

# Mel Novak

## SOUL-dier for Christ

Mel Novak, a dedicated SOULdier for Christ, is an Ordained Minister called by God to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and salvation to the homeless on skid row and in prisons. (Matt. 25:34-40, Isaiah 58:6,7,10,11).

For the past 33 years, Mel has faithfully ministered on the streets of L.A., and in the chapel services at the Union Rescue Mission, Fred Jordan Mission, L.A. Mission and the Long Beach Rescue Mission. Mel has also ministered at prisons for 30 years, in penitentiaries from San Quentin and Pelican Bay in California, to New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, Alabama, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, and Oregon.

Over 120,000 have accepted God's precious gift of salvation through Grace, by receiving Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior or rededicating their lives.(Eph. 2:8) Jesus sets the captives free (Isaiah 61:1) and by his stripes they are healed (Isaiah 53:5) spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically.

Although Mel believes that Christ heals more important things than bodies, he has personally experienced God's miraculous healing power. As a child, Mel's leg was saved from amputation through prayer. Years later, his throat was healed by the Lord after having ten failed surgeries in ten years. A serious injury to the eye, a torn cornea, was healed by the Lord only hours before surgery, During Easter of 1983, Mel was spared from death after serious hemorrhaging from surgery. On March 14, 1998, Mel almost died from peritonitis caused by an anti-inflammatory prescription medication. For the fourth time God spared Mel's life. It was his 21st surgery. Mel was healed of prostate cancer in October of 2010.

A native of Pittsburgh, Mel was an outstanding athlete in several sports. He passed up 60 football scholarship offers and signed a pro baseball contract with the Pittsburgh Pirates. His career was cut short by a massive rotator cuff injury. Despite the pain and setback from his injury, Mel learned even more clearly "that God works all things together for the good of those who love him and for those called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). After sixteen years, he once again experienced a miracle. His shoulder was healed, including a complete deliverance from pain.

Mel has starred or co-starred in thirty movies and he does his own fighting and stunts. He shot and fought Bruce Lee to the death, (GAME OF DEATH), beat up Steve McQueen (TOM HORN), and dueled Yul Brynner (THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR). Mel set up Chuck Norris to be hit, but Norris got him later (EYE FOR AN EYE). Mel's completed roles in 2015 were: SAMURAI COP 2: DEADLY VENGEANCE; CHECK POINT (both co-star); SYNDICATE SMASHER; RUNAWAY KILLERS & SHAOLIN MONKS (all star roles). Other starring roles Mel has done are: HARD WAY HEROES; KILL FACTOR; THUNDERKICK; giANTS; VAMPIRE ASSASSIN, POWERELITE; S.W.A.T: WARHEAD ONE; EXPERT WEAPON; SWORD OF HEAVEN; FORCE OF DARKNESS; FAMILY REUNION; CAPITAL PUNISHMENT and others. Having died twenty times on screen, he says happily, "I get what I deserve in the end. The Lord's justice is very much like that."

Mel has been a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts for 16 years. Even through his testimony is powerful and thousands find Christ through his preaching and teaching, Mel insists he's not the one doing the work. "I give God the honor, worship and glory." Jesus Himself said, "No man can come to Me unless the Father first draws him." (John 6:44). So I count it an honor and a privilege to be able to share my faith and lead lost souls to Christ. The Lord truly bless-es me as I serve Him in whatever way He leads. After all, Jesus Himself came to serve, not to be served. can we do less?(Matt. 20:28) I believe God designed my life's message.

PRAISE THE LORD