



County Corrections Gospel Mission

P.O. Box 1136 • Coatesville, PA 19320 • (215) 383-9378

November 16, 1987

Dear

"...that we should be to the praise of His glory!"

-- Ephesians 1:12

What a great theme verse for Corrections! Can we imagine what impact was intended when our penal institutions were called "Penitentiaries", "Reformatories" and "Correctional Facilities"? There certainly seems no lack of potential possibilities when one reads such powerful and promising descriptions. As a matter of fact, these would be excellent titles to be placed on our churches. After all, the lives of each one of us could always use more drawing to the plan and purposes of God for our lives.

Unlike the public schools, Corrections is somehow mysteriously allowed to promote religious instruction and Biblical training. Granted, it is not the direct function of the State or County, but I will be happy to go on record stating my appreciation for it. Even more exciting, are those in leadership who not only allow but seek the best of available programming.

Each one of us in this season of Thanksgiving could pause and review the gracious hand of God in our lives. What more wonderful and challenging field could we be in than to spend our lives bridging a gap between broken humanity and the sacred Scriptures. David, the Psalmist, wrote: "How shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Thy Word."

As we allow the application of the Scriptures to the ears and hearts of our incarcerated residents, then and only then can we believe God for the effectual working in the lives of habitual offenders and often aimless youth and adults.

The Scriptures declare themselves to be "powerful", "living", "piercing", "discerning", "true", "reproving", "correcting" and "instructive" towards the training and impacting of the total life.

November 16, 1987
Page 2

My greatest desire is to live, think, talk and labor to such a hope that God might be glorified and praised as a direct result of my yielding to His will and plan for my life. What a wonderful and life-dominating aim: "to be to the praise of His glory!"

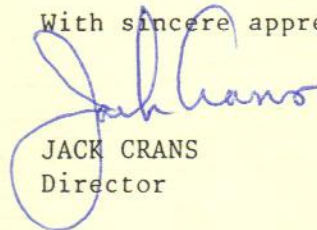
As the old institutional titles suggest, **repentance, reform and correction** are each inseparable to the heart and purpose of God.

The public schools are crying for the privilege that now still exists under you. May there be a growing zeal and performance of the impacting presence of the Scriptures of God.

I pray for you and yours a most wonderful Thanksgiving and do hope for a growing rapport in the coming months. In closing, be assured that I **do not** take for granted your listening ear, but count it the most vital of audiences I will ever address!

I write,

With sincere appreciation,



JACK CRANS
Director

JC/lai
Enclosure

P.S. I have enclosed the quarterly Daily Bread for your reading.