PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER April 2021



"All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, everyone, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6

When we think of Good Friday and Easter, it should fill us with love for our awesome Savior! Good Friday was a difficult Friday for Jesus, knowing His entire life that He came to suffer a cruel death for you and me! Hebrews 12:2 says, "Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." We can go through difficulties knowing that they are temporary, and the best is yet to be! Thankfully, the Lord Jesus paid for our sins on the cross. Without this we would all be without hope.

One young man who recently gave his life to Christ, told me that he got sentenced to 15 years in prison. This seemed overwhelming to him. He had some spiritual background and realized he could not do all this time without Christ. Keep him in your prayers.

For the last six months I have been doing a weekly Bible study at Washed Clean Ministries. This is a halfway house for men with an addition. At the last Bible study we were talking about how our sinful heart is our biggest problem, and we are not to blame others for all our problems. Then I mentioned that men often tell me that they have a good heart and God will let them into heaven. One man at the Bible study said, "When I was in prison several years ago and you said that we are not basically good, I disagreed with you about that fact, and I didn't really like you. Now I realize that you were teaching the truth and we do have a sinful heart. I gave my life to Christ and am excited about following Jesus whole heartedly and what the Lord has planned for me in the future!"

Tim had completed a year of Bible college in Florida and now he found himself in prison in South Dakota for a few years. His desire was and still is to be a pastor, but some family acquaintances brought him to South Dakota. Tim was very discouraged about what had happened. He found himself getting caught up in a domestic dispute. He could not believe he got himself into such predicament. After we visited, he admitted some of the sins that he had not dealt with before God. Tim felt strongly that God had called him into the ministry. I encouraged him to allow God to clean out all sinful desires of his heart. I let him know that God can still use him in ministry even while he is in prison. Then I encouraged him to reach out to the many inmates who do not know Christ. Some of the Christian men in prison feel called to share the love of Christ with others. They are inside missionaries and can reach the men we as chaplains can't reach.

Thank you to all who are supporting this ministry through your prayers and financial support! You are essential to this ministry of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ!

In Christ's love,

Harlan

<u>Please designate my name in the memo section of your check</u>. Send them to: Prison Lighthouse Fellowship (PLF) or South Dakota Prison Chaplain's Association <u>(SDPCA), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108</u>. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220, Email: harlan@convergeheartland.org. To listen to inmate testimonies: <u>https://converge.org/heartland/giving-campaign/sd-prison-chaplains-harlan-moss</u>