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September 29, 2016

SUBJECT: A "WOW!" Message

Dear Friend –

Five years ago, when Prison Fellowship announced that, due to funding issues, it was shutting down the IFI Program, the predecessor to Pathway To Freedom, there was an outcry among all of the stakeholders including State of Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) officials, donors, Program participants, and their family members. Nobody wanted the Program to shut down. After spending a month in prayer, I believed it was God's will to start a new non-profit organization to continue providing Christ-centered, values-based program services to male Arkansas prisoners, and ***Pathway To Freedom held its first class for inmates on September 26, 2011.***

In May of this year I wrote to you indicating that we were facing a financial crisis as donations have been down for the past year. We asked for your help, and many of you made a valiant effort, but it wasn't enough to keep the Program running. So, earlier this month, we told you that we had given the ADC notice that we wanted to cancel our contract with them to provide program services. Throughout the month of September, we have been making plans to move out of the Hawkins Unit. Meanwhile, many of PTF's members, staff, and volunteers were praying and fasting – seeking God's perfect will and, frankly, ***some were believing for a miracle.***

Last week, a reporter from the Arkansas Democrat newspaper called me and said he wanted to write an article about PTF closing; so, I provided the information he requested. The article was published on Sunday, September 25 and, that evening, I received an email from a local business man. He had seen the article and asked to meet with me. On Monday, September 26, 2016, ***our five-year anniversary***, we met, and he guaranteed me that a certain portion of the financial needs of the Program would be met and that he would continue to help PTF remain sustainable through future years. After contacting PTF's Board of Directors, I contacted ADC authorities and the contract was reinstated! Now, instead of moving out, we are preparing to start our next group!

We thank God for allowing us to continue to provide this unique Program to Arkansas inmates – to help facilitate an inner transformation that will positively impact them, their families, and communities throughout Arkansas. If you prayed and believed, thank you. If you gave financially, thank you. If you volunteered, thank you. We thank God for you! **We will still have to raise some funds ourselves, so we will continue to need your help on an ongoing basis.** Let's keep working together to stop the revolving door of re-incarceration for as many as possible.

Sincerely,

Scott Mclean  
Founder/Executive Director