

MISSION REPORT Spring 2020

LIGHTHOUSE PRISON MINISTRIES, INC.

DEAR FAITHFUL FRIENDS AND PARTNERS:

"He died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but **UNTO HIM** who died for them, and rose again." (II Corinthians 5:15)

We pray this letter finds you resting in the wonderful redemption of our Lord who gave Himself for us that we might have know the way, the truth, and the life. Thank you for your faithfulness through the years of standing in the gap for us as we fulfill His call and His command to go. Truly God is good and yours prayers and support have been a demonstration of the goodness of our Lord. Our son John has been home with the Lord for two years, and God's grace and your prayers continue to sustain us.

NEW PATH PROGRAM

I continue to share the gospel in the same jail where I was incarcerated as a young man. The Harris County Jail is the mission field where most of my days are spent, and it is where I get to share Christ with law enforcement officers as well as with many of the 9,000 inmates housed in downtown Houston. As most of you know, the Lord used a district judge to order me to a Bible-based program in 1978 after being arrested for my eighth felony related to heroin addiction. The Harris County Sheriff's Department has now given me my own cellblock to duplicate the program that saved my life!!!! I am very excited to be able to handpick men who want to come out of darkness and walk in the Light of Jesus Christ. Please pray for the **NEW PATH PROGRAM**. The same week the cellblock opened up, a family called me about their young son, Conner, who had been arrested and was near death. I moved Conner into my new cellblock away from the chaos of the rest of the jail. As Conner got his heart right with the Lord, his eyes, which had once been darkened by sin, filled with light. He has since been released but every time I talk to him he tells me that he believes God made the New Path Program happen just for him! My answer is "yes" to his statement, because even if it saved his life alone, it has all been worth it. We teach the Sufficiency of Salvation

(Romans 1:16), the Sufficiency of the Scripture (II Timothy 3:16-17), and the Sufficiency of Sanctification (Philippians 1:6).

REGENERATION RESERVATION

I had the wonderful honor early this year to visit my friends at **REGENERATION RESERVATION** in Arizona. Scott and Kathy Murphy have been used of God to minister to the American Indians for well over 30 years and have established an incredible ministry in the tribal jail on the San Carlo Apache Reservation. It was such a joy to be able to share my testimony to the Apache men in that tribal jail. Many of the men on the reservation never reach the age of forty due to the epidemic of substance abuse. I thank God that Scott has extended an open invitation to come and be a part of what Jesus is doing there. Please pray that the Lord will continue open new doors to share the good news of salvation.

TRUE CITIZENSHIP

Let me close by once again saying, "thank you" for being a blessing to so many. As we move toward another crucial election in our nation we must remember that our ultimate hope and focus must be on the Kingdom of God and not the kingdom of man. Certainly we must pray and do our duty as American citizens, but we must never forget the admonition Paul wrote to the church from his prison cell in a totally depraved culture in 1st century Rome. He reminded us in Philippians 3:20 that our **TRUE CITIZENSHIP** and our primary allegiance are to King Jesus, and our main duty is to obey His command to go. Salvation of souls is the only answer for this world.

Blessings,

John & Anne Downs

LIGHTHOUSE PRISON MINISTRIES, INC.

"Shining forth the light and love of Jesus Christ"

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