



Artwork by Anders Sten

Under God but you

When the days are dark and the skies are gray,
I know God watches over me every day.

Tears may fall and the sun may hide,
but His loving light is always by my side.

When I am weak and far from strong,
He stays beside me all day long.

His loving heart will never change,
and His perfect plans will guide my way.

I will trust in God through every pain,
because after loss comes hope again.

I'll keep my faith and find my way,
for God will have the final say.

His light will shine upon this day.
I will trust in God today and always.

Amen.

BY: DENSTON HINDS



The Grace of Being Corrected

Being corrected can feel like being reduced.

Someone points out what we missed, what we mishandled, or how we caused harm, and pride rushes in to protect us. We defend our intentions. We explain. We search for something wrong with the person speaking so we do not have to consider what they said.

Sometimes criticism is unfair. Not every voice deserves authority over us. But there is also a spiritual danger in becoming so guarded that no truth can reach us.

An unteachable person does not stop making mistakes. They simply lose the people willing to warn them.

Humility does not mean accepting humiliation. It means asking, even when the words sting.

BY: RHYAN SCORPIO-RHYS



STREET VOICES

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Community Newsletter

Welcome to this week's community newsletter. We hope these messages encourage you, strengthen your faith, and remind you that no matter what you're facing, God is always with you. We are grateful to everyone who contributed their time, creativity, and words to this edition.

A special thank you to our writers Rodney Wise, Mike Gonzalez, Jane, Mercedes, Howard, Jae Webb, Denston Hinds, and Rhyan Scorpio-Rhys for sharing their inspiring reflections, poems, and words of encouragement. We also want to recognize the featured artwork by Darnell Davis and Anders Sten, whose creativity continues to add beauty and inspiration to our newsletter.

Remember to always give back when you can. Giving back is good for the soul and softens your heart. Give to those in need the way you'd want others to give to you if you were in their position.

Remember also that God rewards generosity. Give because it's what the Lord calls us to do. Follow God's Word and His commandments if you want to live a good and fulfilling life. Whenever you have the opportunity, help someone in need.

BY: MERCEDES

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

PHILIPPIANS 4:6 (NIV)



WEEKLY TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Be the first person to correctly answer all three trivia questions and win a gift card!

This Week's Trivia Questions

1. How many time zones are there in the continental United States?
2. How many days are there in a leap year?
3. The Statue of Liberty was a gift from which country?

Answers to Last Week's Trivia Questions

1. What is the largest internal organ in the human body? **The liver**
2. How many hearts does an octopus have? **Three**
3. Which famous artist cut off part of his own ear? **Vincent Van Gogh**

FRANCISCAN 360 IS OPEN!

WHAT: Case Management, Computer Access, Mailing Address

WHERE: 144 W. 32nd Street

WHEN: Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4pm
Scheduled appointments only on Friday from 9am - 4pm

WHO: All are welcome!

If you have any content to share for our newsletter please send content to streetvoicesnewsletter@gmail.com.

We are in need of content such as a poem, lyrics, writing, thoughts, questions, image of your artwork or anything uplifting or informative. Anyone who contributes content for our newsletter will receive a \$10 gift card.

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Lifetime

An old man walks beneath gray skies, carrying years inside tired hands. Every doorway promises hope, yet every answer quietly closes. His back is bent from honest labor, but employers only notice wrinkles, never wisdom. Once he built houses, fixed machines, and fed a family with pride.

Now he waits beside younger faces, feeling invisible in every line. Bills whisper louder than memories, while dignity struggles against hunger. Still, each sunrise finds him polishing worn shoes, straightening his faded collar, and believing one kind stranger may finally see his worth.

Though age has stolen strength, it cannot steal courage. He keeps searching, proving that hope survives even when the world forgets those who built it.

BY: MIKE GONZALEZ



THOUGHTS

The greater the sacrifice, the greater the reward. The most valuable things in life are often the things that require the hardest work. If everything was handed to you, you'd appreciate nothing.

It's through trials and tribulations that we begin to truly value what we have. If you're currently down on your luck, remember two things. First, you're only in the middle of the storm, and there will be a rainbow when it's over. Second, when the storm finally clears, you'll have gained wisdom through your hardships a knowledge that those who have not faced adversity will never possess.

With that wisdom comes resilience, determination, gratitude, and respect.

BY: JANE



Spoken Word

You have to do good for people in life and help them out. Doing good makes you feel good. It's a positive feeling when you help someone, whether it's buying a person a cup of coffee because they don't have the money or helping someone get their life back together.

Sometimes one act of kindness can completely change another person's life for the better. That's what life is about. Let positivity spread. When you show love, you receive love. That's the way it's supposed to be.

BY: HOWARD

Heavenly Father

Come before You today with a heart overflowing with gratitude. As I reflect on my journey, I am overwhelmed by the many ways You have provided for me through the kindness, wisdom, and strength of others. Thank You for the people You have placed in my life who have extended a helping hand when I needed it most.

I am deeply thankful for the tangible help I have received—the resources, the time, and the effort shared so selflessly. Beyond the physical acts of service, I am grateful for the encouragement that came with them. Thank You for those who listened when I needed to be heard, who offered guidance when I felt lost, and who provided comfort during uncertain times.

Each act of kindness has reminded me of Your grace and the power of community.

Lord, I ask that You bless those who have helped me. May they be rewarded for their generosity, and may their own needs be met in abundance. Grant them strength, peace, and the joy that comes from serving others. Help me never take their support for granted, but instead carry a spirit of thankfulness in everything I do.

Amen.

BY: JAE WEBB

Summer is Here

Summer has finally arrived! New York City is one of the best places to celebrate the season, whether you live here or are just visiting.

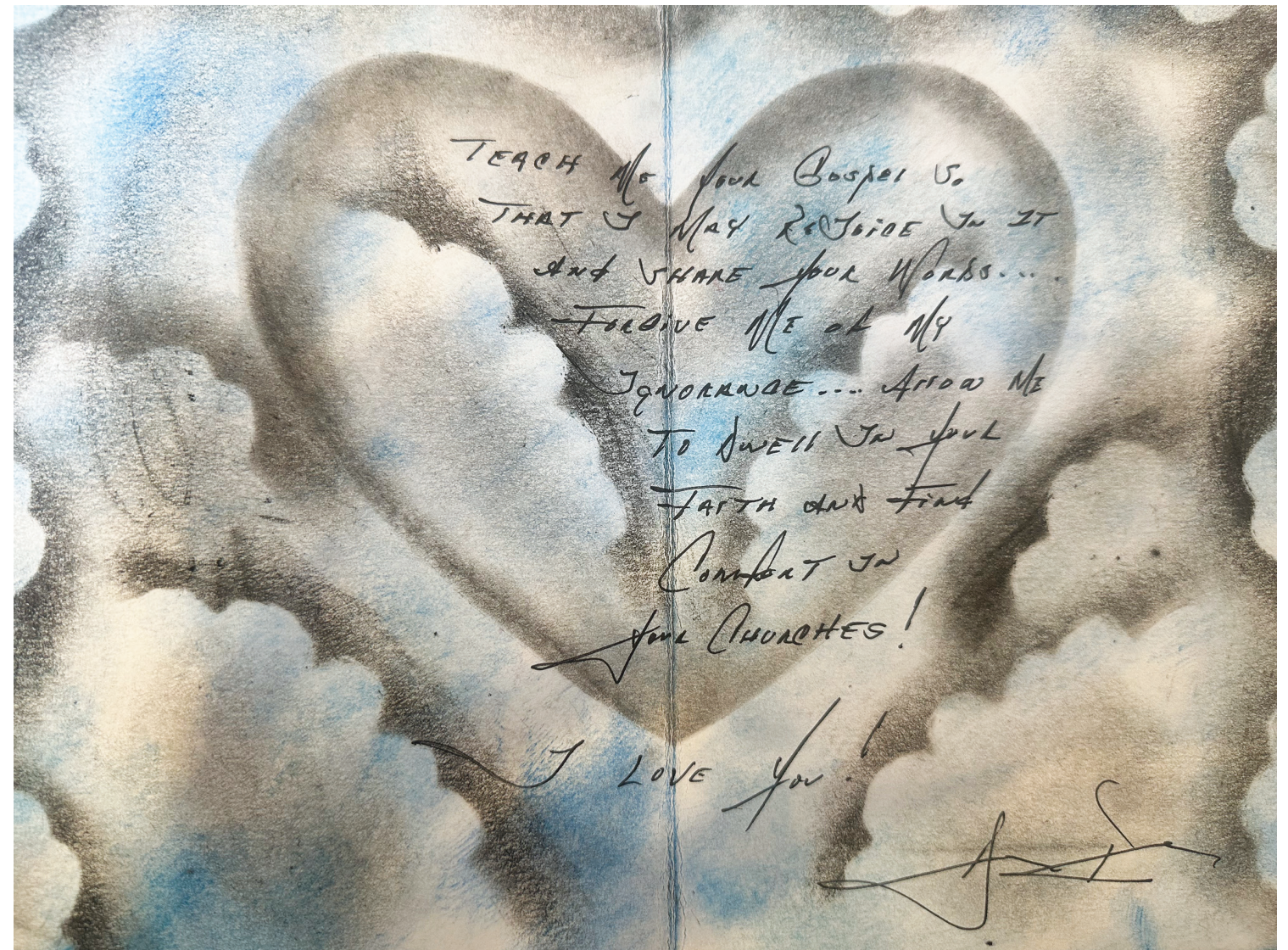
I think Times Square is one of the city's biggest attractions. It's the famous place where the ball drops on New Year's Eve. Right now, with the FIFA soccer events taking place, you'll see people everywhere taking pictures with their phones and cameras.

The Empire State Building also offers tours of the famous building that King Kong climbed in the 1933 movie. There are museums galore, and many of them are free to the public. Don't forget Central Park, which stretches from 59th Street to 110th Street in Manhattan.

Applebee's, Olive Garden, BBQ's, and countless pizza parlors can be found throughout the city. Visitors can also take a trip to Governors Island and enjoy views of the world-famous Statue of Liberty.

TopView is a double-decker bus company that gives visitors tours throughout the city, from the downtown Wall Street area all the way uptown. Whether you're visiting for the first time or you're a longtime New Yorker, enjoy the rest of your summer!

BY: RODNEY WISE



Artwork by Darnell Davis