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Ministering to prisoners for over 50 years



Chaplain Ray,
Founder

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Dear Friends of IPM,

This month we enter into another new year. It is a good time to reflect on the newness Jesus brings into the lives of those who trust in Him. We recently received a letter from Danny S., from a California prison: "*I read your booklet, The Story of Jesus, and I wanna know more about Jesus and this new life He gives.*"

The Scriptures tell us that when we trust in Jesus for salvation, we receive a new heart, a new spirit, and become entirely new creatures. "*Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new...A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you*" (2 Corinthians 5:17; Ezekiel 36:26). Once a person places their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, they are born again and made new in Christ, with a new heart and a new spirit. This newness is available for anyone, whether inside or outside prison bars.

Not only are we made new creatures, but God also promises to renew our inner man daily by His Spirit. "*For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day...That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man*" (2 Corinthians 4:16; Ephesians 3:16). As we go through this life and see our outer man perishing, we need not lose heart. As we look to and trust in the Lord, our inner man is in the process of renewal, day by day. As we are humbly seeking the Lord in His word, we are being changed. We are being transformed, more and more, into Christ-likeness.

(over please)

Finally, the Lord ultimately promises to make everything new when we see Him face to face. *"And I saw a new heaven and a new earth...And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow or crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful..."* (Revelation 21:1,4,5). What glorious hope and joy this should bring to our hearts! No more sorrow, sickness, pain or death. No more tears or anguish or prison walls. We will experience absolute and complete newness in the presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

We praise the Lord for all that He accomplished in 2023 through the work of IPM. Thousands of prisoners were ministered to and encouraged across America and in India. Thousands of Bibles, testimonial and devotional books, and various biblical booklets and tracts, along with encouraging letters were sent out to inmates hungry for God's love and truth. Many made decisions to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. We look forward to all that the Lord wants to accomplish through IPM in 2024.

Praising the Lord, the Giver of New Life,

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 [Prisoners in the Bible](#) by Chaplain Harry Howard.



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