



*“When he (the devil) lies, he speaks out his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”  
John 8:44*

Many Christian men in prison believe some of the lies in their head. “You are a nobody, and you will never amount to anything. Your life is a mistake, God can’t use you and you will never change. You will never get over your addiction, so you are helpless and hopeless. You are a failure, and you always will be.” These are some of the lies that the men believe. Praise God that this is not the truth!

The prison has a program for those who get in trouble. They need to show that they can stay out of trouble in Segregation for three months at a time. If they do they move to the next section. When they pass the three months stay in the third section without trouble they can move to general population. While Peter was going through this program he did the Crossroad Bible correspondence course. When I stopped by his cell he would ask me some questions from his Bible study. I could see that Peter was progressing in his faith. A month ago he was let back into population so I can visit him now in my office. During a visit we were talking about the need for repentance in our lives. Peter was silent for a while, and I asked him what he was thinking about. He said, “I am thinking about how great my sins are, and I don’t know if God can use me. I am a prideful and selfish person.” I told him to tell the Lord just what he told me, and God would forgive him. He started to pray and

after a sentence he stopped. Peter said, “My mind is full of anxiety, and I can’t think to pray.” I told him to pray silently in his mind for Jesus to take control of his thoughts. He did and he prayed without distraction! I reminded him that the evil one wants to distract him in prayer and Bible reading but the Lord is more powerful! Praise the Lord for the victory we have in Christ!

Noah has had the same transition as Peter from Segregation. The evil one had put the thought in his mind that God could not use him because of all his tattoos. We talked about why God *could* use him because of his tattoos. I encouraged him to tell others how the Lord changed his life and is now a new person in Christ.

James is one of the men I visit with weekly. He has been a Christian for several years. He told me there is another man who likes to irritate him. This other man does not believe in God. He mocks James for believing in God. James could feel his anger raising up within him, but he walked away. I reminded James that the evil one tells him that he cannot allow this guy to mock him. We talked about how this irritating man needs to know the Lord. James agreed that he needed to pray for that man’s salvation. He told me that after he walked away to his cell he was thankful he did the right thing. I believe James will remain strong in his faith.

July 4th is the day that reminds us that we need to be thankful for our freedom. Freedom in the U.S., but also our freedom in Christ!

Thank you for your prayer support and financial support! You are a blessing!

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)