

PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER November, 2024



***“Take to heart all the words by which I am warning you today...For it is no empty word for you, but your very life.”
Deuteronomy 32:46 & 47***

Reading the Bible is vital to changing one's life and growing in Christ! In Matthew 24:35 Jesus said, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will by no means will pass away.” The Holy Spirit uses the Bible to change hearts and minds for the glory of God! We cannot know the mind of Christ without it.

I visit Jake, a middle-aged man regularly in administrative segregation. I had not seen him for three weeks, since the prison was locked down. Jake had a lot of good questions about the Christian life and the Bible. He said, “I have been looking for peace in my life, because it has been filled with chaos. Since you gave me the Bible a few months ago, I have been reading it a lot every day. Whenever I talk with my mother she tells me to read the Bible. I have found real peace in reading the Bible and praying! My desire is to get baptized when I am out of segregation.” I explained to Jake the meaning of baptism and communion. He asked me if I could bring him communion. God has changed Jake's hard heart by the living Word of God! His Word is powerful!

I was in the hall when a man who had just showered asked if he could talk with me. As we visited he told me, “I really want to change my life, could you explain to me what I have to do? I have been feeling so empty inside.” I explained the gospel to him as his tears were flowing freely. He mentioned that he had given his life to the Lord a few days earlier, but as we

talked, he had a better understanding of what it meant to be a Christian. I gave him a Bible study lesson and emphasized reading the book of John. As he left the office he told me, “Those tears I shed today was the best shower I have ever had.”

James's life was filled with work, seven days a week. James's father died when he was a young boy and his mother remarried. His stepfather liked alcohol and was abusive to him. James could never please him, but his brother was always getting complimented for his achievements. James said, “So I became an overachiever, working seven days a week. A few years ago, I ended up in the hospital because my body wore out. I never thought I would end up in prison!” I explained the gospel to him, that all his achievements would not benefit his relationship with God. We talked about Romans 6:23. “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.” Then James said something interesting, “You just peeled me back like an orange.” Yes, the Word of God is powerful and will get to the heart of our problems! With tears James prayed to received Christ into his life.

Thank you for your generosity in your prayers and financial support! The information below is for those who would like to donate to the inmate Christmas sack program. Blessings, Harlan

Please mail donations to:

**SDPCA Christmas Sacks, 601 West 57th St.
Sioux Falls, SD, 57108.**

Please put “Christmas Sacks” in the memo line of your check. Or Use QR Code Below



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