



*“For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord...Therefore encourage one another and build one another up just as you are doing.”
I Thess. 5:9-10*

I believe people can and do get stuck in a lie from the devil. It can be fear of taking the next step in obedience. Fear can keep us from moving forward in life and doing the next thing the Lord has told us to do. But I have seen God use fear to move people forward to invite Christ into their life and trust Him as Lord and Savior. They were fearful of continuing to live their life without Christ and to face eternity without Him! God is awesome in all His ways of how He brings people to salvation!

Michael has been in Administrative Segregation for at least 18 months. Usually it takes about a year to get out of that area and back into population. I believe one of the reasons why he does not want to come out from Segregation could be fear of what others will do to him because he wants out of the gang life. I have no doubt that he is a Christian. Michael has told me that, “I can serve the Lord back here in segregation as well as in population.” I mentioned, “There might be some truth to that, but when you are in population you can attend church and Bible studies.” Last week he told me, “My life is just a broken mess!” We talked about that when we recognize we are broken, it can be a new beginning. God can put us back together when we put our faith in Jesus and His Word!

It has been a year since I visited James. He told me, “I want to be a Christian, but the faith I grew up in does not believe Jesus is God. I have a hard time believing that Jesus is God, but I grew up with

Christian friends. I attended Bible studies with them. I want to get out of the gang life. It has been nothing but trouble for me and my life is going nowhere. Hell scares me and I don’t want to go there.” We went over the gospel message again and emphasized the passages where Jesus claimed to be God. James told me he would read the book of John. We talked about how important it is to ask God for understanding when reading the Bible! We prayed together for God to show him the truth from the Bible. Pray for James to know the truth of the gospel!

It is time again to raise funds for inmate Christmas sacks. In times past churches were involved in making fudge for the sacks. Now that is no longer an option. All the items must be prepackaged. The incarcerated men and women look forward to these sacks. They are a reminder that they are not forgotten by society. If you would like to give to this Christmas project, you can scan the bar code below. This will take you to the website where you can donate to this cause. I would like to thank those who have contributed in the past, and those who will this year as well.

If anyone or any church would like to give to the Angel Tree project for children of the incarcerated you can go to this website:
<https://www.prisonfellowship.org/about/angel-tree/>

Thank you for your prayers and generous financial giving, you are a blessing!

In Christ,

Harlan



Please designate my name in the memo section of your check. Send them to: Prison Lighthouse Fellowship (PLF) or South Dakota Prison Chaplain’s Association (SDPCA), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220, Email: harlan@convergeheartland.org