

# A Wartime Chance

Winston Churchill (1874 – 1965) is widely regarded as one of the great wartime leaders. He was prime minister of the United Kingdom twice – 1940 to 1945 and 1951 to 1955. A noted statesman and orator, Churchill was also an officer in the British Army, a historian, a writer and an artist. He is the only British prime minister to have received the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Once, at a meeting in London describing his military career, Churchill told the story of his escape from a South African military prison in Pretoria. After wandering in the region around Pretoria for two or three days, and feeling at the end of his rope, Churchill made up his mind to present himself at the door of one of the houses where lights were twinkling in the valley below.



*Winston Churchill  
in uniform in 1896*

Although a price had been set on his head, he thought there was a chance of some friendly soul in the heart of enemy country who might give him comfort and shelter, and he prayed earnestly that he might be guided to the right house.

He went up to the door of one of the houses and knocked. A man opened the door and asked him what he wanted. "I am Winston Churchill," he replied.

"Come in," said the friendly voice. "This is the only house for miles in which you will be safe."

Two conclusions are apparent from this story:

1. God answers prayer, and He granted protection for Churchill.
2. The centers of Life Care and Century Park, in a very real sense, become a haven for individuals in a dark and lonely world, looking for hope and comfort. What a blessing it must be to those who present themselves at our door, where they are greeted warmly and invited in.

– Beecher Hunter