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50th Anniversary



Chaplain Ray



December, 2022



Dear Friends of IPM,

Over 2,000 years ago an angel brought the message of glad tidings of great joy to humble shepherds. This glorious message announced the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, which we celebrate this season. *"And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord'"* (Luke 2:9-10).

Jesus went about sharing glad tidings of the kingdom of God during His ministry here on the earth. *"And...He went through every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God"* (Luke 8:1). Even the Old Testament prophet Isaiah prophesied centuries before concerning Jesus' life and ministry: *"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound"* (Isaiah 61:1).

The disciples and the early church also went about sharing the same glad tidings. *"...whosoever among you feareth God...we declare unto you glad tidings...that through this man (Jesus) is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: and by Him all that believe are justified"* (Acts 13:26, 32, 38, 39). In other words, these glad tidings can be summed up in the following verse: *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16).

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This message of glad tidings of great joy is the same message that we are to be proclaiming today. We are to follow the example of Jesus and the early church as we boldly proclaim the Gospel of good news. *"And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"* (Romans 10:15).

Presently, as we see the days growing spiritually darker, this message of glad tidings must be proclaimed. God's people are called to take this great truth and proclaim it everywhere we go, whether inside or outside prison walls. At IPM, through God's enabling, we are blessed to continue to share the glorious message of the birth of Christ and salvation that is available through Him alone. We praise the Lord for all who partner with us through their faithful prayers and generous giving which enable us to reach countless lives for God's glory!

Sharing Glad Tidings of Great Joy,

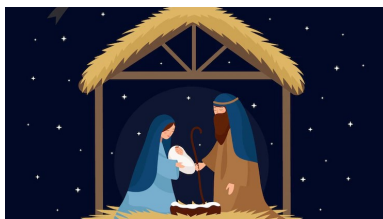


Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

(for all of our "Chaplain Ray Family" and the IPM team)

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is The Cross is God's Christmas Tree, by J. Vernon McGee, along with Jesus, The Life of His People, by Bob Hoekstra.

Merry Christmas!



"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord"
- Luke 2:10