



## Christian Responsibility

God allows us through trials to learn how to live a life of "Christian Responsibility"

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

**James 1:2-4**

*"Upon being released from prison on parole, I set out to continue a pattern and practice of living for Christ"*

even as I am taught not to judge others based upon their situation and/or circumstances. Having practiced law and pastored a church, I had innumerable opportunities to hear the stories of the "victimized." Having spent six years in prison, I heard countless stories of how the system, family, friends and associates have "victimized" many. Being blessed to live a life free of all mind or mood altering substances for the last 19 years, I have heard still many stories of the "victimized." Admittedly, I had become somewhat jaded by what I called "crybabies" looking for creative ways to avoid responsibility for their actions.

Upon being released from prison on parole, I set out to continue in a pattern and practice of living for Christ. Having no job I understood that my job for 40 hours per week was to search for employment or try and create a consistent source of income. Much of this was done through the use of a computer to create and submit resumes, conduct job searches, complete and submit employment applications, re-establish contacts to assist in the process, and typeset manuscripts for four books; two workbooks and a facilitator's guide. All of this while ministering to the needs of others as I maintained myself through self-examination, accountability partners and constant spiritual refills by the written or spoken word of God, good Gospel music, prayer, and meditation.

Sadly my best efforts were cut short as my parole officer brought me back to prison. I was initially told that an employee of a program, in which I participated, stated that someone used the programs computer to access a dating service. Since I used the computer more than other clients they assumed it was me. As I was on my way back to prison for accessing a site with a credit card (of course I have none), and using the computer for non-job search purposes (of course I had not), my parole officer's cell phone rang. The voice sounded like the Program Director. It sounded as if she stated the alleged access appeared to be due to an inadvertent key stroke. Since, however, the process had already begun, instead of correcting the error; it had become a process of avoiding embarrassment. As a result I have learned that some situations are not self-inflicted. Being placed in this situation I learned first hand why the scripture warns against unrighteous judgment.

Equally as important as the knowledge of avoiding unrighteous judgment, is how we

handle our adverse situations. A person may not be responsible for why they are in a particular storm; however, they are responsible for how they act and/or what they learn during the time of the storm. Should we get mired down in the situations wherein we find ourselves? Should we rebel and attack everything and everyone? Should we always seek to sue or otherwise mount legal challenges? Do we begin to mope around feeling sorry for ourselves? Do we as "Christians" acknowledge that we are in a storm, even as we accept responsibility for any part we have played? Do we understand that even if we are victims, we are still children of the Most High God and therefore as Christians, are responsible no matter the circumstances to always give thanks unto God?

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." **1 Thessalonians 5:18**

We must do what God gives us to do in every situation

"But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?" **James 2:20**

being mindful not to force our way or to manipulate the situation. We learn to be content no matter our circumstances

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." **Philippians 4:11**

trusting in the Lord

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." **Proverbs 3:5-6**

We learn to stand

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." **Ephesians 6:13**

knowing that all things work together for the good.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." **Romans 8:28**

I must admit that as I was thinking about this I began to cry because my brethren in Christ, my co-laborers in the gospel are so busy crying peace and prosperity that many are failing to prepare the body of Christ to war in the spirit against the trials of life and sin. As birds fall out of the sky and fish come up dead by the thousands in the U.S., Sweden, Australia and Italy, our watchmen are failing to prepare those

with whom God has entrusted them. The people of God cannot be allowed to succumb under the trials of life

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." **Galatians 6:9-10**

We must teach them to battle sin in their lives as well all manner of adversity understanding they are not alone.

Our Father did not send his Son our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to die in vain. God witnessed the suffering and murder of His only begotten Son

*Check the scripture*

1. *James 1:2-4*
2. *Galatians 6:9-10*
3. *John 3:16*

"He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied:" **Isaiah 53:11**

After Jesus willingly gave Himself

"Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." **John 10:17-18**

how could we not help children of God understand the extent to which God will go to love and protect His children

"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." John 3:16

Do not give up! Do all that you can do believing God (not your own works) then stand and watch God work.

Serving Christ  
Originally Written  
From a Cell

Andre' L. McGuire

## **Ministry Needs**

Praise God:

I believe as God said, He will supply our need according to His riches in glory. That you might be made aware of those present needs please find listed below the needs of ALM's Ministry International, Inc. as we know them.

It is my intention to fulfill the ministry God has placed in my heart. I am prayerful that God would touch those whom He has anointed to be a blessing or participant in this ministry. I have nearly completed the business plan inclusive of a blueprint of the facility wherein the halfway house would be located. If God has so ordained it would be a blessing to receive your assistance in the development of this ministry. Please contact us in the event God has led you to assist and/or forward this to any which you believe may through prayer be interested in assisting in the following areas:

- Prayer
- Secure 501 C3
- Assist in completion of business plan
  - a. Cost Analysis
  - b. Secure Financing and/or Grant Writer
  - c. Marketing Plan
- Web Site Development (concept provided)
- Editing
- Secure copyright of manuscript(s)
- Prayer

I do thank you for having taken the time to review this information. I pray that God will open your heart to being a blessing to his kingdom by assisting in the development of this ministry.

## **Donations**

The word of **God** admonishes us to owe no man anything except love. Therefore, we have made it possible for our visiting friends to assist us in maintaining our facility and our web presence by sowing seed into this ministry. Initial financing will be used to secure 501-C-3 status. We thank you in advance for your cheerful gift in support of ALM's Ministries, International, Inc.

Please visit us at [www.almsministries.org](http://www.almsministries.org) browse the site and please sign the guestbook prior to leaving.