



## RESET YOUR LIFE

Lonnie Johnson

According to the word of God we were all born into sin and shaped in iniquity. We came to this life with the propensity to sin without anyone teaching us how. This was the handy work of Adam in the Garden of Eden. Our flesh desires to sin and enjoy the pleasures of life. The flesh knows it isn't going to heaven nor hell. So you cannot bribe it nor scare it. Unchecked the flesh will always desire

those things that **feel** good. And it will always want more of that thing than it enjoyed last time.

Because this great plague called sin spread upon mankind like wildfire, God unleashed His backup plan, His "Ace in the Hole", Jesus Christ. Jesus came to make a way for us to live in right relationship with God the way he originally

planned. The Good thing is that **ANYONE**, no matter how old, no matter how poor, no matter what crimes you have committed, you can reset your life and start all over again. The Word of God promises us that if we are "**in Christ**" we become "**New Creatures**". That means

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)**  
**Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

anything we've done in the past is no longer held against us in the eyes of the Lord. We get a fresh start in life. This

doesn't mean we will not have to deal with the consequences of our actions, but God will be with us to help us make it through those consequences. Once we step into this "new life", we are guaranteed a life full of riches and blessings that are mentioned throughout God's Word.

## "FROM THE YARD"

Each newsletter we will bring you content from one of your very own brothers on the inside. This issue we hear from G. Tolen.

This is to my Brothers:

Our goal should be to become Godly men. We should be seeking in our lives victory over sin that Jesus made for us on the cross. Some of us are learning the daily experience of dying to self and depending on the Holy Spirit to give us victory in our lives. There are a number of us who are experiencing a new freedom as we've changed some of our overall expressions. I praise God for the changes He is making in my life.

"Everything is permissible for me, but not everything is beneficial. But I will not be mastered by anything."

Your Brother in Christ  
Tolen G.

## “WORDS TO GROW BY”

Linda Lewis

You are **STRONGER** than you seem, **BRAVER** than you believe, and **SMARTER** than you think you are.

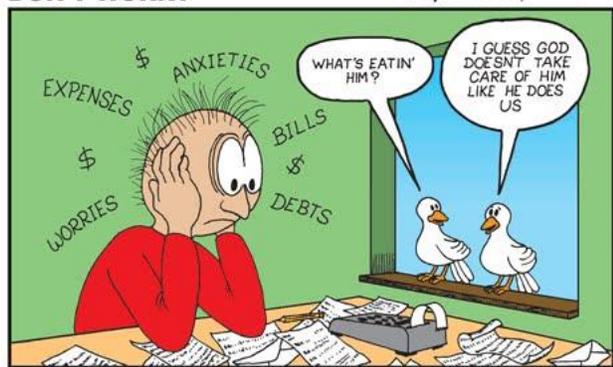
Anyone can give up, it's the easiest thing in the world to do. But to hold it together, when everyone else would understand

if you fell apart, that's **true strength**.

### The Lighter Side of Growth Ministries

#### DON'T WORRY

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?  
- MATTHEW 6:26-27 NIV

### Growth Ministries Activities

In October a softball game was played between the men of Growth Ministries and the AAO group at Lansing Correctional Facility. It is with great sadness we must confess that Growth Ministries lost both games. Regardless of the loss we had a wonderful time. We appreciate the lunch that AAO provided.

We are working on a possible basketball game during the winter months to seek revenge.

We are also working to bring back Bishop Eric Morrison and his choir for a Gospel Expo.

Stay tuned for more.

### Closing words from Brother Tolen

If you have something that you want to talk about, and you want someone to listen, pick up your pen and paper and write "Growth Ministries". Someone will always be there to listen. Share your experience with the outside and let them know what's going on in your life. Shout to the Heavens, and let all know how God has been working in your life. Share your stories. If you need prayer, just ask them to pray for you, and whatever needs you may have.

Growth Ministries Inc. is a Christian based not for profit organization with a passion and desire to assist individuals improve spiritually and socially through a variety of services, activities and events.