INTERNATIONAL PRISON ISA 61:1 MINISTRY

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Ministering to prisoners for over 50 pears



Chaplain Ray, Founder

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Dear Friends of IPM,

Over the years IPM has sent countless testimonial books to inmates across the country. These testimonials have had a huge impact on the hearts and lives of many behind bars.

Edy L., from a Texas prison, recently wrote: "After reading other's testimonies (through the various IPM testimonial books), and how God changed their lives for good, I try to encourage others and talk to people about God and spreading His light of hope."

The Lord wants to use our lives as a testimony and a witness. It all starts after we accept Jesus as Lord and Savior and we grow in knowing Him better. He then goes to work transforming our lives. "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God...A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you" (Romans 12:2, Ezekiel 36:26). As we grow in godliness, we become more like Christ. God fills us with His Holy Spirit and empowers us to do what is right and pleasing in His sight. This is a process, and our transformed lives become a testimony to others.

The Lord wants us to share our testimony with others. "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations...and ye shall be witnesses unto me...unto the uttermost part of the earth...For thou shall be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard" (Matthew 24:14, Acts 1:8, Acts 22:15). God wants to use our lives as a testimony and a witness to bless others and to draw them to Himself. We are called to go to the uttermost parts of the earth. To some, nothing can be more uttermost than the darkness of a forgotten prison cell. Edy and many other inmates have let us know through the years how vitally important and life-changing it is to hear the godly testimonies of those whose lives have been transformed by Jesus Christ.

But how do we share our testimony and what are we to say? Where do we start? Basically, the following verse sums it up pretty well: "Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul" (Psalm 66:16). In the end, our testimonies will also be used to declare the Lord's ultimate victory: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto the death" (Revelation 12:11). Praise the Lord for the work He is able to do in and through our lives as a testimony to others—all for His glory!

Testifying of all the Lord Has Done,

Heid Jeebstra Cebillos

Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is <u>Lady in the Shadow</u> by Bunny Costantino.



"Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul" - Psalm 66:16