to the MasterLife Ministry and given me understandings of God's word and just been there to talk to as a brother.

I am grateful and proud to be a follower of Jesus Christ. There is no other joy, peace, love, or fellowship more powerful or splendid than giving yourself to God. I know that I am nowhere near being perfect in that I may stumble or fall again, but I know now that I can pick myself back up with God's outstretched hand to help me up dust myself off and continue to walk beside of Him on the path of righteousness

I want to send my love and prayers out to all my brothers and sisters in Christ. May God be with you all pray for one another and for the lost souls still waiting to be found and saved from the lake of fire. Pray for God's work to be done let's all spread the love.

**NATHANIEL KIRBY "BEARD"
LUMBERTON/SANFORD WITH HIS OWN
GROUP NOW**

BY TOMMY DAVIDSON



Dear Brothers in Christ, Grace, and peace to all of you out there fighting the good fight. I write this in a grateful mindset, thankful for Brother Benoy coming

here to LCI, and bringing MasterLife with him. The few meetings I have attended are the closest thing to church I've had in 2 years! We are not meant to walk this path alone, the "Lone Wolf" Christian is a contradiction in terms. Thanks be to God in His sovereignty for allowing Benoy and MasterLife to land here ... A quick shout-out to G Ross and "Fish" my Calvinist brothers! Also, the Jive Turkey himself, my dear brother M Keys. I still have the letter you left me the night you left Avery-Mitchell; I use it as a bookmark in my Bible. It's so encouraging to you all still bond servants of our Great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Keep

your hands on the plow, brothers! SOLI DEO GLORIA!

**TOMMY DAVIDSON JR.
LUMBERTON**



**JUST A NOBODY
BY BOBBY HUNT**

My name is Bobby Hunt, and I am currently an inmate at Lumberton CI. I try to be a witness to everyone I meet. One of

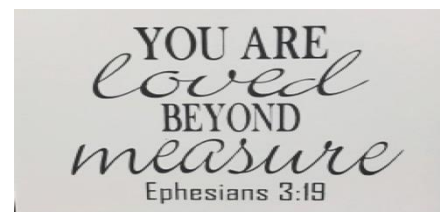
my favorite sayings that I tell someone when I meet them is, "I am just a nobody trying to tell everybody about somebody that can change anybody."

I have been incarcerated going on 16 years in North Carolina's prison system. At first I was into this and into that, going around getting high every chance I could. But, I got into KAIRO's, a Christian ministry that would meet on Monday nights at Pasquotank CI. They didn't push Christianity onto me but, when I would hear other's testimonies and the change that took place in their lives, it made me start to think about everything in my life and want to change myself. I started to notice a change in me when God started working inside of me to where I really didn't want to keep going around doing the same ole thing I'd been doing.

Today, I walk strong in my Christian faith with my Lord Jesus Christ who changed this old sinner. My old self is dead, and my new self has come alive.

While I was at Caledonia CI, a man named Time Jones helped influence my walk with God with the MasterLife teachings. Now I have my brother in Christ, James Benoy, to continue to help me along this amazing path. I keep all of my brother's and sister's in Christ in my prayers always. May God keep you,

**BOBBY HUNT
LUMBERTON**



GROWING STRONGER
BY DANIEL DAVIS SR.



My name is Dan Davis Sr. (Tre4). I'm from Winston-Salem and am currently housed at Lumberton

Correctional Institution. I've been down (locked-up) for about 9 years and still a little while to go unless the "Lord blesses me with early release". I was strung-out and addicted to K-2 (paper crack) until about 3 months ago, when James Benoy introduced himself and MasterLife Ministry, Inc. into my life. My NKJV Bible sat on my footlocker for the past 2 and half years collecting dust. Prior to Mr. James Benoy coming here to LCI, I had been "emotionally and spiritually depressed", walking around 3-4 weeks talking to God and mumbling incoherently. Since attending MasterLife I've started back praying, reading my Bible, and spending time with other Christians. The Lord has blessed me by opening a better line of communication between me and 2nd baby momma! I've grown stronger in the word of God to refuse K-2 and have No Cravings or taste for it! I have received numerous encouraging comments from staff and inmates about the change in my life. Many of my friends ask me what happened to me. I just tell them "Jesus fixed me and gave me a new life and new brothers." I look forward to the ML group meetings Monday – Friday afternoons and the Sunday get together. I also enjoy helping make monthly burritos for our dorm wing 3 and 4. You guys pray for me as I will pray that we may stand fast in the Lord Jesus Christ and may we continue to seek His will and way of life. God Bless You All.

DANIEL DAVIS SR.
LUMBERTON

MY STORY
BY DARRYL THOMAS



MasterLife is a great instrument that has brought positive change to the dorm, and it helps men to find their way back to the Lord. We really needed this here at LCI. And to see the great change the Lord

has done in my brother and fellow old-time-convict Benoy, is a miracle to say the least. I met Benoy, 29 years ago at Troy Correctional and the Lord was the last thing on either of our minds.

I started doing time at the age of 18, for first degree murder. My mom was raped by one of my homeboys and I went crazy and shot up six

people, killing three. With consecutive 80-year sentences at such a young age, I couldn't cope. I started using drugs in prison. The demons had my mind so trapped, I would take anything ease the pain. Then I tried religion. I bounced around, experimenting with one religion or another, but nothing really brought me any peace of mind or relief from the guilt of bloodshed. The one day I met the Lord: I had a stroke and a heart attack that scared me so much that I cried out to Jesus.

Someone once told me that a man can play around with God all he wants, but when your life flashes before you and that death angel reaches out for you, you'll call on the Lord. Because every man knows his true Creator, Lord, and Savior. That is exactly what happened to me.

I have backslid a lot since that time, but I know who my Redeemer is and He knows my every weakness. Since Benoy has been here with MasterLife, I see the Lord moving and it has made me want to pick up my cross and follow the Lord more today than ever. Ya'll pray for me that I am able to overcome and stand victorious.

God Bless you,
DARRYL THOMAS (D-NICE)
LUMBERTON

FINDING MY PLACE
BY DASHAWN ABNEY



I've been a lost soul for a while and haven't thought about reaching out to Go. I come from a dysfunctional family, where drug use and abuse was normal growing up. With the lights out periodically, sometimes no

heat, with nothing to eat but a dream and a scheme. Wasn't thinking about going to school unless I got some ***** because I've had the same ones on for the past few days, trying to get paid. When I did go to school, I was just too cool, wanted to cuss out teachers, knit pick, being the class clown, and would steal anything that was left around (band instruments, field trip money, watches, phones, etc.). Yeah bump school, I'm in the news with another fool who thought it would be ok to go another way and break into somebody's house along the way, getting chased by cops was the normal on the block. People would ask why we weren't in school, and we had a ready alibi (teacher's workday, I'm homeschooled, I had a doctor's appointment, etc.). It didn't matter we was all in looking for a quick buck instead of slow rolling, we was chasing a suicide roller coaster. Over the years, I've lost a lot of friends to the

pen, early graves, some just vanished away. None of us was thinking about getting saved or changing our corrupt ways. Upon coming to prison, I've met Benoy, who runs an extraordinary daily soul-searching group called MasterLife Ministry, that is inspiring me to change my life around. I'm finding my place in life, reaching out to a higher power, getting creative with my spiritual side, making people laugh instead of frown when they're down on the prison playground. Upon me writing this I would like to give a shoutout to Sarah at Deep Heart, she goes around the world talking to inmates about the gospel, doing animated talent shows. She is always telling me the reason I'm down and not getting the blessings I'm entitled to is because I've been putting everybody first but God. She will be proud when I tell her I've found the Lord and MasterLife Ministry, that making changes to inmates behind the prison wall, that is going strong and helping us right our wrongs.

DASHAWN ABNEY
LUMBERTON

THE ASSURANCE (WORTHINESS, FORGIVENESS, & ATONEMENT)
BY DAVID BEAM



I recently joined a MasterLife Ministry group in Lumberton, led by James Benoy. I became involved in MLM as I was seeking Christian fellowship in a learning environment; MLM is certainly that and more. There are other religious activities and "services" here at LCI and I do participate in them, so why did specifically feel the need for what the MLM program offers? To answer this question and where I find myself today, I offer a brief synopsis of my life's walk in Christianity.

I was raised in a caring Christian family environment. I was baptized while in my mid-teens, as was fairly common for young people brought up with similar church and family experiences. I remember bursting with praise for God, my mind, my heart was filled with words and music of celebration and emotion. It was during these years through teachings from church, my parents, and simple observation, that what has been a life-long set of sacred tenets and beliefs melded within my soul.

Moving forward, I was so very fortunate to meet and fall in love with a beautiful young lady, with a heart of gold and core values matching my own. We were married during the midst of my studies at NCSU – Go Pack! I tell you this, now fifty years later, because it was during this period of my life and on into

my career that I was exposed to a broad diversity of people from the US and abroad, with religious backgrounds often quite different from mine. While never feeling threatened by our religious differences, I was curious and even concerned somewhat for some of them based on what little I knew about their faiths and customs. In our busy work lives we simply mutually respected the positions of faith we each held.

Regardless of the stage of development of our kids, religiously it was paramount that we provide an environment, home and otherwise, where they could become grounded and grow spiritually. So to that end, my wife and I, along with several other couples in our church, engaged in a refresher study of foundational Christian beliefs and principles, aligned with what our kids were beginning to learn.

Much time has passed since those days, children are with their own families now, me retired, and a lifetime of both positive and challenging experiences. After all these years through fault and failure of mine alone, we find ourselves in a state of indescribable challenge now.

This brings me back to my involvement with the MLM program. Through an exhaustive professionally guided process covering many months, I have gained valuable insight in the psychological path I had traveled. Though regular Bible reading was a part of that process, I recognize there is far more to this, spiritually, that I have not fully comprehended. Equally important for me is to utilize a discovery process that enables me to sustain and share a higher level of spiritual awareness. One would think that with such a long history of Christianity as my guiding set of life's principles, there would be no room for allowing wrong choices to be made regardless of circumstances. But as I know, we were made as complex beings with vulnerabilities, and as I found out those vulnerabilities can be exposed even in the middle of a life those closest to me have often referred to in terms of adoration and endearment.

What I have already experienced in the MLM sessions and studies is the clear reinforcement of God's intentions and ultimate love for us, for me. Further, I am being re-introduced to the assurance of personal worthiness, of forgiveness and atonement through Christ. I seek the wisdom and the opportunity to somehow bring an element of healing to those I love, and understand that faith and trust will be at the heart of all things.

Though just beginning the MLM "workbooks", I see a structure that is very well organized and

allows me to see the Bible in such a manner that all in it is relatable to my experiences, my relationship with God. With Benoy's very capable and knowledgeable leadership, I have every confidence that with my own effort, much will be gained in the course of the program. I feel very fortunate for the opportunity.

**DAVID BEAM
LUMBERTON**



**100% to Christ
BY RICK MCGEE**

To all my brothers in Christ, I'm Rick. I came to NCDIC in February 2017, which is not long compared to many, but it did not take long to bring God into my life. I asked Him to come back into my life when I came to prison, and He has not left me. Now 5 years later, James Benoy came to Lumberton with MasterLife Ministry, and it has been a blessing to me and many others here. I look forward to our daily meetings with God and I love my quiet time every morning. I want to say thank you to James and God for being with me every day. More will follow.

God Bless, Rick McGee, Lumberton

**GETTING BACK ON TRACK
BY DEMARCUS KELLAM**



Hey, my name is DeMarcus Kellam. I started going to this group a few weeks ago and I found myself getting into the group. It's a good group here at Lumberton. I grew up my whole life thinking about God and how He works. Well, I found myself wanting to learn about God. I like this class. I was let out of prison in 2020 and I took the same mindset back to the streets and here I am back in prison. Although God blessed me time and time again. I was into gangs and other things, but now I see that life ain't for me. I want to change and get back on the right path, to better my life. I would like to thank everyone for letting me tell you my story.

**DEMARCUS KELLAM
LUMBERTON**

**STRONGER FAITH
BY JASON MCKINNEY**



I am Jason McKinney. I was fortunate to have a really good childhood, even though my parents were separated. Our environment did not include what I will call "churched", so I never really cared about a relationship with God. There was a very long period of tragedies in

my life and I couldn't understand how the God I was hearing about could let these things happen. My walk with the Bible and Christ really began only two years ago and I was incarcerated during this time as well. The anger within me, the weight on my shoulders was slowly dissipating and still is since beginning my real walk in Christ. I can only speak for myself, but I know this walk will be very difficult and challenging. However, ever morning as I awaken I feel that my faith is growing stronger. I came to Lumberton about one month ago, but knew immediately the MasterLife Ministry program could be a valuable part of my growth. Even during our early session and discussions and Bible study, this has certainly been the case. Mr. Benoy is obviously a very well versed and deeply committed Christian. I am so blessed to have him as a spiritual dedicated leader. Please pray for me, that I will continue on my walk with Christ.

May God Bless You,

**JASON MCKINNEY
LUMBERTON**



**MY JOURNEY FROM
THE SOUTHSIDE OF
CHICAGO TO CHRIST
CENTERED
BY REMI RODRIGUEZ**

Hola, Brothers and sisters in Christ, I hope and pray that you and your loved ones are doing well. I grew up on the Southside of Chicago, which was riddled with gangs. I don't believe a person becomes as the saying goes "a byproduct of your own society" because everybody has a choice. The choice during my teenage years was of gangs, drugs, drinking and violence. Until the night I was fed up of being shot at by a rival gang. I thought to myself "why am I fighting for a piece of cement (my block) that I don't even own?". So, I simply walked out and never looked back. I wanted to be somebody and make my mom proud. She was a single mom, working two jobs, and putting herself through college. So, I went to the local Marine Corp recruiter. He sat me down and explained to me what I needed to do. On January 5, 1994, I stood on those yellow footprints, getting blasted by a Drill Instructor. I spent the next 24 years in my beloved gun club, traveled the world and went into combat. I had an awesome time doing and had an amazing career...until multiple events happened. From 2015-2017, both my parents passed away, got divorced, son tried to commit suicide, truck was stolen, and I was passed over for a promotion. Instead of seeking help, I drank a fifth plus every single day for 18 months. During that time, I felt

numb to the world and didn't care about my life, much less my career.

What led me to prison? I was involved in a single car accident, that claimed the life of a young man. I received 10.4 – 12.4 years for it. I'm 4 years into the sentence. I was saved and baptized on August 12, 2018; it was the proudest day of my life. The excitement slowly wore off, because I allowed the devil to tempt me, and I fell for the temptation. I was a lukewarm Christian, until Brother Ben moved into our block. I saw him constantly reading his Bible, so I sat down with him and asked him to help me to fight the devil. He showed me how to truly pray and how to look up scriptures, so I could strengthen my faith in Christ. Shortly after that he taped a sign on the wall in the day room. Free burritos every month; Free coffee, cookies and Sunday service. Also, a MasterLife group Monday-Friday, 5:00-6:30PM. I joined in and now we have a band of brothers and a much better dorm. The things I am learning have rekindled my desire to be a better follower of Christ. Most of all, learning and understanding what Quiet Time with God is really all about. It has helped me to know Him more intimately. Upon completion of MasterLife, I would love to go to another prison to spread the word of God through MasterLife. I know why I felt so empty during those 18 months of drunkenness, I didn't have God in my life and upon my release, I am going to reach out to fellow veterans to show them that they aren't alone. God is with them every second of everyday.

Special shoutout to my Brother M. Keyes, Chitown in the house! We've never met but Brother Benoy has told me so much about you.

God Bless You All,

**REMI RODRIGUEZ
LUMBERTON**



**SUPPORTING
MINISTRY
BY PASTOR WILLIE LEE
MARTIN III**

Greetings unto my co-laborers in the Mighty Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray that these few words encourage you as God continues to work out His ministry through each of you. I've been graced by God to have had the opportunity to meet our beloved brother in Christ Jesus, James Benoy, as God has continued to commission and ordain his journey. He has introduced to me the mission God has set him on over the years which is centered on discipling inmates through a program by the name of "MasterLife". I've attended brief

The Corner Desk by Tony Ball

Greetings fellow brothers. Here is the latest news I could obtain on relevant issues to us behind bars.

- NC Legislatives sponsoring HB625 and HB697 said these house bills will be revisited in 2023
- Pell Grants are to be made available in June 2023 to prisoners
- NC-CURE, involved in getting our phone call costs reduced, is petitioning Governor Cooper to reduce NC prison population by releasing older inmates with debilitating diseases, nonviolent offenders with 2022/2023 release dates and those over 50, due to 33% prison staff shortages and 40% medical staff shortages
- March 10, 2022, press release from Governor Cooper's office states that he commuted sentences of 3 inmates convicted of murder. April Barber, Joshua McKay, and Anthony Willis were all teenagers when convicted, and are the first to be recommended for commutation by the Juvenile Sentence Review Board
- Tablets are now available at Anson, Alexander, Bertie, Marion, Maury, Nash, Scotland, Tabor, and Western CCW. Content available vary camp to camp. -NC DPS press release
- I hope to release a series of legal references geared toward helping NC prisoners. As they come available, I will mention them here and all proceeds will go directly to MasterLife Ministry

Stay true my Brothers,
Charles Anthony Ball

moments of the classes he's leading and have enjoyed every moment. Unfortunately, I'm unable to fully participate in each class daily, I do make it my duty, with God's grace, to find my way into his dorm. Though I am unable to fully participate as I'd like, I build with Brother Benoy on the yard as he gives me advice on building relationships with unbelievers as I am utilized by God to work out the ministry I've been commissioned to in my dorm. We are currently residing at Lumberton Correctional Institution, where it's like any other facility, various worldviews, religions, violence, and drugs. But we as children/ambassadors of Christ Jesus we are to reach out unto those we are around as we are led to do in order to mend lives through the preaching of the gospel. No matter where you are or what your ministry may be, continue to partake in your brother and sisters ministry as they partake in

yours. So that by doing so, you build and grow together. Brother Benoy would agree, be open with the family of believers, as you speak truthfully with one another, so that we as a unit may be enabled to expand one another's ministry whether it's through advice, comfort, counseling, or leading. Even though I am unable to reap the full benefits of "MasterLife" in the classes, the moments I am available, I make myself present to support my brother and I encourage you to do the same for the family.

**PASTOR WILLIE LEE MARTIN
LUMBERTON**

John 13:34-35

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in faith, hope and **LOVE**. I am writing to reach my Brother's and Sister's in this unloving world to speak on **LOVE**. We need to walk in **LOVE**—because **LOVE** actually helps heal the body and soul. So many people are depressed and unhappy, there's no **LOVE** in their life, nor can they find true **LOVE**. We live in a selfish, unappreciative, heartless, and deceitful world. Jesus commanded us to **LOVE** the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul. And, to **LOVE** our neighbor as Yourself. God fully understood that if we Loved Him first, and one another, we would be healed and made whole. I implore and encourage all that fear and worship in the name of Jesus Christ to be kind to someone today; put a smile on someone's face in this cruel and sad world that we live in. Remember, **LOVE** heals the body and soul, so let's join forces and heal someone today—**SHOW some LOVE!** Today is the day, for many different reasons, to give God thanks or his many different seasons. However, we must never forget to give thanks and show **Love** to the ones who cared enough to show us **Love** by being there.

So, I send this message throughout the Church to show you that...

I LOVE YOU!

Brethren Reginald T. Askew, Sr., Nash

Don't Forget to Check Out the 'So I Write Journals Today!!



Your Masterlife Ministry Team



- Travis & Bequita
- Rebecca
- Kevin
- Rachel, Ken & Kids
- Walt
- Lilli
- Jon & Connie
- Mrs. Donna
- Mrs. Teresa