



***"We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." II Corinthians 5:8***

I have heard it said, "It is not how you start, but how you finish." This is true of life. Some people grow up in difficult circumstances, which can lead to drug addiction to cover up the pain. The good news is that Jesus came to set captives free. Some of the men in prison have been born again and set free and will finish their life well with Christ.

I first met Tyler in the hospital about a year ago. He told me that he had stage four liver cancer and had a year to live. When he left the hospital, he was moved to the Jameson Annex's infirmary where I visited him weekly. Tyler told me, "I didn't do the crime that they charged me with, but I did other things that were not right. I was not a good person in the past." He had many health issues to deal with in the past year, but he was always thankful for the Scripture readings and prayers. Tyler always had a smile when I came into his room no matter what health issues he was dealing with, even though they were difficult. When Tyler died I was able to have a memorial in the chapel for him and invited the nursing staff. They were very appreciative of the memorial service. There were a dozen nurses present which was an opportunity for me to thank them for caring for Tyler. It was also a time for them to hear about the Lord and eternity.

Jacob had throat cancer a few years before I knew him, and he had difficulty talking. The first time I met

him was when I was distributing Christian literature cell to cell. I asked him if he knew Jesus Christ, and if he would go to heaven when he died. Jacob told me a year later when he started attending church, that he didn't like my question, it offended him. Later he realized it was an important question. He was moved to the infirmary because he was so weak. When I asked if he was trusting in Christ alone for his salvation he nodded affirmatively. When I said to him, "You are going to beat me to heaven & you are getting out of prison"! He had a big smile on his face. Jacob died three days later. PTL, he knew Jesus!

I wrote about Bobby in my June newsletter, and how discouraged he was at that time. When I visited him this past week he had a completely different attitude. He had a smile on his face. I asked him what happened to change his attitude from discouragement to joy. Bobby said, "After you visited me the last time and I read the booklet you gave me about eternity, I realized what is important in life. God does care about me because he sent you when I needed encouragement. I watch very little television, and when I do it is mostly Christian channels. I enjoy reading my Bible and going to church services and Bible studies." The Lord will never leave us or forsake us regardless of how we feel.

Your prayers and financial support are appreciated! Continue to pray for the released Christian inmates and for those who come to Christ and have a long prison term. Please pray for those who make decisions concerning volunteer policy!

In Christ, Harlan

**Please designate my name in the memo section of your check.** Send them to: Prison Lighthouse Fellowship (PLF) or South Dakota Prison Chaplain's Association (SDPCA), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220, Email: [harlan@convergeheartland.org](mailto:harlan@convergeheartland.org). To listen to inmate testimonies: <https://converge.org/heartland/giving-campaign/sd-prison-chaplains-harlan-moss>