## PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER November 2021



"He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps. He has put a new song in my mouth, praise to our God." Ps. 40:2-3a

Fall is a pretty time of the year! We see the colorful changes God brings about in nature. God is faithful to His Word when He said that the seasons will always come and go. It is awesome to see the beautiful changes God makes in men's lives! As we see the seasons change, I can see God changing men's hearts and lives!

Every Thursday I walk the tiers on the Hill and visit with the men who are open to talking about what they are dealing with, which gives me an open door to talk with them about Jesus. I asked one young man, "Do you know Jesus or do you just know about Him?" He said he thought he knew Him but had many doubts about the Christian faith. He admitted that he had not read the Bible. Then I asked, "Have you ever thought about what will happen to you after you die?" His reply took me by surprise. He replied, "I think about that every day!" This gave me an opportunity to tell him about the love of Jesus and how he could be saved. He committed his life to Jesus Christ that day!

Some of the men can get very down and discouraged while they are in long term segregation. Jason has been back in segregation for several months and he told me he was getting discouraged and depressed. He admitted that he does have some anger and bitterness in his heart. We talked about how anger and bitterness can really cause some major problems in his life.

I told him that it can lead to depression. Jason agreed that he needed to deal with those emotions. Before I left his cell I remembered an old hymn, "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus." When I asked him if he had ever heard of it, he had not. Jason asked if he could get the words to that song. I also printed out the hymn, "What A Friend We Have in Jesus." These songs helped remind him that Jesus does love him and has not forgotten him.

Sometimes inmates have some interesting observations. One of the men who has recently come in, told me he was through with living for himself. He wants to follow Christ with his life. We talked about getting in the back seat and letting Jesus drive. He said, "A good thing about being in the back seat is that you are just along for the ride. You can also watch the nice scenery and enjoy the ride." I thought that was a great observation! If we allow Christ to be in control of our lives, it will make life more enjoyable.

It is hard to believe, but we are getting ready for Christmas sacks for the inmates. Since all the things in the bag must be prepackaged from the factory, volunteers cannot make fudge. Therefore, the cost to make these sacks has gone up significantly! I am including a letter from the chaplains with the information on how you can help financially with the cost of filling the sacks.

I want to thank all of you for your financial and prayer support. These things are essential to this ministry! Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

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