



# Missionary Evangelism To Corrections

*Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982*

## *God is There*

Every blade of grass, every vegetable and tree, every animal beast & human derives their life and is sustained by our creator. This is sometimes not believed or taken for granted until the life of one we value hangs in the balance. Then God's purposes may feel obscure and His presence very distant or very close. In the strange way of paradoxes, we may feel both at the same time. What can tragedy bring us? Making a list seems trite, but with time and process, several treasures unfold.

**Closeness & Support** This can lead or drive us into living Jesus second commandment, to love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:39) Often before we achieve this closeness we realize the distance and need to humble ourselves and risk asking for it.

**Deepening of our Faith and Trust** Those we trust can let us down and our need causes us to try again. Sometimes we need to reach to others who are trustworthy for healing and to establish or reestablish our foundation of trust. This may later allow us to reconnect with those who disappointed us.

**Recognition of our Dependence** We depend upon God for life itself, and to sustain us. Dependence on others is necessary to develop interdependence.

**Recognition and Reminders of what is important - our Priorities** Putting aside items, issues and tasks of lesser priority should happen in times of stress. Perseverance in necessary day to day tasks and meeting ours and others needs, brings fruit over time.

**God Is There .... continues on Pg. 2**

## July 31st Newsletter

### *MEC Spotlight*

#### Inmate Prayer

#### & Praise Reports

**Matt Goers**—Three young men were in attendance today, Paul\*, John\* and Ben\*, all 15 yrs. old. John said that he has been reading the Bible, and Paul said he has been questioning God's existence, and he came to "start over". Both were at the end of their rope with trying to do better and stay out of trouble. Paul said he didn't know how anyone could love him if they knew everything about him. Ben looked as if he had been crying, and Paul admitted that he had been crying that very day over what has become of his life. These two, in particular, were asking how to receive forgiveness and the power to overcome the bondages of sin. We prayed with them for salvation, that nothing steals the Word that has been planted, and that these young men -who have cried out to the LORD in repentance—now fully come out of darkness and into the Kingdom of Light. May they be nurtured and strengthened in their

**Prayer & Praise Reports continues on Pg. 2**

## Save the Date

for

### MEC's Fall Event

Oct. 27th 2013

Will be a Play at MN Adult  
& Teen Challenge

#### JULY 2013 HIGHLIGHTS

- ~ God is There Pg. 1 & 2
- ~ MEC's Fall Event Pg. 1
- ~ Spotlight: Prayer & Praise Pg. 1, 2 & 3
- ~ Urgent Prayer Request Pg. 3
- ~ New! Network Link Pg. 3

## God is There from pg1

**The Beauty of Life** A story from Al-anon daily readings tells of an individual who, when she endured stress, would sit by the river and watch the water flow. When the crisis was over, the pain dimmed and the light sparkling on the water remained a vibrant memory.

**Ability to Relate and Minister** Dick Pettman, an original board member and longtime supporter of MEC, says "I've had much more opportunity to minister to others in the last few years since I had cancer, than before it affected me. When you have cancer you can minister with credibility." "Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. He comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any kind of affliction, through the comfort we ourselves receive from God." (2 Corinthians 1:3 & 4 (HCSV))

In the book by *T.J. and MaryAnn Addington* "When Life Comes Undone: Walking in Faith When Life Is Hard and Hope is Scarce", T.J. gives his account of painful experiences & God's provision. Among them he has been in an induced coma in St. Paul and later in Thailand, was on a ventilator with no pain medicine for an extended period of time.

He states. "In each instance, however, God has been faithful and has provided what I needed at the moment... God's presence in our pain is a 'game changer'. Our situation is still painful, we still wrestle with the undoneness of our lives, but He is there. He is present, and He gives us what we need in the moment... His presence will sustain us to the next place. He was there for Abraham [and others]... He is there right now for you." ...

I don't know your situation. Life comes undone in so many ways.



What I do know is that God will give you what you need today, in this hour, in this moment, and will continue to do so as you walk your unique journey. There are scars but they are divine scars that will change you in ways you cannot imagine. You are sharing in the fellowship of His sufferings. Allow this amazing fact to encourage you and give you hope; If you are sharing in His sufferings, you are also sharing in His presence for this is a *fellowship* of His sufferings." (Addington 33, 35, 47)

"Even though we see tough situations in our and others lives, God has been providing exactly what we need in the moment in ways that we would not have thought of." (Michelle Nelson)

One of God's characteristics is His provision. "And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh - the Lord will provide." (Gen 22:14 part)

*Karen Selby*

faith by <Prayer & Praise Reports from Pg. 1 His Spirit.

**Justin\*** -Pray for my wife, for God's strength while I'm in here & for peace. He shared that a new inmate who came in "kicking and screaming" has now started reading a Bible which Justin gave him. Pray that this man will accept Jesus into his life and start coming to Bible study. Please pray for all the inmates and the staff also, to come to the Lord while here.

**Kellie Christescu** - A believer in Islam who has been coming to the Bible Studies. Usually she doesn't listen but wants to look out the window. If I were in a cell most of the day I would take any chance I could get to sit at a window .... As I was describing the types of soil from the lesson, the parable of The Sower, I asked them what type of soil they thought they were. We talked about the basic love of and for GOD, praying, reading the Bible, and what it entails to be a true follower of Christ. Then Sarah turned around and started listening. We discussed when we are at the cross roads in our decisions we always have a choice, the world's way or the way of Jesus Christ. When you get out into the free world and come to those cross roads on a daily basis, 'What are you going to do?' Are you going to stop and think or stop & pray? Sarah listened very intently. At the end of the lesson she told me, "I usually just come to sit and look out the window, but your voice called to me today. I couldn't help but .....

**P & PR cont. on Pg. 3**

**<- Spotlight, Prayer and Praise from pg 2**

turn around and listen. " Please pray that she would understand ..... the one true God and His son Jesus Christ.

Melissa - 2+kids (6, 3 and any day) -please pray for a safe delivery and that she would get a furlough so her family could come see her and the new baby in the hospital. Please pray for the grandparents who will take care of the baby while she is in jail.

To protect confidentiality all Names of inmates have been changed .

These are a few of the hundreds of requests we receive each month. We appreciate the intercessors who pray for them regularly.

**Urgent Prayer Request!**

**Karen Selby**—My nephew's 13 yr. old son, Micah, was in a severe motor cross accident on Wednesday July 24th 2013. He has a punctured lung, infection, & brain swelling. They have brought him out of an induced comma a few times and he is responding to stimulus. The doctors say if he survives, he won't be the same. Please pray for a miracle of healing & health. Please pray also for his brother involved in the accident who turned 15 that day. E-mail us if you want updates.

**Network Link**

We know that we are not alone in Kingdom work. In this month we would like to salute

**Manna Market**

Holds food distributions

<http://mannamarketblog.org/>

&

**Family Innovations**

Counseling in their office and in homes

<http://www.familyinnovations.com/>

See our website for more resources

[mecjailministry.com](http://mecjailministry.com)



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