

The Tommie Scott Story is a true story—a true love story—but not of the usual variety. This is a story of a gangbanger, drug dealer, and “hit man” who worked his way through the juvenile reform system and into a California state prison by age twenty. It’s the story of an angry young criminal with no remorse and no hope. And it’s here—in the depths of hopeless darkness—that this story begins again. It begins again with a humble, gray-haired man who was not ashamed to be a servant and to share the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes. It begins again with a new birth—a spiritual rebirth into God’s family through Jesus Christ. And it continues today with a repentant and joyful servant—a dedicated soldier for Christ—whose true story affirms God’s Word that says, “... neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38, NIV). “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10, NIV).

TITLE:	The Tommie Scott Story	ISBN:	978-1-61314-181-6, 5.5" x 8.5" paperback
AUTHOR:	Tommie Scott		978-1-61314-165-6, 5.5" x 8.5" hardback
CATEGORY:	Christian Ministry/Evangelism/Inspirational	BINDING:	5.5" x 8.5" trade paperback
PUBLISHER:	Innovo Publishing LLC		5.5" x 8.5" dust jacket hardcover
DATE:	October 2013	LENGTH:	118 pages
RETAIL PRICE:	\$14.95 paperback	DIST BY:	Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Spring Arbor
	\$19.95 hardback		
EDITIONS:	Paperback, Hardback, Amazon Kindle™, Apple iPad/iPhone™, Barnes & Noble Nook™, Google Android™, and other smartphone editions		

Published by Innovo Publishing, LLC
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Collierville, TN 38017

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The Tommie Scott Story continued

EXCERPTS

“In the sixth grade, I started sneaking out late to hang out with my new homeboys, the kids from my housing project, to drink and get into trouble. . . . One of the things that appealed to me about drug dealers and big-time gangsters was their low-rider cars with hydraulics and sound systems the entire neighborhood could hear. I was also impressed with their clothes and jewelry. I decided this was something I really wanted to be part of. With a welcoming smile, the older guys in the gang would always say to us as we played, ‘When are you going to get put on (join) the hood?’ or ‘It’s almost that time to get put on.’ I looked up to some of the older guys from the hood because they always seemed to show me a lot of love. I looked at them like a father or big-brother figure, even though I was not in the gang.”

“Still, in the midst of all this good, I somehow continued gravitating toward gang life. . . . There stood OG SK, one of the guys I looked up to, with ten other guys who were drinking. He said, ‘Li’l Tommie, come here.’ Laughing, he said, ‘It’s that time.’ The first blow to my jaw was a quick one, and I went down without a chance to swing back. Many kicks and punches followed. After the initiation beating, I didn’t say anything. I just got up and went home with a big lip, sore jaw, and grass in my hair from my head being stomped in the ground.”

“After being released from the hole, I had a visit from my mom, my girl, Rache’t, and our one-year-old-son, Tylon. . . . seeing them gave me strength to finish the time I had left.”

“That evening, a Bible study was called over the loud speaker. I couldn’t just sit there. However, all around me, inmates watched me. Inmates who had gotten to know me from the streets and inmates I talked to every day. If I were to get up and go to this Bible study, it could be looked at as a sign of weakness and cause me problems I didn’t need. But something was happening to me, and I couldn’t control myself. I had to get up and go over to the church line with an ‘I don’t care what people think’ attitude. We walked in single file with our hands behind our backs to a room where the meeting was to take place.”

“When Pastor Kleg said, ‘Everyone come up front, make a circle, and hold hands. Does anyone want to receive Christ into his life?’ my hand went up and tears started to flow down my cheek. I prayed and at the same time cried like a baby. . . . Tim prayed with me again . . . I became filled with God’s Spirit . . . I knew at that moment I was forgiven of everything I had ever done. . . . I was given a brand-new life. Words cannot express what was happening to me. I had joy I could not contain.”

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The Tommie Scott Story continued

ENDORSEMENTS

"The Tommie Scott Story needs to be read by kids who are at risk to gangs as well as those already caught up in destructive lifestyles. Every juvenile and adult correctional facility should have this book to give hope that they too can have a future with purpose and meaning. I was casting director on the feature film *The Cross and the Switchblade* and over the years, tens of thousands have been saved out of gangs and drugs as a result of seeing this movie. I believe Tommie's story has the same potential and is needed more than ever today with all the young lives being lost in our inner cities."

—**Pastor Kleg Seth**

"When in His earthly ministry, as Jesus entered a village, those who encountered Him experienced change. The remarkable story of Tommie Scott testifies to the fact that Jesus is still transforming lives, for Tommie is a trophy of grace! I highly recommend the reading of his life story; it will challenge you to be more faithful in leading others to Christ, for there is power in the Gospel of Jesus Christ!"

—**Dr. E. A. Johnston, evangelist and author**

"Any and all who venture into these pages will be changed. This is a story of the redemption of a dark and dangerous soul who is brought to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Don't let the darkness frighten you because there is a Great Light of Glory in the end. Tommie's life-changing meeting with Christ will impact the world with much greater force than his deadly past ever could."

—**Fred Hodges, Christian talk radio host**

"I know Tommie Scott, and he is the real thing. I am in awe of his boldness for the Lord and the level of spiritual insight he has. It is my prayer that this book gets into the hands and hearts of millions of boys and men."

—**Danny Daniels, president of 888 Prayer Force and Million Hour Men of Prayer**

"I've been in prison ministry a long time and Tommie Scott is one of a handful of guys where I sit back and say, 'Wow, look what God did!' I'm excited about what God has done in Tommie's life."

—**Tim Berends, evangelist and host of *Jesus and Tim*, Las Vegas**

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The Tommie Scott Story continued

REVIEW

Like his father before him, Tommie Scott grew up in poverty in a gang-infested neighborhood in Southern California. Crime, violence, and anger were what he saw and what he knew. He learned about vengeance and how to dodge bullets from drive-bys at home and at school.

Planning rival school fights, hitting his teachers, and robbing other kids—in grade school—came easy. He was good at being mean and showing no mercy. The path of destruction he created as a pre-teen was like a storm brewing. It didn't take long for the local gangs to notice. As a young teenager, Tommie was "jumped in," and with his new gang family and power, the deadly storm he had become unleashed a wide path of destruction.

Proving himself day after day with violence, drugs, and crime, Tommie built a fearsome reputation as a gangbanger "hit man." Ultimately, his life of crime drove him to the cold, hard reality of the California state prison system—but in his world a prison sentence was just another badge of honor. The prison gangs were glad to have him, and Tommie embraced his extended family and their way of life with zeal.

But God had other plans for Tommie Scott. One day in prison while sitting around with his "homies," he heard an announcement that a Bible study was about to begin. He had heard this before but never gave it a thought. But this time, for a reason he couldn't then explain, he felt compelled in the depths of his soul to get up and go listen. What would his "homies" do if he left them to attend a Bible study? He battled within himself. Whispers in both ears. He went into the Bible study a blood-stained, condemned criminal. He left a repentant, forgiven saint washed white as snow by the blood of the Lamb. A new life had begun.

After that Bible study, the "hit man" was different and everyone knew it. He wasn't just a little different—he was completely different. A new person. And before Tommie Scott left that prison, twelve other gang members had become believers in Jesus Christ too. And the story just gets better from there.

The Tommie Scott Story is a true love story that highlights God's power, grace, and mercy. No matter how ugly, dirty, or hopeless our situation, God can transform us into new creatures forgiven of all sin through His Son, Jesus Christ. God changed Tommie Scott's heart and life forever during that prison Bible study. And God can do the same for you no matter where you are or what you've done.

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The Tommie Scott Story, review continued

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16, NIV).

And *The Tommie Scott Story* continues . . . with this book and a feature film documenting God’s amazing grace.

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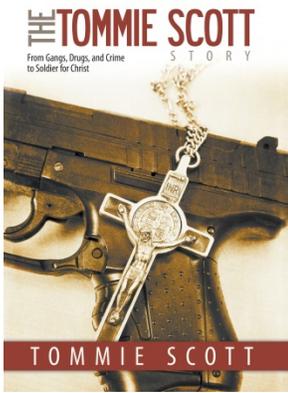
The Tommie Scott Story continued

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Tommie Scott is former gang member and now born-again believer in Jesus Christ. He is an author, advocate for at-risk youth, a chaplain for the Las Vegas Community Gang Task Force, and a dedicated witness and soldier for Christ. Tommie is a native of Southern California. He grew up in poverty and was introduced to drugs, alcohol, and gangs as a pre-teen. The juvenile justice system, and later the California Department of Corrections, became his home. By God's grace, Tommie was introduced to Jesus Christ through a faithful Christian prison ministry. Just like Paul's dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus, God changed Tommie's heart and life forever during a prison Bible study. Tommie is now living and doing good works in Christ in Las Vegas, Nevada, with his wife, Rache't, and their five children.

Author Tommie Scott is available for interviews and book signings. If interested, please contact Innovo Publishing, LLC.



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From Gangs, Drugs, and
Crime to Soldier for
Christ
by Tommie Scott**

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Suggested Interview Questions:

1. You have lived the gang life and been in over 17 correctional facilities. How bad is the gang problem today?
2. What was it that led you into the gang life?
3. Are there other factors that cause kids to join gangs?
4. Growing up in South Central LA, was there anything that could have possibly kept you out of the gangs?
5. Who were your role models as you grew up?
6. Did you ever have any positive role models?
7. What kind of an influence did being locked up have on you?
8. Tell me about some of the situations you found yourself in, in prison.
9. In your book, you talk about life-threatening situations you encountered on the street. What was the most serious, and why do you think you survived?
10. You moved to Las Vegas hoping to have a fresh start away from your partners in crime. Were you successful?
11. You went from despair to hope, from hate to loving—even your enemies—and from depression to joy. What happened?
12. What kept you from going back to your old life when you were released?
13. What are you doing now to reach at-risk youth?
14. What goals do you have for the future?
15. What is the answer to gang violence and all the senseless killings in our society?
16. Where do we get a copy of your book?