

# Tony and Self Control

I like miracles. One of my first was "Tony". He was and likely still is the world record holder for most time outs in a single day. He spent 45 minutes of every hour climbing the fence and the other 15 watching for a chance to escape. He was almost three years old but could have taught prison inmates a thing or three. He was my plague for months until finally I prayed and asked others to pray.

Then one day as I was pulling him off the fence for the tenth time I found myself saying: "Tony would you rather have "Mercy" or a time out. He said "What is Mercy?" I said "That is where you promise not to do it again and I don't give you a time out."

He said: "I'll have mercy please" BUT to my amazement he kept his word for the entire YEAR ...and he taught me the power of God & of giving children a choice.



On their pillow, by their plate,  
Best of all "In their Pocket"...  
Verses for the "New Year"  
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confidently  
approach  
the throne of grace  
to receive mercy  
Hebrew 4:16

that we through the  
patience and comfort  
of the Scriptures  
might have hope.  
Romans 15:4

NKJV

Have mercy on me,  
O God, according to  
your steadfast love;  
according to  
your abundant mercy  
Psalm 51:1

abound in hope  
by the power of  
the Holy Spirit.  
Romans 15:13

NKJV

Be merciful,  
just as your Father  
is merciful.  
Luke 6:36

May the God of  
hope fill you with  
all joy and peace.  
Romans 15:13

NKJV

according to his mercy,  
he saved us, through  
the washing of rebirth  
and renewing by  
the Holy Spirit,  
Titus 3:5

I have put  
my hope in  
your word.  
Psalm 119:74

NKJV

God, who is rich  
in mercy, made us  
alive with Christ  
Ephesians 2:4

God goes where his  
word goes. Start each  
day with a verse in  
your pocket and he  
will go with you.