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chaplainray.com

Ministering to prisoners for over 50 years



Chaplain Ray,
Founder

May, 2026

Dear Friends of IPM,

The Lord is to be our source for strength and courage in our Christian walk. Melissa, from a California prison, recently wrote: "Please pray for me for strength and courage to stay strong throughout my journey."

When we feel spiritually faint and weak, the Lord reminds us to come to Him. *"He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength...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"* (Isaiah 40:29,31). When we realize our drastic insufficiency, that is God's reminder to seek His supply of strength. Those who admit that they are weak are the very ones to whom God offers His strength. Whenever we personally look to Him to pour out that strength, we will find that it is fully sufficient.

Nehemiah spoke of God's joy as a source for spiritual fortitude. *"...for the joy of the LORD is your strength"* (Nehemiah 8:10). When we look to the Lord and dwell on His character, what He has done and what He is able to do in our lives, this produces true joy, which supernaturally strengthens our inner man.

The Lord commands believers to be strong and courageous because He is the One who will provide all that we need, and He has promised to always be with us. *"Have I not commanded thee? Be Strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest...Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart; wait, I say, on the LORD"* (Joshua 1:9; Psalm 27:14). When we place our faith and

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trust in the Lord, He provides the courage that is needed to overcome any fear and enables us to live courageously. When we place our hope in the Lord (waiting on Him), He promises to provide spiritual courage and strength in the deepest recesses of our being.

It is through Christ that we receive all that is needed in our spiritual walk. Therefore, this can become our confession: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13). Praise the Lord for His all-sufficient provision!

Like Melissa, in a California prison, may we look to the Lord to provide the necessary strength and courage to live godly lives in a world full of darkness and turmoil. We thank the Lord for all who partner with us as we share God's love and truth with those behind bars.

Trusting in the Lord to Provide Strength and Courage,



Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

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

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is our [Comic Book Collection](#).



"Be Strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest"

- Joshua 1:9

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)

God Himself, Who Indeed is the Giver of Hope

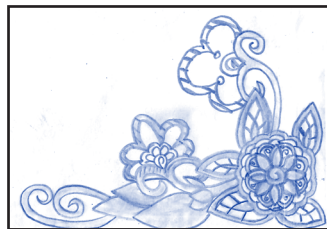
To the wonderful people at International Prison Ministry. On behalf of the thousands of prisoners across the nation who benefit from your diligent efforts, thank you all for your work in providing literature to the many of us who are indigent and unable to purchase these materials. God Himself, who indeed is the giver of hope, has found it fitting to work through you to bring hope to as many as possible. These many are me, they are we, they are all of us who feel trapped in a system full of hopelessness, but who have found hope in our Savior Jesus Christ. You don't know just how profound and positive an impact your efforts have made. Our hope is only in Christ!

- William H., Georgia Prison

Help Me Make it Through

Thank you so much for the materials. I read them cover to cover and they always help me make it through the tough times in here. God bless you!

- Jeremy N., Indiana Prison



Inmate Artwork

Changed Me for the Better

What ya'll do for us behind bars is nothing short of a blessing! Your prison ministry changed me for the better and helped me so much! God bless!

- Sarah V., Indiana Prison

You Have Moved Mountains in the Hearts of People Everywhere!

Thank you once again for the speedy response to the needs of the thirsty people here who look to you for their living water. Your work is much appreciated! I thank the Lord above that my prayers have come true, for there are laborers like you! Thank you so much for taking your time to send us materials, Bibles, booklets, and testimonial books. I believe in the Lord above. I believe in Jesus Christ. I believe in the Holy Spirit. And I believe that you have moved mountains in the hearts of people everywhere! Thank You!

- Douglas C., 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.

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 with inmates

- 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)

Comic Book Collection

Among the variety of testimonial and devotional books we send to inmates, we also bless them with illustrated comic book-style spiritual materials. Many inmates have let us know just how much they appreciate these books. They enjoy the illustrations and are blessed by the spiritual messages. Since many inmates do not have much formal education, or may have a learning disability, these comic books are able to reach them and touch their hearts in ways that other books cannot.

“The Lord Jesus has been knocking at the door of your heart all the time you have been reading this book! Trust in Him with all your heart and from this moment on, He belongs to you and you belong to Him!”
The Hiding Place

“The world today needs to know Jesus. Where there’s hatred, Jesus brings love. Where there’s fear, Jesus gives peace. When we are weak, He makes us strong. Jesus loves you! He wants to share life with you!”
He’s The Greatest

“You’ve tried everything else—give God a chance! Lord Jesus, come into me right now and take over my life! You’re the only One who can change this world. Please start with me!”
Up From Harlem



Our Gift to You

Inmates enjoy these comic books and are spiritually blessed as they are pointed to the Lord.

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.

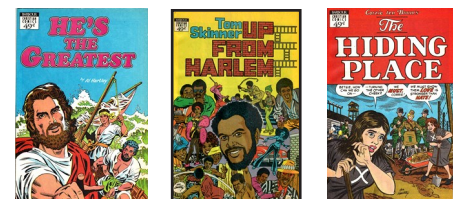
Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail

YOUR MESSAGE OR PRAYER REQUEST:

Yes, Please Send Gift

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE IPM LETTER VIA

EMAIL : _____



Comic Book Collection

INTERNATIONAL PRISON MINISTRY