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*Ministering to
prisoners for over
50 years*



Chaplain Ray,
Founder

January, 2023

Dear Friends of IPM,

What a blessing to usher in another New Year in the Lord. Praise the Lord for the new things that He has done and that He promises to do in our lives and in the lives of those behind bars. As many in the world may see this time as an opportunity to look inward to make changes and resolutions, may we, as the people of God, look to the Lord in hope and gratitude for the newness He brings into our lives.

He has made us new creatures in Christ. *"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new"* (2 Corinthians 5:17). Everyone who is "in Christ" through faith in His name is a new creation. We are new people, created anew. We have been born again spiritually. We can now have a true relationship with Him and allow Him to work in and through our lives to the glory of His name.

He has given us a new heart. *"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you"* (Ezekiel 36:26). When we are made new creatures in Christ, He gives us a new heart. As opposed to our old, hard and stony heart, this new heart is soft and responsive to the things of the Lord. As we trust in Him and look to Him, He will then establish and strengthen our hearts according to His all-sufficient grace.

He has promised new mercies for His children every day. *"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness"* (Lamentations 3:22-23). As we grow in our spiritual journey, through blessings and through trials, it is

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so comforting to know that His mercies are new every morning. This should stir within us such hope and gratitude!

He has given us a new song in our hearts. "O sing unto the LORD a new song: for he hath done marvelous things...And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it and fear, and shall trust in the LORD" (Psalm 40:3). As we get to know the Lord better and witness firsthand His goodness and faithfulness, it causes praise to rise from our hearts to the Lord. Others see our joyful countenance and hear us praising the Lord. Many will see the Lord in our lives and be drawn to Him, surrendering to Him as Lord and Savior.

New life in Christ is the message we want to continue to proclaim to those inside and outside prison walls. We give all praise and thanks to the Lord for all He accomplished through IPM in 2022 and for all who partnered with us. We look forward to what the Lord will accomplish in 2023. To God be the Glory!

Praising the Lord for the New Life We Have in Him,



Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is How to Obtain Fullness of Power, by R. A. Torrey.



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- 2 Corinthians 5:17