



"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements and His ways past finding out."
Romans 11:33

God is God and He always does what is right. We don't have to understand His ways. We live by faith and not by sight. Some of the men I visit with realize that God allowed them to go back to prison so that they would have time to get to know the Lord in a deeper way. They are too busy on the outside trying to make a living and pay their bills. When they fall into their old addiction because of stress, they understand that their priorities were wrong.

One of the men who I have been meeting with for over a year in Jameson Annex, (where I am most of the time) was transferred to the Hill. He has only two months until release. I go to the Hill on Friday morning to visit with men one-on-one. I had the opportunity to meet with him at that time. When he was paged to come to the Chapel his cellie came instead of him. This cellie told me he was very interested in knowing more about Jesus and the Bible. We talked for a short time and then he went back to get the man who was paged. The man from Jameson Annex told me he was disappointed and didn't like it on the Hill. He went on to say, "I know the Lord is allowing this test to strengthen my faith before I am released in a few months. My cellie is very interested in learning more about the Bible and that is strengthening my faith, because that makes me search my beliefs. My patience is being tested, and it is helping me grow in the Lord." God always knows what is best for us.

An inmate who I had been meeting weekly on the Hill was transferred to Jameson Annex. So now I have more opportunity to visit with him. He told me, "I am so glad to be in Jameson, because I was surrounded by young men who were going down a bad road. I felt like I was going further away from God every day. Now I have a good Christian cellie who wants to read the Bible. On the Hill I didn't want to read the Bible because I was not living right. Now I feel like I have a new opportunity to get right with the Lord and stay on the right path!" Praise God!

Last week we had the opportunity to baptize six men at the church service. One of the men had been out of prison for about a year. We had talked about getting right with the Lord at that time, but he was not ready to give up his sinful lifestyle. A year later back in prison, he wanted to follow Jesus. God had changed his heart. He wanted to be baptized and show that he was ready to follow Christ! One of the men baptized had been in a fight a year earlier at the beginning of a church service. He said he was committed to following the Lord. The Lord is at work, changing men's hearts!

Will you please pray that I proclaim the gospel clearly & for open hearts for those who attend the weekly church services and Bible studies. The number of men attending has risen dramatically. The laws have become stricter for those on parole, so there are a high number of men returning to prison on violations. Some of the men attending are not Bible literate and others have never heard the gospel explained. There is a growing interest! Some attend to get out of their cells, but they hear the gospel.

Thank you for your prayers, they are vital and for your financial support!

In Christ, *Harlan*

Please designate my name in the memo section of your check. Make the checks out to: Converge Heartland, or PLF, the address is: 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. My phone: 605-940-4220, Email: harlan@convergeheartland.org