



THE CHANGING POWER OF JESUS CHRIST NEW CREATIONS IN CHRIST

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation;
the old things passed away; behold, all things have become new"

Dear Aglow Prison Ministry Friends,

There is wonder-working Power in the Precious Blood of the Lamb! Do you know it? In the last 28 years of CA Aglow Prison Ministry we have witnessed thousands of women transformed because of the changing power of the Lord. It is always amazing how He takes the addicted, broken, confused, angry, abused sinner and makes them New Creations in Christ.

The Bible says in Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me."

The Lord doesn't save us and just leave us there to fend for ourselves. 2 Peter 1:3-4 says "seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence, For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, in order that by them you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust"

There are many people that have lost hope for their children, grandchildren and family members. They have forgotten the promises of God to us that are Yea and Amen! Perhaps you are one of them. You have been praying and praying for years and nothing is changing. You are tired and weary, discouraged and even wondering if God hears you or even cares. Take Courage! The Lord hears us when we call and He will answer!

This month's Newsletter is the story of a woman who was abused, angry, addicted and confused. That was until she found Jesus! Stephanie is a living testimony of the Changing Power of Jesus Christ and she shares her life story with you so that you will have hope and will know the Lord hears and He cares. May it Glorify Him and help you remember there is Power in the Precious Blood of the Lamb!

Always in Awe!
Jill Meskimen
President
CA Aglow Prison/Jail Ministry



"I know if God can change me He can change anyone"



My Story

By
Stephanie Lee

"So I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten.." Joel 2:25 a

Hi my name is Stephanie Lee. Growing up I was very confused about my sexuality. I was molested many times by different men in my mother's life. If you ever saw the movie "Precious" that story reflects my life growing up.

Somewhere during that time I decided if I was a boy no one could hurt me so I grew up pretending I was a boy. As time went on I became more familiar with the role of a man and was active in homosexual relationships. Deep inside I was confused, angry, afraid and just plain lost.

I believed I had no value and if God really loved me why would He make me this way? I felt ashamed and ugly and to hide it I became very volatile and mean. I felt safe being with women and it gave me a sense of control over my circumstances by playing the role of a man in the relationship.

I ended up in prison because of my drug abuse and violent behavior. I did seven years straight time one time and about 20 years on the installment plan. It was a way of life for me and I ran hard in the prison doing Satan's business and selling drugs. I did time in CCWF, NCWF, CIW and VSPW. I made the rounds of the prisons here in CA. I was finally released for the last time in 2006 from VSPW.

Every once in awhile I would go to the Aglow Prison Ministry Chapel Services in prison and make fun of what was going on in there. Little did I know at the time that it was the Lord drawing me in even though I was there with the wrong mind-set.

The last time I left prison another inmate gave me a book called "The Battlefield of the Mind" by Joyce Meyer. She said it would help me. Again God was trying to reach me.

Once out of prison my daughter wasn't doing very well so I took on the responsibility of raising her three sons, my grandsons which I still do to this day. They have become a major blessing in my life.

I remember walking past this church each week and hearing people singing and having a good time and I heard a little voice tell me to go so I finally surrendered and went. Again the Lord was drawing me even though I didn't know why. I discovered later through His Word that "He delivered me because He delighted in me." Psalm 18:19b



I really liked going to church but I also knew that I was gay and that maybe God wouldn't want me. I felt the desire to keep going but I always kept my distance. One day a Pastor came over to me and prayed over me and said "God has a mighty plan for your life and He is going use you to set other captives free." I laughed inside and thought he was crazy because couldn't he see that I was gay and that God made me a man trapped in a woman's body. God didn't want people like me.

A little over two years later those prophetic words that the Pastor spoke became a reality in my life. One morning, as I was getting dressed, I heard that little small voice again that I had come to know as the Lord say to me "Stephanie I don't make mistakes." He addressed me by my real name while everyone else called me JR which was my prison gay name. No one knew me by Stephanie but God did. I knew it was God when He said "I want you to go and buy a dress" I was blown away because I thought I would look stupid in a dress but then God touched my heart again and said "Stephanie I would never embarrass you, I love you." So I called my nephew and he went with me to find that dress. It was a difficult thing to do but as I was trying on different outfits somehow I knew inside my heart that God was changing me into the woman I was created to be.

It has been six years since I was released from prison and God has used me in mighty ways. I was illiterate most of my life and when my grandsons needed help with their homework I could not help them. My oldest grandson asked me "Granny you're older than me, why can't you read?" That was a turning point for me and I went to my local library and joined the literacy program. I have been given many rewards as a result of that program and began speaking at different places, from Juvenile Hall, to churches and even for the United Way. God was doing a deep work. I am still in the process and currently going for my GED.

God brought faithful women from Aglow Prison Ministry around me who have mentored me and walked with me and taught me the ways of the Lord. He even picked someone who looked nothing like me and didn't have a clue about the gay lifestyle. However, that was just what I needed to grow and become a woman and have a heart for Jesus. Patty has been my Spiritual Mother since the day I invited her into my house.

Today I minister in my church and I continue with school and am a big cheerleader for my three grandsons ages 10, 11 and 12.

It has not been an easy road and I still have difficult days but the difference today is that I know God doesn't make mistakes, He created me as a woman and He loves me and He has a great purpose for my life.

I know that if God can change me He can change any one. My broken heart is being healed and my wounded soul is being restored. I am learning to be kind and gentle and not angry and bitter anymore. In fact the Lord is lifting those old weights right off of me.

The day I met the man named Jesus Christ was the day I found out who I truly was and I will be eternally grateful that He saved a wretch like me.

Stephanie Lee



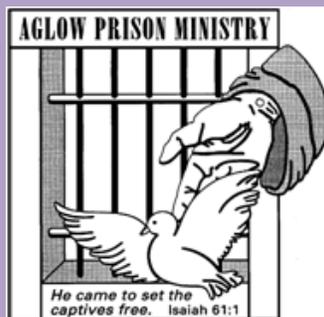
Stephanie and Patty



Before Christ Picture



Aglow Prison Ministry is a non-profit Christian Organization affiliated with Aglow International. All gifts are used to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ to those incarcerated and in chains and to help those who have gotten out to follow Christ and get established in churches and society.
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