## PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER July 2022



"Repent therefore and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19-20a

Even though there is much evil going on in the world, the Lord is still at work changing hearts and minds by His Spirit! God's light will always shine through the darkness. His light will never be snuffed out by the darkness! There is more interest God and His Word now, than in the 21 years I have been a chaplain! PTL!

A few weeks ago, during a Bible study, only four orange suit (those still being processed into the prison) men were released for the study. There were two general population men there, who have studied their Bibles and have changed their lives. Since we had a small group, we sat in circle and went through a Bible passage. It was neat to see how the GP men encouraged the new men about the importance of Jesus and the Bible in their lives. They told them how essential it was for them to stay connected through Bible studies and church services.

I visited with James, one of the GP men who was at the Bible study a few days ago. I asked him how long he had been in prison? James said, "I have been prison most of 25 years, in and out a few times." He went on to tell me, "The officers that have known me for some time, ask me, 'What has changed about you? You are so different from the problem inmate to the good man you are now.' "I told them I was tired of the violent life I had lived!

I am now a servant Jesus Christ and read the Bible often throughout the day! They have a hard time understanding the change in my life." James told me that he could have been sentenced to many years, but the judge recognized a change in him as well! PTL!

Henry has been a Christian for two years. Before he became a Christian he had been in Satanism. Henry noticed that some things were not right in his life. He participated in a bingo game one time where the winner would get a Study Bible. He won and was given the Bible. He started to go to a few church services in time and started reading the Bible. As he lay down one evening in bed he prayed, "God make me into a new man." Henry went on to say, "I have not been the same since!"

We were going over Mark 15 during the mental health Bible Study where it talks about Jesus' being mocked before His crucifixion. I said, "Some of you probably have been mocked at some time in your life." A 60-year-old man said, "I didn't remember until now, that when I was seven years old, I was made fun of and beat up in school." We talked about how God wants to heal that pain from 53 years ago. That can only happen if we give our hearts to the Lord and ask Jesus for healing from that pain. I told him that we need to be honest with God and ask Him to heal those painful memories by reading the Psalms and being truthful with God in every area of your life, past, present, and the future. God is a Wonderful Healer!

Thank you for your prayers and financial support! You are essential to this ministry!

In Christ, 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 (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. To listen to inmate testimonies: https://converge.org/heartland/giving-campaign/sd-prison-chaplains-harlan-moss