

Hope

Mackenzie T., CBI Student, CT

Life is full of heartache,
each trial is a lesson learned.
My mistakes help to teach me,
and keep me from getting burned.

Everything I have been through,
makes me who I am today,
and I know I'm very special,
because God made me that way.

I trust in His guidance,
for the person I should be,
and I ask for His help,
but my understanding is key.

While He might not solve my problems,
the way I think is right,
I trust that He knows the way,
and I pray with all my might.

I know I'm far from perfect,
and I know He knows this too,
but He loves every one of us,
in spite of what we do.

He gave His very best for us,
so that all we need to do,
is ask Him for forgiveness,
and we can start off new.

Perfection is not what is asked of us,
but only that we try,
and when we're wrong, admit it,
because to Him we cannot lie.

He just wants to see we're sorry,
for the sinful things we've done,
but the penalty has long been paid,
by His only begotten Son.

So look to Him and believe,
only then will salvation be yours.
It's with this faith we have in Him,
that we open up heaven's doors.



Jeff C.,
CBI Student, TX



Ricardo L., CBI Student, KY

Somebody Cares

Lorie S., CBI Student, GA

Somebody cares and always will,
the world forgets, but God loves you still.
You cannot go beyond His love,
no matter what you're guilty of.

For God forgives until the end,
He is your faithful, loyal friend.
And though you try to hide your face,
there is no shelter any place,
that can escape His watchful eye.

For on the earth and in the sky,
He is ever present and always there,
to take you in His tender care,
and bind the wounds and mend the breaks,
when all the world around forsakes.

Somebody cares and loves you still,
and God is the someone who always will!

INSIDE

Student Work	1-3
Students Write In	3
Instructors' Input	4
President's Corner	4

WE WELCOME YOUR MATERIALS!
When submitting artwork, poetry, and letters,
please include your name, ID #, and full
address. CBI is overwhelmed with the amount
of wonderful work submitted by CBI students.
Therefore, we regret that we cannot publish
everything we receive.



Michale H.,
CBI Student, FL

Freedom: The Last Trial

Kevin W., CBI Student, TN

Here I am in prison serving my time,
I'm paying my debt to man for committing a crime.
Now man sees me as the worst my parents could bring,
but because of their cold hearts they'll never see my change.
Under man's law I was separated from my family, children, and my wife,
but under God's law I lost nothing, but gained a new life.
The law of man said, "Put him in prison and throw away the key,"
but I spoke to Jesus and accepted Him and He told me I was truly free.
By man's law I was convicted and given the last mile,
but there's one last court and one last trial,
and at this one instead of a frown, I'll carry a smile.

The Reality of Life in the Fast Lane

Clifton M., CBI Student, NY

I have a mother, so I know what love is.
I have looked into her eyes, so I know what faith is.
I have planted a seed, so I know what hope is.
I have seen a sunrise, so I know what beauty is.
I have seen an eagle fly, so I know what freedom is.
I have been abused, so I know what hatred is.
I have been kicked around, so I know what rejection is.
I have lived off of the streets, so I know what survival is.
I have used and sold drugs, so I know what wrong is.
I have lost true friends, so I know what painful is.
I have been in prison, so I know what hell is.
I am serving my time, so I know what punishment is.
I have faced my problems, so I know what reality is.
I have survived all of this, so I know what the power of God is.



Michael L., CBI Student, LA



Ricky M., CBI Student, AL

Every Time I Pray

Casey K., CBI Student, TX

I wrote a short poem,
and it is just for You,
to tell You that I'm thankful,
for everything You do.

You sent Your only Son,
down here to the earth,
and You knew that He would suffer,
even before His birth.

But You did it because You care,
yes, You did it out of love.
You did it for us all,
You sent Him down from above.

And I know now in my heart,
how this debt I must repay,
by believing now in Jesus,
because He is the only Way.

I know that You are with me,
through each and every day,
and I'm so glad that You hear me,
every time I pray.

Parable on Kindness

Larry E., CBI Student, NC

Kindness is like a tree which in God's time bears beautiful fruit.
A beggar walks by and plucks fruit from the tree,
A rich man comes by and takes fruit for himself and his household.
A thief comes by and steals all the remaining fruit.
Yet the tree bears again and gives its fruit to all!

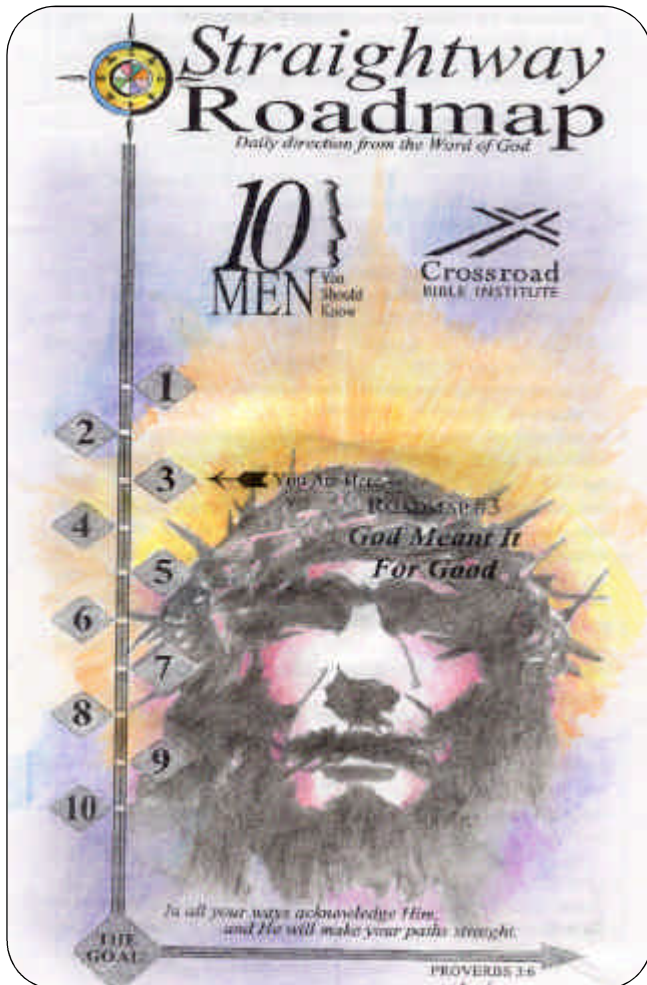
Ode to Jesus

Douglas B., CBI Student, IL

I found drugs and booze at an early age,
which led me to a life of rage.
My mom said it was only a stage,
then the law came and put me in a cage.

I've lost a lot through a sinful life,
my kids, my house, my job and my wife.
Yes, I've lost so much to Satan's attack,
but through faith and prayer the good Lord brought them all back.

So I say to those who have a plan, an idea or even a thesis, they
don't mean a thing unless you have Jesus.



Mark J., CBI Student, TX

Paul M., CBI Student, TN



STUDENTS Write In . . .

"Tier 1 finally gave me a Bible study that seemed to talk to me...I would think of different things I always wanted to ask and Crossroad had intellectual Instructors and people connected with them that could and would be willing to teach me about such hard questions so I can someday teach it to people."

David, CBI Student, AZ

"I want to thank you for your Bible study and the words of encouragement that come with every lesson and personal letter. I have done other studies, but with Crossroad I feel the Spirit of the Lord with every lesson. Crossroad has not only taught me the Bible, but also treats me like a brother in Christ."

Kevin, CBI Student, TX

"All the encouragement I have received from you has honestly helped me a lot. I can't thank you all enough and words can never be enough. The Roadmaps have made me able to learn and have more insight in the Bible and now I understand it much better. Thank you."

Johannes, CBI Student, Australia

"Doing the first 12 lessons taught me a lot, especially how to be responsible again. It feels great to know that I can commit to things again and see them all the way through. Thank you all for helping me see this. You are a beacon for His light to shine through."

Carole, CBI Student, TN

"Beyond doubt I needed this course! God sent it and your efforts made it possible and very effective."

Timothy, CBI Student, IL

"Since being introduced to your institute my life has been transformed tremendously for the glory of God. I have been enriched spiritually without paying anything, it has never been heard of in my country that such wealth of knowledge could be imparted without paying a penny."

Alice, CBI Student, Nigeria

"I have advanced far in my spiritual growth from the edifying lessons of Tier 1 that I completed, and I'm already benefiting from the reentry issues present in Tier 2 that I'm currently on. Crossroad Bible Institute has helped me beyond measure and from the bottom of my heart I tearfully thank you all there and may the Lord bless you all!"

Kevin, CBI Student, NC

INSTRUCTORS' Input

"Mentorship is great! I get to know my students as friends, and the combination of lessons and their comments make it meaningful for them and me also."

Nick, CBI Instructor, Australia

"My wife and I are involved in the Tier 1 program and are blessed by the work and always amazed at the good work the students do. It's obvious that they are being filled with the Holy Spirit when you read the answers they give to the essay questions! The material is great—it's good for believers to get to know more about God."

Roy, CBI Instructor, IA

"Watching my student grow spiritually has been an amazing experience. To have taken a little part in this process has been a most wonderful thing. I wish many more people could find the kind of joy that we Instructors do."

Carolyn, CBI Instructor, IL

"I have been blessed by being an Instructor and also understand what prisoners are experiencing, something I didn't think too much about before. I think it is a wonderful program and I pray for you and the prisoners each day."

Henrietta, CBI Instructor, IA

Freedom in Christ

Marie B., CBI Instructor, WI

(Based on the metaphor of flying a kite)

Lord, hold the string tightly, let me slowly ascend,
find me my bearings, on You I solely depend.
Maneuver 'round tree tops, wires, and things,
empower with Your Spirit beneath my gossamer wings.

What joy is mine as I dance to and fro,
but Lord, hold me tightly, don't let me go.
If I'm lost from Your presence I'll flounder and fall,
who knows where I'll land, if I land at all?
But You are faithful, Your promise is true,
the old me is gone; this creature is new.
But You hold the string, You are in control,
so I keep going higher, reaching out for the goal.
When at last You must wind me down,
may I land safe in Your loving arms.



Vincent M., CBI Student, GA

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A Brand New Course for You!

Dr. David Schuringa, President of CBI



This spring, Crossroad is launching an exciting new addition to its curriculum. It's a new course entitled *Survey of the Bible*, and contains 14 lessons and 14 devotional roadmaps. We've just completed a pilot program which tested the course with about 300 inmates. Based on their reactions, I think you're going to love this new course! With 32,000 CBI students in over 60 countries world-wide, the new course will touch many lives.

Survey of the Bible is intended as a second, companion Tier 1 course, to be taken after you complete *Great Truths of the Bible*. As you know, in Tier 1 you have a different Instructor correct each lesson, and in Tier 2 you receive your own personal Instructor. This new course is a second Tier 1 course. If you have already graduated to the Tier 2 Graduate Studies program, you will not have to take *Survey*. As with all CBI discipleship courses, in this new course you will receive a personal, full page letter of discipleship from a CBI Instructor with the return of each corrected lesson.

Available in English or Spanish, *Survey of the Bible* will teach you how to read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation as God's unfolding drama of redemption centered on Jesus Christ. To that end, 30 Key Ideas are developed in the course to help you understand how the drama unfolds. According to Jon, our Associate Editor, "This course gives students an incredible context for studying the Bible. It will help lay the groundwork for them to see their faith in a whole new way!"

Like CBI's other courses, *Survey* is interactive, inductive and ecumenical. As you work through fill-in-the-blanks, multiple choice, true and false questions and short essays, you will gain a thorough knowledge of how Scripture is put together, and a deep understanding of its vital message.

You, as a CBI student, along with CBI's Instructors, are key in the ongoing development of the CBI curriculum. Please feel free to provide comments and suggestions regarding our courses. We file every comment by an Instructor or student and take each into consideration when we are revising current courses or developing new ones. I pray that you will enjoy and grow when you take this new course, *Survey of the Bible*.



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