

# PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER December, 2021

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***"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"***

***II Corinthians 9:15***

Since we just had Thanksgiving, we know Christmas is around the corner. Businesses spend millions of dollars on advertising things that they want us to believe that we can't do without! It is sad that Christmas is so much about external things! Christ still is and always will be the center of Christmas. Without Christ there is no reason to celebrate!

Last month I sent out information on how to help financially with the Christmas sacks for the inmates. I know some of you responded generously and we received more than expected! Thank you to those who gave! It is a reminder to the men that they are not forgotten!

Nate, who is one of the men I have been visiting with weekly, told me, "I believe a good shift is taking place in my walk with the Lord! Recently another inmate told me that I did it wrong when I put something in the laundry cart. In the past I would have told him, 'You can't talk to me like that', but instead I went back and did what he said. In prison you don't back down to another inmate because it shows weakness. In the past I would have gotten in a fight because I couldn't let another inmate talk to me like that, but this time the Spirit of God took over!" A few days ago, I visited with Nate again and he said, "I am excited about the Bible verse God gave me yesterday! It was from I Thess. 4:13 which says, 'You may not grieve as others do who have no hope'! My brother died a year ago and I was letting anger control my life."

Nate said, "Now I realize that we Christians don't grieve as others who have no hope. I recognize that I was grieving through my anger. I got so excited about what the Lord had shown me through the I Thess. passage. Other inmates didn't understand my excitement. They said to me, 'your drunk'." PTL that the truth will set us free when applied to our lives!

I have known Bill for seven years because he was doing quite a long prison sentence. He was released on parole several months ago. Bill came back because he didn't stay away from some of his old friends, and he fell back into drugs. He is only back for a short time. Bill seemed very serious about God when he came back. We prayed together and he asked the Lord to forgive him for the anger he was carrying. A short time later he transferred to the Hill, so I didn't see him for a couple of months. When I was visiting one of the men on the Hill, he talked about his concern for Bill's spiritual life. Bill admitted he quit reading the Bible and going to church. After talking about some of the issues that were pulling him away from Christ, I asked him what he wanted to do. Bill said, "I need to repent and confess my sins to the Lord." In his prayer Bill said, "God I am so sorry for my sins and turning my back on You! I want to follow You and live for You." Then he started to weep as he said, "God, I miss You so much and I am so lonely without You! I need You and want to stay close to You!" His prayer touched my heart!

Last week at the prison church service six men were baptized! We heard some great testimonies about what God is doing in their lives! God is at work at the prison!

Thank you for all your generous support this past year by your prayers and financially! Please consider this ministry for your year-end giving. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year!

In Christ, Harlan

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