P.O. Box 911 Pine Valley, CA 91962-0911

Bruce Leary, Director

BIBLE COLLEGE UPDATE

April 29, 2001

Thank you for your support of this educational ministry.

We completed the "Attitudes" course April 19, 2001. The sessions were very moving & very challenging for all of us.

During the last session we talked about "Changing the Attitude". One of my points was that our attitude is very directly affected by how we feel about ourselves. I, then, gave each man a copy of the meaning of his name (on nice certificate paper). There was awe on the faces of most of them.

I did a few out loud for all to hear. One guy was "Ruben". He had shared about being the result of a rape — a kid no one wanted — a kid always put down — a kid with no purpose — a kid who was never encouraged ("you'll never amount to anything").

I told him his name ("Ruben") was from the Hebrew & meant "What a son" (not an accident, not a waste, not a piece of tissue). There were many wet eyes in the place; I had to stop a few times & get my voice back.

Another man, Eric, looked at his name. It means "Godly Power". He looked overwhelmed. With damp eyes & pauses in his speech, he shared that he had never liked his name — not until this moment.

Liz and I have begun "Healthy Attitudes" on Thursday nights. Bible Study Methods in Colossians will conclude May 9.

Pray with this as we begin a course at Solano State Prison (Vacaville) on May 23, and as we consider offering courses at Lancaster State Prison sometime this summer.

Thanks for your prayer support. These men will never be the same.

Bruce