

# CAM UPDATE

Christian Aftercare Ministries for Ex-Offenders  
Non-profit Organization [www.christianaftercare.com](http://www.christianaftercare.com)

APRIL, 2007  
Established 1994

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paul Roussel

## How The Lord Changes Lives

By Mike Grady  
CAM Board Member

### ANSWERED PRAYER

It is a blessed privilege to serve the Lord in the CAM ministry and to see how the Lord answers prayer on behalf of ex-offenders. Don had been out of Prison for about four months and had worked two weeks in a temporary job. He had applied everywhere for a permanent job in the greater Manchester area, but was unsuccessful. Don, a committed Christian, was told by his parole officer that if he couldn't find a job quickly, he would be sent back to prison. **We prayed together and through our ministry, the Lord led Don to a Christian business owner who hired him.**

### CAM OFFICE IN MANCHESTER

Mike Grady and I minister to approximately twenty-five ex-offenders a month in our office at 50 Lowell Street, We pray with each one and help with job searches and finding apartments. We give them clothing and furniture if they need it, and we do Bible studies with everyone who requests them. We also help them find a church home in their area so they can find the support they need to begin a new life with the Lord

### CHRISTIAN 12-STEP PROGRAM

Our Christian 12-step Program, for drug and alcohol addiction, has been meeting at our office for

13 years. The format uses the Bible as it's guide and Bible verses are part of each recovery step. Many men have been helped with the Lord's guidance to overcome these addictions. It is also a time of fellowship. Bill Sheehan leads this program every week.

All are welcome to attend. For further information, call CAM office.

### CHRISTIAN WEBSITE

Finally, we have started a website for CAM, thanks to Dave Rattigan. We hope to include testimonies of men who have come to the Lord; a video about our work, biographies of board members, and specific information about how we help ex-offenders. *See page 3 for further details.*

*"Praise and glory,  
and wisdom and  
thanks and honor  
and power and  
strength be to our  
God for ever and  
ever, Amen!"  
Revelation 7:12*

God is working at Valley Street Jail and with those in aftercare. The following scriptures come to mind: Romans 12:2, ***"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."***

Upon accepting Christ, men don't stagnate - they grow. It's true of us all. It still amazes me at the speed changes take place after rededication or accepting Christ the first time. My own experience seemed long and slow. **But in jail, with no distractions, men absorb the truth of scripture at a rapid rate.** At Bible studies the discussions are as challenging as any in a church setting. The situations are real, not hypothetical. This is true of those out of prison and on parole. **Some men out of the system attend because they need fellowship and desire continual growth.**

I can't praise God enough for the local churches where most of us receive our instruction for the renewing of our minds, and for continued support for CAM.

I John 2:15-17. ***"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father (continued next page)***

*(Continued from page 1)*

***is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”***

Men in prison, with the “things of the world” locked out of their lives, the reality of the false love the world offers and how destructive it is, brings into perspective what is important. Although the lust of the flesh and eyes is still strong, not being able to act on them gives some a chance to heal spiritually on the inside where it will last. They have an understanding that rules and regulations, although important, didn’t stop them in the past and won’t in the future. Only a heart change through knowing Jesus will work (Colossians 2:20-23). **Praise God for the renewing of the mind, it is such a wonderful thing!**

. Isaiah 48:17. ***“Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: ‘I am the LORD your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.’”***

The profit (reward) we receive is that of seeing the scriptures being fulfilled. At the Valley Street Jail and with the men getting out of prison, we see this happening all the time. Pray it never becomes routine for us. I praise God for His leading me into this ministry.

Pray for God to continue to work in the hearts of the men in jails and prisons, and that HE will keep the doors open for all the volunteers who minister there.

***Praise God*** for the wonderful work the Lord is doing in the lives of men and women at Valley Street Jail!

## MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

*By Daniel W. Russell*

I grew up in a very dysfunctional home. My parents were heavy into alcohol. My basic needs were never met. I never felt I belonged. My father died when I was two years old. About the age of ten, I started to drink and experiment by putting anything I could in my body in order to fit in, feel better, and gain self-esteem and acceptance. By this time, my mother, brother from mom’s first marriage, and I were living in Portsmouth, NH.

I started running wild and ended up in the Juvenile System by the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. I was placed in YDC; then the Chase (Christian) Home for troubled and unwanted kids. There **I met Steve Mears, an AA counselor who led me to the Lord at age 11.** I’ll never forget him. It was summer before my freshman year when I was able to go back home.

Then my old lifestyle started up again. I sold illegal substances while in high school, worked part time, partied all the time, and still managed to graduate. After graduation, one marriage failed and an 8-year relationship ended. I now had a criminal/driving record. Then in 2002, my mother died, and shortly thereafter I went to prison and lost everything.

**While in prison, I needed to make changes, so I re-dedicated my life to the Lord. In County Jail I started going to Bible study, church services and corresponding with Paul Roussel.** After sentencing, I was sent to Lakes Region Facility where I chose to continue following Christ and refrain from other activities – even took a computer class for a certificate.

I met Rudy Converse and Christian volunteers. Their dedication gives hope for people like myself who want to grow in the Christian life. Then I went to the Halfway House in Manchester in August 2006; started attending Gospel Baptist church (where Dave Carlson gives a great message).

I now meet with Paul Roussel weekly for Bible study and help out around CAM. I still receive little blessings every day even though I’ve been out of Halfway House for two months. I thank and praise God for keeping, watching, and guiding

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***PRAYER REQUEST:***  
**Pray for the Lord to send more committed Christians to our ministry that CAM can minister to.**

## THE CHURCH INSIDE THE WALLS

By Jean Metzger, CAM Board Member

**The church** inside the walls continues to grow. As in many churches on the outside, though there is a fairly large body of professing Christians, it is a small nucleus of men who are deeply involved in the church. These are the ones, a small nucleus inside prison walls, whom we see growing deeper in their relationship with the Lord, and seeking ways to serve Him there.

**There are** a number of opportunities in prison for men to be exposed to good teaching and fellowship. There are places where non-Christians can learn about Christ and what it means to be His follower. Christians can deepen their knowledge of faith and their commitment to Christ. With the help of one of the volunteers, the men have recently begun their own newsletter, "*Beyond The Cinder*," to inform both those inside and outside what is going on in the church there.

**The programs** with which I am most familiar are Prison Fellowship seminars, and the Saturday night worship service. The seminars are held on three weekends each year with around 50 men attending. Saturday nights have a rotation of preachers and a team of inside musicians who lead the worship music. Attendance ranges from 60 to 80, and one night exceeded 100! Many come once or a few times, and then don't return – either because they are transferred or find other things to do as they become accustomed to the prison, however, there is a core of regular attendees.

**At 8 p.m.**, there is movement allowed in the prison, and most of the men leave the worship service for a variety of reasons. Twenty to thirty remain to sing a few more praise songs, and then have a discussion, led by insiders, as to what different points in the sermon meant to them, and how to apply them to daily living. The men's willingness to be honest and vulnerable about their struggles is challenging and humbling. I am always deeply blessed. I am doubly blessed since I have two wonderful church families and would hate to lose either one.

### ANNOUNCING:

#### NEW WEBSITE FOR CHRISTIAN AFTERCARE MINISTRY

Dave Rattigan, CAM board member, has designed a website for CAM. To find it, go to [www.christianaftercare.com](http://www.christianaftercare.com). Dave posts a Bible verse, news, latest needs, prayer requests, and much more. The pictures and information change as you read. He also gives links to: (1) History of CAM, including mission statement, confidentiality statement, long-term goals and services. (2) How to help through prayer, evangelism, and donations. (3) Map directions to CAM offices. (4) Pictures and bios of board members, (5) Register to receive CAM newsletter. (6) A video. All these and more will appear as Dave continues to develop and update the website.

We salute you, Dave, for all your volunteer efforts. The website will enhance the CAM newsletter and bring us into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with more ways to reach people with the ministry of CAM and the message of Christ's offer of free grace and unconditional love. **Thank you!**

Paul Roussel and the CAM staff

*My Personal Testimony*, (Continued from Page 2)

me through all the insanity I created for myself over the past years.

Now my true journey begins as I continue to grow, as a Christian should. I still struggle with some things, but I know God has a plan for me. I'm lonely, but never alone anymore. I used to compare my life to Psalm 88 while sitting in pre-trial. Now I reflect on Psalm 119:105, "*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*"

# CHRISTIAN AFTERCARE MINISTRIES

Co-Laborers with the Church in ministry to ex-offenders since 1994  
www.christianaftercare.com

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**OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Wednesday**  
8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
603-669-5090

Tax deductible donations may be made payable to Christian Aftercare Ministries (CAM) send to: 50 Lowell St., Manchester, NH 03101

**CAM MINISTRY ALWAYS NEEDS:**  
Men's jeans, sneakers, work boots, gloves,  
clean shirts in good repair,  
as well as...*YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.*

**Thank you for helping to meet these on-going needs.**

**NOTICE:** If you would like a CAM board member to visit your church or group to speak about this ministry? Please call Paul Roussel, director, to schedule a date. Phone: (603) 669-5090.

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Christian Aftercare Ministries  
50 Lowell Street  
Manchester, NH 03101

**Non-Profit Organization**  
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