## PRISON LIGHTHOUSE MINISTRY NEWSLETTER October, 2023



## "Your word have I hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." Psalm 119:11

Hiding God's Word in our hearts by memorizing Scripture is a great way to counteract the devil's lies and temptations. Jesus quoted Scripture when He was tempted, and the devil could not stand against God's Word! Since Jesus did it, how much more do we as His followers need to quote Scripture when dealing with a trial & temptation!

It has been about two weeks since one section of the prison was locked down because one of the officers was assaulted. I was allowed to make some rounds and therefore was in contact with some of the regular church attenders. One of the young men who I usually visited with weekly before the lockdown said to me, "I memorized one of the Bible verses you asked me to memorize!" It was Galatians 2:20 and he quoted it to me word for word. I had forgotten that we talked about memorizing that verse. Praise God that that he is taking God's Word seriously!

When I was walking to my car an inmate from Unit C approach me and asked, "There are so many religions, how do we know which one is the right one?" I explained to him, "Only Christianity has a risen Savior. Also, Jesus did not say He was one of the ways to heaven, but that He was the only way to heaven. Only Jesus paid for our sins and only He can deliver us from our addictions." God's timing is always right!

A few weeks ago, while waiting for men to be released for the 1:00 afternoon church service, times were changed. The newly imprisoned men were released for outside rec at 1:00 which normally is 3:00 pm. Naturally most wanted the outside fresh air instead of church. I was disappointed, but some did choose the church service. There were about a dozen men who turned into the Chapel. During the service Kenny, who was several chairs ahead of me was wiping the tears from his face. He continued to wipe his tears throughout the service while Pastor Greg preached. After the service, as Kenny was leaving, I asked him if he knew the Lord. He told me, "I accepted Christ when I was a child." I told him that it was obvious by his tears that he was under the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Kenny continued to wipe away his tears as I explained what it meant to accept Christ as his Savior. He said, "I guess I never really understood it the way you explained it." Then Kenny said, "All my life I pushed people away who wanted to help me. I thought I had it figured out. Now I realize I need that relationship with the Lord!" We prayed together for him to put his faith in Jesus as his Lord and Savior. When we were finished, he guit wiping his eyes and took some deep breaths. A smile came on his face, and he thanked me for praying with him. Kenny would not have been on the Chapel ring out list if they would have had a normal time for rec! PTL for His timing!

I want to thank you for all your prayers and financial support! Please continue to pray for the leadership that they have wisdom & guidance from above!

Blessings, 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