



*"Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." 1 Peter 3:15*

We find ourselves in the last month of the year! Many things have changed in our world in the past year, and will continue to change. A passage that has been on my mind lately, is Hebrews 12:25-29. It says that everything that can be shaken will be shaken. God, the Word of God, and the Kingdom of God will remain unshaken. Thankfully God is dependable, and His promises never fail! This is the hope I can give men in the prison.

I visit with Roger weekly, who has been locked up since he was sixteen (now he is 19). He is a young Christian and wants to meet regularly. Roger told me in one of our visits that someone told him when he first went to juvenile detention at the age of 16, "When you get out of prison in 16 or 20 years you don't want to have the mindset of a 16-year-old that you came in with! Therefore, keep maturing in your thinking and actions." I told Roger that was very good advice to remember. He said that is why he wants to meet weekly.

Sam told me about the trauma he and his old girlfriend went through after he had only been out of prison for a month. His girlfriend had been seeing another man who helped her get out of her depression when Sam went to prison the first time. When Sam got out she wanted to be with him instead of the other man. The other man shot

himself in front of her. After the police came Sam cleaned up the blood and flesh in her house from the suicide. That trauma brought him back to doing drugs, which brought him back to prison. He is thankful that he came back to prison to stop the drug use. We talked about how to get over this trauma by prayer and saturating his mind by reading and listening to the Psalms. A book I read by Wayne E. Keast (a retired military chaplain), titled, "Biblical Cures for the Wounded Spirit", gave me insight to help counsel people with PTSD. After visiting for more than an hour and praying together Sam was able to smile again, thankful for the opportunity to meet! I will continue to meet with him weekly.

Jack was born in Burma, and at the age of ten, his family was chased off their land. For the next seven years his family lived in the jungle. They got help from some food support agencies. When he was seventeen they moved to America. He started working in one of the factories but started drinking too much. That is how he ended up in prison. Jack grew up in a Christian family, so he knows the Lord. Please pray for healing for him because he is dealing with health issues which make him very tired and it is hard for him to consecrate when he reads the Bible. There are a few more people from Burma in prison, and their language is Karen. If anyone knows how I can get a few Karen language Bibles let me know.

Thank you all for your prayers and financial support! God has led us through another year, and I know He will be faithful to lead and guide us through the coming year!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!  
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)