

Jim Davidson
4041 E. Hidalgo
Phoenix, Az., 85040

4-15-85

Mr. Tim Davidson
169 S. St. John Ave. #272
Pasadena, Calif., 91129

Dear Tim,

Surprise! I have felt so ashamed of myself for not writing to you. I know a letter from home folks means a lot to most of us. Somehow I've never been much of a letter writer, even when I know I should write to someone. But I do think of you often and this time I'm not going to put off writing.

I'm not sure how often you hear from any of the family although I know Mark and Brian don't write much if at all either. Brian was just here at Marks house and said to tell you to write to him. I saw Linda yesterday and your mother on Saturday. Both are doing ok.

I haven't seen your grandmother for awhile but have talked to her by phone the last couple of times she has been to Phoenix. I need to spend more time with her if at all possible, as well as with all my family too. Mom has health problems that I know bothers her from time to time and also still gets lonely too. She does have a car now so that helps her out some.

I also haven't seen the Bakkers for quite a long while now either but think I will go to Prescott soon to spend some time with mom and the rest of the family.

I have been to Wikiup a few times to see Bernard. He is still watchman for some ~~mining~~^{MINING} company there. He likes the isolation although he does see people passing through frequently. I found some gold and silver in that area and may file a claim on it in the future if I can trace it to it's source. The gold assayed at one half ounce per ton and the silver at ten ounces per ton, which isn't enough to be worth while unless I can find the source. It isn't something I'm very excited about, just interested somewhat.

My health continues to be good so far, except for my eyes. I have glaucoma which flairs up every now and then but I have medication for it so it doesn't bother me much. My eyesight is gradually getting worse too. My vision is now blurred without glasses and I am required to wear them for driving since I could not pass the eye test last time. Bad eyesight runs in the family along with heart and lung problems too.

The spring Holy days just ended and I hope they were fruitful and enjoyable to you. I miss the church and people a lot at times. Life sure is empty of much meaning without the church. I feel like I have learned some valuable things about myself by being out of church, perhaps things I might not have learned had I not gone through the problems of the last four years. It is so easy to be blind to ourselves and our rottenness though (rottenness, with two n's). I get gunshy though. When I start to think maybe I've learned something I wonder if I really have SINCE I DON'T CHANGE. Without obedience to God (a sincere determined effort to obey) life is nothing but frustration most of the time and even good things and times seem somewhat meaningless and to no avail, "all is vanity"! I do have much to be thankful for and you are one of the reasons I am thankful to God for the blessings He gives. I am so proud that you make the effort to learn about and obey God. I know the opportunity will come for my other children at the right time but it has been a blessing to me to watch your growth and earnest desire to serve God.

I have talked by phone to Michelle a few times over the past several months. It mostly is disappointing though because of the kind of girl she has become. She apparently dislikes Sandy a lot and they don't seem to get along much. Michelle has become foul-mouthed, lies often, smokes cigarettes and dope, etc., so I find it painful to talk with her, plus she brings up things I would rather try and forget. I am pleased that she has felt like calling me and still more or less considers me her dad and all of you kids (?) as brothers and sisters. She calls Linda occasionally too, in fact Linda recently spent a weekend with Michelle at Sandy's place.

I asked mom for John Amos' address so that I can write to him. I have always considered him a close friend and miss him and Helen a lot. I learned a lot from John and will always remember certain things he said or did. I know you hold him in high regard too.

Well son, I'm going to close for now but will really try to make myself write from time to time. I think it is important for our family to get closer together if we can, and I think we can if we make the effort.

I know you pray for me and I need it and appreciate it!

love,

