

# The Sharing Org

## Ministry to the Adult Foster Care Community

JULY 2016

### Ministry Moment...

As sure as a puppy's tail, his smile communicates his happiness.

The other board members and I attended a special worship service, and he stood there with his smile and guitar just waiting for "Victory In Jesus." It's his song. He enjoys all the songs, but this one is his favorite.

Today he is going to play and sing for us, because like I said, it's his song. Physically he has issues. He is mildly mentally challenged, and mostly blind, but his smile and enthusiasm for Jesus tell me that all of that is insignificant because he has the Victory in Jesus.

No matter what I speak about, his reply is always the same. *"Like you said, Reverend John, the devil is out to get us. But we have to avoid him and trust in Jesus."*

I don't always get to see him because of his schedule, but I am always happy when I am able to meet up with him. He reminds me that we indeed have the victory of our savior.

~John

### "Victory in Jesus"

I heard an old, old story,  
How a Savior came from glory,  
How He gave His life on Calvary  
To save a wretch like me  
I heard about His groaning,  
Of His precious blood's atoning,  
Then I repented of my sins  
And won the victory.

O victory in Jesus,  
My Savior, forever.  
He sought me and bought me  
With His redeeming blood  
He loved me ere I knew Him  
And all my love is due Him,  
He plunged me to victory,  
Beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing,  
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing.  
How He made the lame to walk again  
And caused the blind to see  
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus,  
Come and heal my broken spirit,"  
And somehow Jesus came and bro't  
To me the victory.

O victory in Jesus,  
My Savior, forever.  
He sought me and bought me  
With His redeeming blood,  
He loved me ere I knew Him  
And all my love is due Him,  
He plunged me to victory,  
Beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about a mansion  
He has built for me in glory.  
And I heard about the streets of gold  
Beyond the crystal sea;  
About the angels singing,  
And the old redemption story,  
And some sweet day I'll sing up there  
The song of victory.

O victory in Jesus,  
My Savior, forever.  
He sought me and bought me  
With His redeeming blood  
He loved me ere I knew Him  
And all my love is due Him,  
He plunged me to victory,  
Beneath the cleansing flood.

## Prayer Letter...

Dear Prayer Partner,

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July! Can you believe the year is half over? I swear years took longer when I was a kid.

We have much to praise God for. I was talking to a guy who has been with us for years, and he talked about something that I had encouraged him with years ago. I was greatly pleased to learn how our Lord had touched his heart, so many years ago, through us. My daily prayer is that God will make us *His rising* (see the verse below) as He comforts the residents, and He is doing just that.

Our family was greatly blessed as we took our first real family vacation--to Michigan's eastern Upper Peninsula--this past month. We spent lots of time grating on one another and were exhausted most of the time. But we packed in a lot of hiking and sight-seeing in a beautiful part of our state, and by the end of the week, none of us wanted to come home. Ian, who turns 2 on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, has mastered the art of getting out of bed by himself, so we are continuing to feel a bit sleep-deprived since coming home. Prayers are appreciated!

We have a couple ways you can help us this month. First, we need to complete raising the funds for the shoeboxes. There are just two months left for us to raise the final \$500 for this year's Shoebox program - *If you were thinking that you would love to bless the residents in some way, here's your chance.* And second, I have a specific prayer request. God has recently burdened me heart to begin sharing with the residents how to think spiritually about suffering and hardships. The problem is that I am pretty sure that I am not where I need to be with my own thinking on this topic. So as I begin my own prayer and studying into how to have a healthy attitude about suffering, I ask that you will keep me in your prayers, asking the Holy Spirit to form me in this.

One final thing I would like to ask of you. If you would, please email me a note about your own perceptions of this ministry, these prayer letters, and any suggestions that you might have. I have been challenged to not trust my own perceptions because *"it is impossible to read the label when you are inside the bottle."* The reality is that I am inside the bottle and my perceptions might not be what the reality is. Please share your honest thoughts with me, *I promise that you will NOT offend me.* My hope is to improve my communications with all the Prayer Partners so that the overall prayer coverage of the ministry is optimized. You may call me at 586-949-6885 or email me at [thesharingorg@gmail.com](mailto:thesharingorg@gmail.com): I really look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry. I pray that the Spirit of Jesus will impress upon you the blessing that your partnership means to me and us all.

Together in His service,



John

**"Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise," says the LORD; "I will place him in the safety for which he longs."**

**Psalm 12:5**