**The POW and Japanese Traitor**

During WWII there was an American prisoner of war who was caught and put in a Japanese prison camp. He was put in a cell with a Japanese soldier accused of being a traitor. Rules were strict, and the American and Japanese didn’t speak the same language so couldn’t talk to each other. Every day, the Japanese traitor would be taken out and beaten to within an inch of his life. And every day, the American would clean and tend his wounds and comfort him. After a few months of this, the American realized the traitor was Japanese man was getting weaker and weaker. The next night after his beating, the American realized this man would not live much longer. He himself was a Christian and wanted to tell the Japanese man about Jesus before he died, so he begged one guard to translate for him. He said, “Before you die, I want to tell you about a man named Jesus who you will meet when you die.” The Japanese traitor looked at him and said, “If he’s anything like you, I can’t wait to meet him.”

Moral of the story:

Our actions should clearly show we are Christians. Pope St. Paul VI said, “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.” Does your life show you are a Christian?

JPII says a Christian must be, “a living witness to the truth he teaches”