

# *Mighty Wind Ministries*

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**“And the Lord appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.” Jonah 1:17 (NASB)**

“Everything that I’ve picked up to read today keeps referring to Jonah,” Dan said, and “I’ve come to the realization that God has sent me into the belly of a whale.”

Oh, was I excited to hear these words come out of Dan’s mouth. Some of the other volunteers and I have been ministering to him for about six months. I first met Dan about two days after he had come into the jail. At that time, he was still high on drugs, and was telling me some pretty big stories. He has been hungry for God’s Word during these past months. We have seen the six-year sentence turn into a sixteen-month commitment to a prison drug program. Dan is just another example of how the Holy Spirit ministers to the men and women who are locked up in that place. I am continually encouraged as I see the Lord’s hand touching the inmates.

On the outside Dan, who had been raised as a Jehovah Witness, had made the step to publicly proclaim Jesus as his Savior. He had been attending church on a regular basis and was doing pretty good. He now knows, that the Lord was calling him to walk to Ninevah. He struggled with that call and decided that it would be much better to head to Tarshish. Why not he thought? Life would be easier in Tarshish, where money could be made easier and faster by selling drugs. Not wanting to put his trust in the Lord, he turned from the direction of Ninevah and ran as fast as he could towards Tarshish. What was the result? The whale’s belly! This is just another testimony of a believer who fell for the lie. Another one who believed that you can run from the Lord and do your own thing without any consequences. Oh, I thank the Lord for His patience towards Dan and all of the rest of us. He truly is a merciful and forgiving God. How many times have you or I ran from Ninevah and tried to get to Tarshish. Remember that the belly of the whale doesn’t always have to be a jail cell. I know that I’ve spent a few days, during my walk with the Lord, with seaweed wrapped around my head. How about you/

I’m so thankful that God is allowing me to go into the belly of the whale and talk to the Jonah’s who have run away from the call of God. Believe me there are a great number of them in there. It’s not a pretty sight inside the whale. It’s a place where it is dark, noisy, wet and stinky. I see people in torment and people who are pondering their relationship with the Lord. Some of these folks, will only leave the belly when they have finally been eaten up and digested. Others, will call upon the Lord and speak out as Jonah did, and say, “Salvation is from the Lord.” Then I believe that the Lord will command the whale to vomit them up on dry land. His Word will come to them once again, and they will arise, and go forth proclaiming His message. Thank you, Lord!!!!!!!

## **Youth Authority**

Yesterday I drove to Stockton and was able to be part of a wonderful ministry that is taking place up there. I went to an M-2 Pizza night coordinated by Jim Robinette a sold-out Brother in the Lord. There were approximately 100 wards and volunteers who came and we had a wonderful time eating pizza and sharing. The one thing that was evident during the entire evening was that all words spoken were pointing to people to Jesus. I was able to share with my guitar and testimony and then talked about forgiveness. The people were great in their singing. I loved it when they joined me and we sang these words from a song that I wrote, “Don’t back down, don’t turn around you’ve got to keep the Lord in sight...Don’t back down....don’t turnaround...you’ve got to stand upright for the name of Jesus Christ. One lady told me that as the wards were leaving to go back to the dormitories, she could hear one singing those words. Oh I’m blessed....Thank you Lord Jesus.

My friend Jim stepped up to plate and presented the Gospel and gave the young men some Good News to take back with them to their living quarters. I sang an invitation song, “Open up your Hearts,” and then closed in prayer. We weren’t able to give an altar call, but we sure pointed them to the Savior. These guys are so touched by the fact the volunteers give up their free time to go and visit. Thank the Lord that he has provided a way through the M-2 Ministry.

## Official Tax-Exempt Status

On the same day last week, I received two envelopes in the mail. One was from the California Franchise Tax Board, and the other was from the Internal Revenue Service. Both letters stated that "Mighty Wind Ministries" was officially approved for tax exempt status. I was able to save a large amount of money by submitting the paper work myself and I thank the Lord for His guiding hand during the whole process.

## 1999 US Open

For the first time in 10 years, I watched the final round of the US Open Golf Tournament. It was amazing to watch Payne Stewart persevere and endure to win the tournament. His winning depended upon him making a 15-ft putt on the last hole of the day. For those of you, who have ever played any tournament golf, know how difficult that was to make. When he rolled the ball in the hole it was thrilling from the golfer's viewpoint, but from a Biblical perspective, I saw a wonderful picture. When his caddie, overwhelmed with joy, jumped up on him, I caught a glimpse of what the Apostle Paul was talking about in II Timothy. When he wrote about finishing the course. The Biblical picture I saw, were not of two golfers, but they were two brothers in the Lord. They were two brothers that had encouraged each other through their Christian walks. They had persevered and endured through the trials of life and had finished the race and stepped across the line into heaven. They had defeated discouragement, they had conquered doubt, they had kept their eyes focused on the goal, they had run the race, defeated the foe and, finished the course. At the time, I didn't know that Payne Stewart was a Christian. I was blessed when he stepped up to receive the trophy and gave thanks to the Lord. I wondered why I was watching the tournament. and then the Lord was faithful to give me the answer. Thank You Jesus!!!! May I encourage you, as you encourage me, and may all of us encourage others, not to give up. May we encourage each other to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, and be faithful caddies, to help one another to finish the course.

## Prayer Requests

- The "Miracle Mazda" 262,432 miles
- For Cliff Monk, his wife and my friend Warren Dickens as they travel and minister in the Rescue Missions
- For Missy Rhodes and her battle with cancer
- The men and women in the jail
- That our hearts will continue to be broken for the lost

## Thanks

- Dennis for helping me and putting on my rear brakes.
- To Jim and Kappy Robinette for your faithfulness to the kids at the Youth Authority, and all of your other ministry outreaches. Galatians 6:9
- To all of you who support and pray for this ministry. Together we are bringing light to those dark places.
- "God is Good—All the time" and "All the time—God is Good"

## Mike

*Isaiah 6:8*

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**"Mighty Wind Ministries"**

**Send To:**

**PO Box 4073 Paso Robles, CA 93447**

**"HELP KEEP MIKE LEWIS IN JAIL"**