



Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

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

June 30, 2017

MEC Spotlight

Sue Janick

**Can you Join Us?
Let us know for both dates!**

Join us for a screening of the movie
Church of Felons

at Lakes Free Church

29620 Olinda Trail, Lindstrom, MN 55045

Friday August 25th 7-9:00PM

This movie follows four stories of
addiction and redemption in Polk Co. WI
We will also have treats & testimonies.

[Click here to download flyers or register.](#)

If you do not have internet access call 651-
408-1300



October 7th, 2017 the
MEC Fall Event will be at
Serenity Village Church
Crystal, MN 6:00-8:30 pm
Let us know if you can come!

Problem Thinking & the Lord's Healing: Open or Closed Channel?

Last month we looked at lying and the idea that the most common form of lying is to omit pertinent information which allows a person to continue with an illicit activity. Ways of being less than honest are putting another down, telling another only what they want to hear, being vague, refusing to disclose to those you are accountable to, giving confusing answers, shifting emphasis, distraction, confessing smaller transgressions, diversion, false assent, silence, selective or inattention to a significant matter.

While scripture allows for hidden information in some situations such as the woman who hid the spies (Exodus 2), when Jesus hid himself from the people who were questioning and not believing (John 12) and the man who found treasure and went to buy the field (Matt. 13), overall it encourages disclosure. (Ex. 20, Matthew 5)

The concept of being unique or special and that the rules apply to others or to specific situations but are not expedient to

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Sue Janick has been volunteering with MEC at the Hennepin County Adult Detention Center (HCADC) since August, 2015.



When she speaks of it, excitement just flows from her. She has learned so much about how to share her faith in so many ways through the art classes and teaching Bible Study at the HCADC. Her experience at the jail helped her to share with her beautician who was questioning whether a relative was in heaven and how could she be sure of salvation and one's destination. Sue was able to share scripture and assure her that Jesus takes our sin and gives us His righteousness – it has nothing to do with our goodness or lack thereof.

During her father's final illness Sue was inspired by his witness to everyone he came in contact with. After his death she wanted to get more involved in ministry. She found the opportunity through New Hope church's jail ministry which



goes in to the jails under MEC. After taking some time to heal and grow, she started to do the Art classes. She was hesitant at first, feeling she did not have the skills needed to do this, but, she went forward with it and God has filled the need. Discovering painting as a new art skill is exciting. God is

Watercolor Bird

Spotlight - Sue cont.pg. 2

June
Highlights

Can you Come Join Us?
Spotlight Sue Janick
Ministry Friends Shout-Out - True Friends Place
PTLH—Open or Closed Channel

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Ministry Friends Shout Out

We know we are not alone in Ministry and each month we acknowledge another ministry that we network with. This month's shout out goes to

True Friends Place

TFP is a residential program for women suffering from addiction.

They provide a Christ-centered focus, relentless caring, and a daily/weekly structure, accountability and behavior guidelines.

Located in Mora, MN in a beautiful rustic setting.

<http://www.truefriendsplace.com/index.htm>

Happy 4th of July!!

Here's a link to a past article on

[Freedom in Christ.](#)

PT&TLH - Open or Closed Channel

my situation or time, allows people to proceed with actions they would not do if they were willing to disclose the full truth.

Becoming honest happens in one way when we accept Christ and He opens our eyes to situations we would otherwise have justified or excused. Inmates have told me that one of the first things that happen when they accept Christ is that bad language that was common and acceptable begins to bother them. Honesty deepens and continues to grow as we develop in our walk with Him.

The nature of God being light allows Him to illuminate our lives and to expose darkness and sin in us. The Love of Christ is wonderful but sometimes being in God's presence can bring negative feelings and thoughts of our sin before we can feel His warmth. Confessing it cleanses us. If we do not know our Sin we cannot know our Savior I John 1:5-10 teaches us. "This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin. If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts."

It takes an open channel of total disclosure, receptivity to another person's point of view and the ability of self-criticism to change and to maintain that change. (Yochelson and Samenow) The Criminal Personality:

Vol 2 The Change Process

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teaching her new things at retirement age and that is thrilling.

Every week that she goes in the ladies are so happy that she is there. The art project of the week is a springboard for a devotion and sharing of faith. Her husband has occasionally questioned the amount of work she puts into the art projects. Her response is that this work is lasting, an everlasting work through the Lord.

The jail ministry has made her life so much richer and she is grateful to God for this experience. "It is a wonderful, exciting and thrilling thing to be a part of." The Lord has shown her and taught her so much through her preparation for the classes. God has shown her a greater depth of knowledge.



Watercolor Bird

"Some days, with the different backgrounds, they have so much on their minds, and no one prays - but, as always, the things He shows me are exactly what I need for me. I tell them they can take this back and read the verses and pray about what they want to accept.



Rainy Days—Each inmate was able to pick their own inspirational message

Sue is thankful for having to share her faith during the MEC Basic

Orientation. It was good to tell her story and to hear the other's.

The ministry is being a fountain of youth for Sue – "I don't feel old anymore! God has given me a new life through the ministry."



Flowers & Butterflies

When hiding emotions and activities is a pattern, it takes submitting to God and allowing Him to show us the areas we need to grow. It also requires allowing others into our lives, including sharing thoughts, motivations and intents. As we grow in Him we see more of our sin, but we have the freedom of forgiveness and the power to change. "Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, And in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom." (Psalm 51:6)

Specific acts can be confessed and deeper beliefs such as shame – that we are ourselves bad or not worthy of love - also need to be confessed and put away – "but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." (2 Cor. 4:2 NASB)

The 4th and 5th steps of the 12 steps concentrate on this idea. The 4th step is, "We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves." Celebrate Recovery lists Lamentations 3:40 as one verse that reflects this. "Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord." NIV. I had attempted or done a few 4th steps which had little impact. When a sponsor had me review my childhood and share ideas that I had hidden there was a cleansing and a trust level established that allowed me to sleep better. relationships had not had.

The 5th step is "We admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs." With the verse "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16a NIV More depth was reached when a counselor listened to pain that surfaced when the relationship had time and depth which other relationships had never afforded and a prayer partner sensed needs that God could reach.

Of course learning God's Word shows us more of us and more of Him. I cannot tell you how often Proverbs made me wince as I recognized character traits that belonged to fools and that I feared were within me. The key to enjoying and remembering Proverbs is to ask "What is the promise here and how do you receive that promise?"

As I began to become more honest the Lord brought people into my life, healing and solutions for situations that I had hidden out of fear of not being accepted and shamed by others. This in turn made me more confident in Him and better able to share His love. "I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth from the great congregation." Psalm 40:10 NASB "No one lights a lamp and then covers it with a bowl or hides it under a bed. A lamp is placed on a stand, where its light can be seen by all who enter the house. For all that is secret will eventually be brought into the open, and everything that is concealed will be brought to light and made known to all." (Luke 8:16-17)



Clip art Image



Pleasant Path, K. Selby



If you are following the Problem Thinking and the Lord's Healing articles, and want a compilation of the articles so far we can e-mail it to you. Your feedback can help inmates! Share with someone who needs this. Please provide feedback for making corrections to the thoughts before it is made into a booklet.. Let us know if it is valuable and worth pursuing this.

To contact us **call** 651-408-1300 or write PO Box 542, Wyoming MN 55092.

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