

Part V

Chapter 43

Needed for a Good Life after Release from Prison

More than anything else for a good life, we need Jesus Christ working in our lives; so that we will possess love, truth, faith, hope; and be the peacemakers our families, our countries, and the world so desperately needs.

While we need the spiritual most of all for a good life, we, as humans, touch the world with our bodies. Rightly viewed, our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit, and must be maintained, protected, and kept clean and healthy, so that the Holy Spirit will be helped and not hindered working within us to make the world a better place for ourselves and for everyone else.

To care for our bodies, The Temples of the Holy Spirit, we need sufficient income from lawful employment to provide food and clothing, etc.; so that our bodies may effectively show our love for God and neighbor. In our weak human condition, we also need housing to be protected from bad weather, and other dangers.

If all a prisoner has to look forward to after being released from prison is \$100 and a bus ticket to a place where no job or housing awaits him; how can we expect him to do any better than go to a liquor store, or look up the old gang, or engage in some criminal activity to provide for his bodily needs. This type of failure which will lead him back to prison is certainly not desirable for him, his family, or his friends who care for him.

The Kairos program in many Texas prisons has a support program for inmates leaving prison. Arrangements for assistance should be made with Kairos volunteers prior to release from prison. They will obtain good clothes for inmates so they look presentable in job interviews. They will also help them to find jobs and a place to live.

In the George Beto Unit craft shop, inmates make things for the Kairos community to sell at auction every year to help support the good work they do for inmates after release from prison. This would be an excellent program for inmates to participate in who have craft shops in other TD CJ prisons.

We plan, with your help, to add, on our website www.hopeforeveryone.com, to what we have written in this book about job possibilities and halfway houses.

Please help us by mailing your suggestions to:

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