INTERNATIONAL PRISON MINISTRY

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Ministering to prisoners for over



Chaplain Ray, Founder

July, 2023

Dear Friends of IPM,

Praise the Lord for the true freedom we receive through faith in Jesus Christ. Certainly, those behind bars appreciate the spiritual freedom they receive as well. Nadine R., from an Alabama prison recently wrote: "Thank you for all your efforts to ensure all prisoners everywhere that they are not alone and there is freedom in Jesus Christ!"

God has freed us from the bondage of sin so that we may become servants of Christ. "Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness...But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life" (Romans 6:18,22). The Lord has given us freedom from the yoke of slavery to sin. We no longer have to be slaves to sin. Sin no longer has mastery over us. Christ is our Master now, and He has freed us that we may fully serve Him.

God has also freed us from condemnation and death. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus...For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death..." (Romans 8:1,2). We have been washed free of our guilt by the precious blood of the Lamb. Jesus took the punishment of death from sin on our behalf so that we could be set free from that death penalty to live forever with Him in eternity.

He provides freedom through His word. "And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts...If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (Psalm 119:45; John 8:32). True freedom comes from abiding in Christ and living according to His word. As we embrace God's truth, we are impacted by its liberating power. Jesus is the great liberator for all who cry out to Him and feed thereafter upon His inspired word.

Freedom for the captives is also found in IPM's theme verse. "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). As we reach out to those behind bars in Jesus' name, we are proclaiming the true freedom that is available in Him alone.

We continually thank the Lord for all who partner with us through their faithful prayers and generous giving. Together we are able to reach behind prison walls to share God's love and truth and bring true freedom to hungry souls!

Praising the Lord for the True Freedom We Have in Him,

Heid Jeebstra Cepillos

Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is <u>Changed Lives in San</u> <u>Quentin</u> by Chaplain Harry Howard.



"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" - John 8:32