

Ministering to prisoners for over 50 years



September, 2024

Dear Friends of IPM,

The Lord encourages His followers to wait upon Him. Learning this is vital in our Christian walk. We recently received a letter from Richard M., from a California prison. Richard wrote: "Pray for me. I am learning the importance of what it means to wait upon God."

Living by waiting upon the Lord is the same spiritual reality as hoping in the Lord. "I will wait upon the LORD...I will look for (hope in) him" (Isaiah 8:17). Waiting on the Lord is not merely about waiting and allowing time to pass. It is about humbly placing our hope and expectations in the Lord as time is passing. We are to look to the Lord to work on our behalf and in our hearts.

As we wait upon the Lord, He promises to give us the strength we need. "Wait on the LORD; be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD...But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Psalm 27:14; Isaiah 40:31). God's power is for those who admit their own weakness. When we are aware of and admit our own weakness and inadequacy, we are then able to wait upon the Lord, hoping in Him, for His promise of renewed strength.

The Lord blesses those that wait upon Him. "The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him" (Lamentations 3:25). Waiting upon the Lord, trusting in and hoping in Him, is the pathway to experiencing His goodness. As we learn to live in dependence upon Him, we will experience more and more of His goodness poured out upon us.

(over please)

Our ultimate encouragement to wait upon the Lord is God establishing His everlasting kingdom someday! "And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the LORD; we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Isaiah 25:9). Those who place their hope in the Lord during their pilgrimage on earth will rejoice forever when the Lord implements for eternity the fullness of His salvation for His people.

What growing expectations He gives us as we hope in Him! We can anticipate courage, inner strength, His abundant goodness, an eternal inheritance, and above all, an everlasting relationship with Him. What encouragement this should bring to our hearts in these difficult last days!

We continue to thank the Lord for all who partner with us through their faithful prayers and giving which enable us to share these vital biblical truths with those behind bars.

Waiting on the Lord and Hoping in Him,

Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

Heid Joebstra Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is <u>Jewels for the</u> Journey, by Jack R. Murphy.



"I will wait upon the LORD...
I will look for (hope in) him"
- Isaiah 8:17

LETTERS FROM PRISONERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED BIBLES, EDIFICATION BOOKS, OR INMATE TESTIMONIALS FROM IPM

(See reverse side where a sample resource is highlighted and is available to you as a free gift upon request)

It's Him They See, Not Me

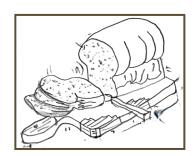
I am currently incarcerated with six years left in this prison. However, because of Christ's beautiful and perfect work at the cross, I am free. I no longer carry addiction, anger, shame or guilt. I love the Lord, my God, with all my heart. I spend most of my time learning about Jesus and sharing with others in here. People smile as I pass by. It's so loving here now. But, I always remember—it's all about Jesus. It's Him they see, not me. Some people don't get me, but the darkness never did understand the light. But I cling to His truth and His word. His ways are much higher than our ways. God bless you!

- Kimberly B., New York Prison

You Help Us Feel Loved

I want to thank your ministry for helping inmates and the broken. This place has a way of making one feel alone and worthless. You help us feel loved and wanted again. You fill the hole in our hearts.

- Randall H., Texas Prison



Inmate Artwork

Thank You For All You Do

Thank you for all you do and give. Your blessings do not go without notice. Thank God for your ministry's commitment and dedication. Thank you for answering the call!

- Joegenia P., New Mexico Prison

From the Bottom of My Heart, Thank You

This will be the last package I receive from you. I am getting out soon. I just wanted to say thank you for the work that you do. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. Everything you've sent me I've passed on to other inmates. Hopefully, it will have an impact on them for good as well.

- Jason B., Kansas Prison

IPM prayerfully responds to every prisoner who writes to us.

We bless them with an encouraging letter and a variety of biblical resources, such as: Bibles,

Testimonial and Devotional Books, and other Bible Study helps.

____ Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail _____

"...to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound"

Isaiah 61:1

At the request of many, contributions to IPM can also be made online at www.chaplainray.com

It is the policy of I.P.M. to use each gift as it is designated by the donor. If any project is completed, any surplus will be used where it is needed most.

Dear IPM, My gift to help share God's love and truth wi	th inmates
Use this gift for <i>Bibles For Prisoners</i>	\$
"Library of Life-Changing Books" for Prisoners	\$
Support for Prison Ministry in India	\$
Use My Offering Where Needed Most	\$
Name	
Address	
CityST	Zip
	G 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 1

Mail to: International Prison Ministry PO Box 1088 Chula Vista, CA 91912-1088

HERE IS ANOTHER BIBLICAL RESOURCE THAT OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS HELP US DISTRIBUTE TO PRISONERS

(This book is available as a gift by requesting it in the box below)

Jewels For The Journey

"Eye has not seen, nor has ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love him" - 1 Corinthians 2:9

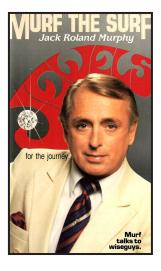
It was known as the "Jewelry robbery of the century." The Eagle Diamond, DeLong Ruby, Midnight Sapphire, 23 other precious gems, and the largest star sapphire in the world, the Star of India, had all vanished in the night from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Who would dare attempt such a heist?

Capital crimes, armed robberies, shootouts with the police, drugs, arrests, jails, prisons, state hospitals, riots—all the drama and adventure of ten James Bond movies captured in one incredible lifetime. Jack Murphy's hedonistic life-style and lack of Christian morals or ethics led him down this dark, rebellious path. But, God was on his trail. Through the influence of a godly prison Chaplain, Jack surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. He soon was standing up boldly for the Lord.

Even though he had received a double life sentence, Jack Murphy was released from prison and became an ideal role model for paroled prisoners. Chaplain Jones spoke a great truth when he said: "Jack, God has a better plan for your life."

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE IPM LETTER VIA

EMAIL: _____



Our Gift to You

Jack Murphy's testimony has been a blessing to many inmates over the years. Many find hope and encouragement for their own lives.

We praise the Lord for all who partner with IPM through their faithful prayers and generous giving which enable IPM to continue to share God's love and truth with those behind bars.

Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail	
YOUR MESSAGE OR PRAYER REQUEST:	Yes, Please Send Gift
	WURF THE SURF
	Jewels for the Journey

INTERNATIONAL PRISON MINISTRY

by Jack R. Murphy