INTERNATIONAL PRISON MINISTRY

PO BOX 1088 CHULA VISTA, CA 91912-1088 chaplainray.com

Ministering to prisoners for over 50 years



Chaplain Ray, Founder

November, 2024

Dear Friends of IPM,

For those of us who have a saving relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, giving of thanks to God is fundamental to our lives. This is true for those behind bars as well. We recently received a letter from Johnny B., in a California prison. Johnny wrote: "I thank the Lord for IPM. I thank the Lord for all He is doing in my life."

Our lives are to be filled with thanksgiving and praise unto the Lord. "Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving...Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name" (Psalm 95:2; Psalm 100:4). As we come before the Lord, whether in prayer, in worship, or feeding upon His word, we are to approach Him with grateful hearts, recognizing all He has done for us.

We are to carry about an attitude of gratitude to the Lord even when we are facing uncertainties and difficulties. "Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). As we seek the Lord through prayer, asking Him to move on our behalf, we are to remember to thank Him for who He is: our righteous, holy, faithful and loving Savior. We need not be anxious or fearful, because we can trust in Him. He has proven over and over to be trustworthy and faithful.

The Lord desires us to abound in thanksgiving toward Him. "Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving" (Colossians 2:7). We are to be rooted in the Lord, our solid rock, our true foundation. As we feed upon His word and are taught according to His word, He builds us up through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. This should lead us to overflowing appreciation and gratitude that Christ is all and in all, stirring our hearts to abound in thanksgiving unto the Lord!

In conclusion, no matter what circumstance we find ourselves in, whether inside or outside prison walls, we can heed the words of the Apostle Paul: "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

We thank the Lord for His goodness, His blessings toward us, and for His transforming work. We also thank Him for those who stand with us as spiritual partners, proclaiming God's liberty to the captives and the opening of the prisons to those who are bound.

With Grateful Hearts Unto Our Wonderful Savior,

Heid Jeepstra Cepillos

Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is <u>The Bible Promise</u> Book, a scriptural compilation of the promises of God.



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# 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)

## I'm Truly Free Now

In here everybody calls me "preacher man" because I'm always sharing the Word with others and also praying for everyone in my dorm. I am awaiting trial, but I have faith that God will work all things for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. I have peace with everything and where God has me right now. I'm blessed and so much more happy than when I was free, because I'm truly free now. God bless you!

- Zachary N., Florida Prison

### So Blessed to Have God

Thank you and others who have made a way for women like me who fell short of God's glory to meditate on God's mighty words! I'm so blessed to have God in my life!

- Tressa H., California Prison



#### Inmate Artwork

### We Thank You!

Please stay encouraged as you work diligently to provide literature to draw us closer to Christ. You play a major role in our spiritual journey and we thank you!

- Stephanie C., Texas Prison

### You Have Blessed All of Us Behind Bars!

Thank you for all of these wonderful books. I have shared them with the ladies in here. We are all so grateful for your organization and your kindness and generosity. Jail can be a tough place, but God makes it easier! I pray for you all daily that you may be blessed in your lives and in your wonderful work! May you all be blessed with Christ's love as you have blessed all of us behind bars!

- Melinda S., California 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.

"...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 with inmates

Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail

- Use this gift for Bibles For Prisoners......\$\_\_\_\_\_
  - "Library of Life-Changing Books" for Prisoners.....\$\_\_\_\_\_
- Support for Prison Ministry in India......\$
- Use My Offering Where Needed Most......

Name

#### Address

City\_\_\_\_\_ST \_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_

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)

## The Bible Promise Book

"For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us" - 2 Corinthians 1:20

Whatever the need of the moment, the answer is to be found in Scripture, if we take the time to search for it. Whatever the feeling, whatever we're suffering, whatever we're hoping, the Bible has something to say to us. God's promises are eternal words of comfort, love, hope, and peace.

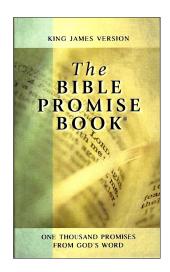
This book contains such wonderful promises as:

Help in Troubles: "But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: he is their strength in the time of trouble" (Psalm 37:39)

Comfort: "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust" (Psalm 18:2)

God's Faithfulness: "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations..." (Psalm 119:89, 90)

God's Love: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16)



## **Our Gift to You**

This book has been a blessing to thousands of inmates around the country, bringing them hope, comfort, and assurance through God's word.

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 BOOK The Bible Promise Book

#### I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE IPM LETTER VIA

EMAIL : \_\_\_\_