

EMAW Testimonials

Collection for Inspiration

Michigan Correctional Facility

May, 2017



"God's Word Took Over Robert's Life!"

Robert, a prisoner at Carson City Correctional Facility, could not wait to share his Quiet Time with his Every Man A Warrior group. I could see the hopeful anticipation of sharing what God had taught him. "So, Robert, where are you taking us, I asked?" He quickly opened his Bible and told us to go to 2 Timothy 2:23-24: *Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.*

Robert proceeded to share a real-life application of this passage when he was confronted with a potentially severe punishment for something he did not do. He had a reputation in the prison of fighting back and a sharp tongue when faced with an unfair situation.

The correctional officers were known for their meanness; showing prisoners how they held power over the inmate's lives. Fairness and objectivity were usually tossed aside. Robert entered the room where a correction officer was in a heated conversation with another prisoner. That officer, to the surprise of Robert, abruptly turned and accused him of saying something inappropriate. The officer proceeded to command him to pack up everything he owned; a common practice for one going to "the hole," an isolated prison cell. The correction officers would then take Robert's personal belongings and distribute them to the other prisoners or guards at their discretion.

Robert remembered the passage he had devoted to memory from his Quiet Time that morning. *"Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments because you know they produce quarrels."* He could feel a real tug-of-war going on inside of him. He had never experienced this conflict in his old nature. He prayed for divine assistance, surrendered to God's Word and complied with the demand with a simple *"Yes sir"*, and proceeded to pack. .

This came as an unexpected response due to Robert's history with the guard. The guard put his face within inches of Robert's and yelled obscenities, with the goal of provoking Robert into an ill-advised response. .

But God's Word took over. Robert responded with respect and calmness that totally disarmed his aggressor to the point that the original command to pack up was reversed. The guard abruptly left the room saying, "I am watching you!". All the prisoners in the room were in a state of dazed disbelief over what they just witnessed. This guard never backs down. .

Robert looked at the men and said, *"You should try this Quiet Time stuff in Every Man A Warrior. It really works!"*

Submitted by Navigators Staff, Tony Laughter