PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER May 2022



"Encourage one another daily as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness." Hebrews 3:13

Christ's church is made up of people who can encourage one another! We all go through difficulties in life. It is important to have other believers around us to talk to in these times. Ephesians 4:2-4 says, "With all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit." Thank God for His church!

It is interesting to see how God works things out! Even if we make a mistake, God can use it for good! I called for a man to come to the office to encourage him since he was in prison again. I have known him for quite some time. When the man arrived, I noticed it was not the same man who I thought it was. He had the same first and last name as the guy I knew. However, we had a good visit! He never thought he would end up in prison! Adam said he had everything he could want in life, nice vehicles, a great wife, a great job. Still, he wasn't satisfied, so turned to another woman who got him started on drugs. He stated he had not used drugs for fifteen years, and here he was caught in a bad situation because of his poor choices. Adam couldn't believe how he took his wife for granted, and how now she is willing to stick with him through his prison time. Wiping his eyes he said, "I don't deserve her." Adam's wife is a good example of grace. We do not deserve God's forgiveness either. If it were not for grace, we

would all be in trouble. Since we talked, Adam comes to church and Bible study! God works in ways that we would not expect!

Joe does not ever remember hearing the gospel explained before he came to prison. He is very open to the Bible and is trying to understand it. He is a man who seems to have been beaten down by life's problems. I gave him a basic Bible study for new believers a few weeks ago. He had not started on it when I visited with him the second time. I asked him, "Do you know how to look up these Bible passages in the Bible study I gave you?" What we take for granted is that everyone knows how to look up Bible passages, but that is a wrong assumption. Some people like Joe, have never opened a Bible before. I was able to show him how to look the passages up. Joe was in an area where there are about 30 guys. He told me, "The other day a man walked up to me and said he could see that I was struggling. So everyday this guy would come to where I was and read the Bible to me!" Joe said, "How did this guy know that this was very encouraging for me!" God is amazing in how He works through some men in prison to encourage others.

Jim has come a long way in his spiritual growth. He said, "The Lord has been working on me for a long time, but I was not willing to surrender. Now that I have surrendered, I notice that my roommate is really in opposition to me and my beliefs. The spiritual battle has intensified. I knew God was greater than all the powers of darkness!" He wept as he prayed, "Lord I'm sorry for waiting so long to surrender my life to You!"

Thank you for your prayers and financial support! God's Word will not return void!

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 (<u>SDPCA</u>), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, <u>SD 57108</u>. 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