

January 8, 2009
For Immediate Release

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IVY'S COOKIES IN SIXTH CHICKEN SOUP BOOK

"Ivy's Cookies," a true story written by Georgetown author Mrs. Candy Abbott, has been selected for inclusion in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Christian Teen Talk* according to D'ette Corona, a spokesperson for Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC. Mrs. Abbott, author of *Gavin Goodfellow and the Lure of Burnt Swamp* and of *Fruitbearer, What Can I Do For You, Lord?* is the co-owner of Fruitbearer Publishing, LLC in Georgetown.

"I was quite surprised when I was notified last week about Ivy's Cookies," Mrs. Abbott says. "This is the sixth time it has been used in a chicken soup publication."

Mrs. Abbott wrote "Ivy's Cookies," which first appeared in *Chicken Soup for the Prisoner's Soul*, as a sample for a writing class she was teaching at Delaware Technical and Community College, Owens Campus.

"I was teaching a non-credit course at the Owens Campus of Delaware Tech when I learned that Tom Lagana was soliciting stories for *Chicken Soup for the Prisoner's Soul*," Mrs. Abbott says. "When I suggested that class members write a story following the *Chicken Soup* guidelines, the students challenged me to bring them a sample."

Mrs. Abbott recalled a story that Ivy Jones, who served on her church's Presbytery Evangelism Committee years ago, told her about baking cookies as a teenager and having it turn into a prison ministry.

"It was a powerful testimony of how God can use our smallest efforts to serve Him," Mrs. Abbott says. "I wrote the story and took the manuscript to class the next week."

Mr. Lagana circulated the story among inmates at Gander Hill and was surprised by their response, Mrs. Abbott says. "He couldn't believe their reaction. Grown men with serious criminal records cried. It turns out that not only was "Ivy's Cookies" chosen for inclusion, but it ranked third of all the stories submitted."

Since then, "Ivy's Cookies" has been reprinted in:

- *Chicken Soup for the Christian Woman's Soul*

- *Stories for a Woman's Heart*
- *Stories for a Teen's Heart*
- *Small Acts of Grace*

Mrs. Abbott continues to receive letters from inmates and others who have read “Ivy’s Cookies” and forwards many of them to Ivy who still lives in Wilmington.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Christian Teen Talk is available in bookstores and online now.

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