May 30, 1989

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"No trifling in this life of mine;
Not this the path the blessed Master trod;
But every hour and power employed
Always and all for God."
-Author unknown

Dear ^F2^:

"Genesis 41:38: "...Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?"

I have never in my life heard so many speeches as I have lately that unfailingly end with the same hopeless note: "There are no answers to the crisis facing Corrections."

As I visited in a church several weeks ago, a children's choir preceded my speaking with a short selection of songs. My talk, like so many I had heard, would bring similar weighty issues to bear on listening hearts. My thoughts also are pressed to the limit when I think of the despairing issues confronting Corrections. It is easy to herald the crushing statistics defining our dilemmas, but all the harder to master solutions. As the sweet songs of children filled the air, I sat praying for an appropriate message when out of the mouth of these little ones rang a question that tendered my heart: "Can we find such a one as this is, in whom the Spirit of God is?"

As I thought, the question asked was one so familiar to the hearts of broken people with whom I have worked. People are searching for real answers and the genuine lives that can bring hope to once troubled lives.

From my point of view, there is a possible new wind blowing that will soon surface an outpouring of concerned people whose hearts are motivated to make a difference. Missionary executives once bent on the rest of the world are turning their hearts toward home. Bible Training Schools once available only to the more economically privileged are reassessing their goals. Prison ministries are rethinking their strategies and Law Enforcers are gathering in regional prayer meetings.

I believe the searching question of the hour is a fair one; children are crying it, addicts are crying it, victims of crime are crying it and so are our youth: **"Where are those in whom the Spirit of God is?"**

A cursory look at the comparison of **natural** and **spiritual leadership** says volumes:

Natural Leader	Spiritual Leader
Self-confident	Confident in God
Knows men	Also knows God
Makes own decisions	Seeks to find God's will
Ambitious	Self-effacing
Originates new methods	Finds and follows God's methods
Enjoys commanding others	Delights in obeying God
Motivated by personal considerations	Motivated by love for God and Man
Independent	God-dependent

Out of the crucible of AJA's, ACA's and the leadership organizations of Corrections I pray for the continual emergence of those "in whom the Spirit of God is"!

On behalf of the children, I ask you: is this not the place we must begin? Have we not been convinced that the dilemmas facing our hearts are best met and answered in the Holy Scriptures?

May God bless each of you that share this hope for our nation's children.

Respectfully,

Jack Crans
Director

JC:al