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*Ministering to
prisoners for over
50 years*



Chaplain Ray,
Founder

March, 2024

Dear Friends of IPM,

This month we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The importance of this glorious event can never be overstated. His resurrection is central to the Christian faith. It is essential to the Gospel we proclaim to those inside and outside prison walls.

Because of the resurrection, we are justified. *"Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification"* (Romans 4:25). Jesus loves us so much, He was willing to die in our place, paying the penalty we owed for our sin. Because of His resurrection victory, all who believe in Him are justified and are clothed in His righteousness.

Because of the resurrection, we have new life in Jesus. *"...I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live"* (John 11:25). Jesus provides resurrection and life, because in His very person, He is resurrection life. He is the resurrection that we all need from our deadness, whether physical or spiritual. He is our life. We now live because of Him, by Him and in Him.

Because of the resurrection, we have been born into a living hope. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a [living] hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"* (1 Peter 1:3). When we were born into God's family, real hope became available to us. This is the kind of hope that every human so desperately needs. Biblical hope involves absolute certainties concerning the future and guaranteed expectations for time and eternity. This hope is found in Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, our living hope.

(over please)

The resurrection is essential to the Gospel. Without it, our faith would be in vain. *"And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:17)*. If Jesus had not been raised from the dead, our preaching would be empty. If Christ were still in a tomb, our trusting in Him would be fruitless. We could never be justified before Him, we could never experience the new life He offers, and we could never be born into a living hope. Praise the Lord it is as the angel proclaimed: *"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said" (Matthew 28:6)!*

We praise the Lord for all of our dear ministry partners who faithfully partner with us to reach those behind prison walls with God's love and truth. May the Gospel message of Christ's resurrection continue to reach many hungry and thirsty souls!

Rejoicing in Our Risen Savior,



Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is [Disciple in Prison](#) by Robert A. Johnson.



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and the life: he that believeth
in me, though he were dead, yet
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