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Ministering to prisoners for over 50 years



Chaplain Ray,
Founder



November, 2023



Dear Friends of IPM,

This month as we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember that no matter what we may be going through, or whatever the circumstances are around us and around the world, there is still so much for which we can thank the Lord.

We can thank the Lord for His free gift of salvation. *"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift...For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God"* (2 Corinthians 9:15; Ephesians 2:8). There is no greater gift that anyone can receive than the gift of salvation. Our God freely bestows this wonderful gift to whomever will humbly come by faith to receive it.

We can thank the Lord for His mercy. *"Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever...The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy...It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not"* (Psalm 106:1; Psalm 145:8; Lamentations 3:22). Mercy is God not giving us what we deserve. Because of sin, all mankind deserves its wages – death. But because of God's great mercy, He has taken on the penalty we deserve. Jesus Christ has paid our debt in full.

We can thank the Lord for His grace. *"I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ...And God is able to make all grace abound toward you...But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"* (1 Corinthians 1:4; 2 Corinthians 9:8; 2 Peter 3:18). Grace is God giving us what we don't deserve. Grace is God freely providing for us all that we need

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to live the Christian life. God's grace is multifaceted. He provides justifying grace, sanctifying grace, edifying grace, strengthening grace, equipping grace, sustaining grace. Whatever the need, the Lord has immeasurable amounts of His grace to lavish upon those who humbly seek Him.

There are countless reasons to thank our wonderful Lord and Savior. We can thank Him for His love, His peace, His joy, His protection, His wisdom, His faithfulness, His word. We could never thank Him as much as He deserves. May we ask the Lord to give us an attitude of gratitude toward Him every day of our lives.

Finally, we thank the Lord for His enabling of IPM to continue to minister the Gospel to inmates. Dennis W., from a Florida prison, recently wrote: "I just wanted to thank you for all you do for us who are locked up. It's nice to know we are not forgotten." We thank the Lord for all those who partner with us in sharing God's love and truth to those behind bars, showing them they are not forgotten.

With Thankful Hearts Toward the Lord,



Heidi Hoekstra Ceballos



Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is Biblical Booklets from J. Vernon McGee.



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unspeakable gift"
- 2 Corinthians 9:15*