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The Justice Coalition's
Victims' Advocate

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Inspirational Ultimate

Thought...

But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is the rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

- Hebrews 11:6

Door

Continued from front page
one year! Twenty-seven times this individual was processed into the system at a cost of \$2,000; that's \$54,000 in one year. Rutherford wanted to put Rodney in an alcohol treatment program but his sentence was never long enough to get him into an effective program. One night after too much to drink, Rodney wandered into the road and was

Continued from front page



Grover Reed
Death Row Inmate

But God reached in and turned around what satan did and used that killing to bring her to the fullness and perfection of that eternal life with him that we can experience only partially here...like little droplets in a bucket. Yes, God is the Victor and so is Betty Lou."

Two weeks after the murder, Grover Reed was arrested for the murder. It was the man whom the Oermanns had befriended, let live in their home for two weeks, attended the Pastor's Bible Classes and Worship Services and also used Betty Lou's car. He was using as an alias his common-law wife's last name.

During the following month, Pastor Oermann reflected on what he wanted for Grover. He said, "when I consider how manipulative Grover has been, how intelligent and shrewd and how he could wipe out a life for his own physical satisfaction, for drugs, money and sex, I felt the only way he would come to see the viciousness of what he had done and turn his life around is to be faced with death himself. That is when I started pushing for the death penalty."

The following year Grover Burnett Reed was handed down the maximum sentence, Death. He sits on Death Row in a facility, counting down the days left in his life.

Pastor Oermann works with a group called "Kairos", and twice a year goes into U.C.I. Federal Prison in Raiford with a team of about 50 Christians of various denominations. The team will minister at the prison for three days to teach the inmates about God's Love and the new life they can have by trusting in Jesus for forgiveness. The Kairos movement has been very effective in changing the lives of inmates. It started in 1975 and has spread to other prisons throughout the United States and the World.

struck by a young lady who did not see him until it was too late. He crashed into her windshield and then spent the next five months in intensive care. Rodney's expense to the taxpayers was now around \$500,000.

John Rutherford is pushing for a misdemeanor statute that will require repeat offenders to stay in jail long enough to receive

treatment. On the other hand, I recently read where Supreme Court Justice Kennedy criticized longer sentences and the volume of people incarcerated in this country. While Rutherford's plan would benefit individuals like Rodney, addressing the root cause of the criminal behavior will also speak to Justice Kennedy's concerns.

There is no doubt that

slowing down the "revolving door" of the criminal justice system will result in enormous savings to the taxpayer, but the emotional savings on our community would be immense, as well. If you are skeptical, just ask the young lady whose windshield Rodney came flying through.