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**MINISTRY
OUTREACHES
AVAILABLE:**

- In-Prison Ministry
- After Care
- Support Groups
- Pen Pal (letter writing)
- Mentoring
- Family Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Restoration House

Ministry training seminars are available for local churches

**MATT. 25:36
I WAS IN
PRISON AND
YE CAME
UNTO ME.**

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Changing Lives From the Inside Out.

JAN / FEB
2013

What does God require of you ?

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what [is] good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” God wants His people to be just and fair in all of their actions rather than follow the ways of the world and get ahead any way they can. God wants His children not only to love it when He is merciful to them, but God wants us to love to show mercy as readily to others as God shows it to His children. **Luke 6:36** “Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.” God requires His children to be humble. What does it mean for us to be humble? It does not mean for us to be walked on and not stand up for ourselves. A proud person is hard to convict of sin. God

wants His children to not act superior to anyone else. They are what they are and have what they have by the grace of God, so they need to give God all the glory for all things. **Prov. 16:18** “Pride [goeth] before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”

James 1:27 “Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, [and] to keep himself unspotted from the world.” God wants His children to look after one another and not be selfish; holding on to things that could help others because they are afraid they will lack any good thing from the Lord.

Phil. 4:6,7 “Be careful {anxious} for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and

supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” God requires us to trust in Him for our peace and not worry about tomorrow, or even today. **Jehovah Jireh, is our provider. (Gen. 22:14) Phil. 4:19** “But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” **Isa. 26:3,4** ³“Thou wilt keep [him] in perfect peace, [whose] mind [is] stayed [on thee]: because he trusteth in thee. ⁴Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH [is] everlasting strength.” God wants His children to keep our minds stayed on Him so that our minds might continue in perfect peace.

Are you part of the problem or part of the solution?

Do not say “neither” as a response to the question above. Because if you are complaining about that which you can do something about, then you are just adding to the problem. If you volunteer for a position in the body of Christ and you are the only one doing your part, God knows. So you have a few options: one, you can complain, which helps no one. You can quit, and lose the blessing of serving the Lord, or you can do the best job you can do and

pray for and encourage the others working around you. Are you complaining about your minister saying, “He is too dry, he moves around too much, he speaks to long or he does not speak long enough?” Have you ever tried asking God to bless the speaker, and for God to help you get everything out of the message you can get and to be refreshed by it? Many men in the prisons have the services prayed up before I get there and they are always the ones who get the

most out of the message and the ones who put the most into it. **Ex. 16:8** “And Moses said, [This shall be], when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what [are] we? your murmurings [are] not against us, but against the LORD.” Children of God are supposed to present their requests to God in prayer, not to complain about everything.

Thought on:
Jan. 16, 2002

Oh my God, people all around me perish; men of good report in the eyes of the world go into eternity with no hope for heaven. They were good but never good enough to be received into your kingdom. It is only through your Son that even the good can come to you. Please let your servants be more concerned with the good people's souls and not only those whose sins are so obvious to us.

Thought on:
Jan. 21, 2002

I awake in the morning and you greet me with the new day; it will be in so many ways like no other. One thing that remains unchanged is you will be with me and walk with me and speak to me. If I allow you, you will direct my every decision, my every word, and my every thought.

Thank you Lord Jesus!

New Year's Resolutions: A Setup For Failure

A New Year's resolution is a promise we make ourselves that we will do something or not do something in the coming year. Typically, we are going to quit some bad habit like smoking or start some good habit such as dieting or exercise.

Making a resolution or a promise is a mild, and therefore deceptive, form of oath taking. If we need to strengthen our desire to do something with an oath, a promise, or a resolution, then it is usually because we don't really want to do whatever it is we are trying to resolve to do. The same is true for any action for which we need a start date, such as January first, rather than just beginning immediately.

Making a resolution to do some-

thing that you feel you ought to do is usually more about social pressure, being able to say, "This is my New Year's resolution, I'm going to do something better this year, I promise." Or occasionally, the resolutions we make arise from a sense of guilt or inferiority, that we are somehow not being "good enough," at least in our own estimation.

This is why James 5:12 says, "But above all things my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation."

A resolution is an attempt to do in our own strength what we should rather ask God to do for us. It is God who gives us strength to do His will, as He changes us, making us more and more a new man in Christ Jesus, and conforms us into the image of his Son.

If there is something in your life you truly want to change, then ask God to change you, for He is the One who has the power to do it. If you are trying to do it in your own strength you're just setting yourself up for failure.

By Artis Mules

This ministry will be starting its 26th year in March.

Let me give a short rundown of where we have come from over the years. In the beginning I started going into the jails, waiting for approval to go back into the prisons, but now I pretty much have access into any prison I wish to visit. In the beginning I had no support other than my job; now I have regular supporters who allow the ministry to sustain a meager budget, which covers a housing allowance, reimbursements for office supplies, and travel expenses. In the beginning I did everything

myself, then some of the members of Rehoboth Mennonite Church took an interest as people mentioned the need for me to have accountability, and they formed a board. Later on, as members resigned and others came on board, we were able to create a board which consists of seven members. That board worked hard and we did what was needed to receive our own 501(c)(3) - giving us our own individual tax-exempt status. We did have to pay an attorney for that service, but it was a

little much for us to do alone. In the beginning we were very localized; now with our Web site we are receiving mail from all over the USA, adding pen pals from other states, and having other ministries call or write us about using our information to start their own prison ministries or individual outreaches. We are still praying for a way to be able to begin and sustain a Restoration House, but we are sure we need to wait on the Lord as we have been in the past. Keep praying.

We have not been too successful in our fundraising efforts.

We have in the past tried to raise regular, ongoing support for the ability to run a Restoration House Program. Although we have included many ideas for finding businesses which could use this ministry as a tax write-off, and both be and receive a blessing, our efforts have not produced any ongoing support. This leads me to believe God has other plans for us in regards to a Restoration House at this time. I find myself wondering how much I should even keep mentioning this goal. I see the importance in a totally Christian program which would not receive government funds, so as to not be limited in the Christian agenda. I also see the economy and see other programs, which have closed because of a lack of support and I would not want to start something and spend much of God's money in it and not have God's anointing on it. We have been mentioning Restoration House since the beginning of this ministry, and we are no closer to funding it than we were in the beginning. Everything is in place as far as the forms and rules and guidelines, but for some reason that is all we have accomplished. So all I ask from each of you is, to pray for God to move in this area to give us a clear no, or a blessed yes.

A Visit to Staunton Mennonite Church

On July 15, I was invited to Staunton Mennonite Church to share God's Word while the pastor Kevin was on vacation. I received a very hospitable welcome and four of my board members joined me for the service. The



first two pictures are of the outside of this beautiful church. We came for Sunday school and it was a true blessing to hear the input from the congregation during the

Sunday school time. Here is sister Susan Miller Huyard leading the congregational singing.



Below is brother Glen Zendt getting everything set up for my message on the prodigal son. Below are some of the congregation. The man and lady to the right toward the front are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kauffman,



who came from Harrisonburg to hear the message. He has been a pen pal to many inmates and has a great interest in prison ministry. Here are Tim and Lisa Miller who joined me to show their valuable support for the work of Rehoboth Jail & Prison ministry, and for me as well. Also Gary and Artis, two more members of the board who are members of



Staunton Mennonite were there to show solidarity. Artis was actually the one who got me invited to speak (Thanks Artis!). My long-time friend Bob Turner and his wife Helen came to show their support for the ministry as well. Bob is doing great and is faithfully serving the Lord with his dear wife Helen. Another picture of the congregation as I give the Word. The congregation made each of us and the visitors feel like we were family, just as it should be in the house of the Lord. If you are ever in the



Staunton area, drop in—they will make you feel like you are home. Here is Lisa and I in the Sunday school class. Tim



was taking the picture. Our brother Joe Shenk here was the moderator or worship leader if you prefer. I have visited Staunton Mennonite Church many times, but this was the first time I shared a message for a worship service. Some of the inmates who get this newsletter might remember Ron Friesen who shared God's Word in Augusta C.C. and at Middle River Jail in Verona. He was a member of Staunton Mennonite and a good friend of mine. Last, but hope-

fully not least, I share this picture of me giving God's Word to this loving congregation of brothers and sisters in the Lord. There is one inmate this congregation is in contact with whom I minister to as well, the congregation said to tell you hello.

something they could take home with them, and still get in something to better understand where I came from and what the ministry represents. So if you want someone to fill in while you are on vacation, give me a call, and if I am not preaching already, I will be happy to come and enjoy the fellowship of your congregation. Praise the Lord.



Pro. 1: 7-9

7 The fear of the LORD [is] the beginning of knowledge: [but] fools despise wisdom and instruction.

8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: **9** For they [shall be] an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

Thought for Jan. 10, 2002

The days and years move more rapidly as my years increase; I no longer look forward to being a certain age. I seek now to live the remaining years of my life pleasing to God. So many years wasted in sin, oh God how can I make these years of waste productive for you? Let the years I have forgotten you, Lord, be helpful to others who desire to walk that path, to see ahead of time that that path leads to Hell.

If you need a fill-in for your Sunday service I could be available.

Over the years it has been a great pleasure for me to preach at churches from Methodist to Holiness, from Baptist to Mennonite and I have enjoyed sharing the Word wherever I am welcome. Last year I did more "fill in" preaching than any other year. Sometimes I end up preaching twice on a Sunday: a morning service in a church and an evening service at Dill-

wyn prison. For all of you who have invited me I am thankful. From time to time I have been asked to share a message/testimony/and prison presentation on a Sunday morning. Doing this in the usual allotted time for a Sunday service was pretty interesting to prepare for. It took over a month to come up with a message which could do all that and bless the congregation with

something they could take home with them, and still get in something to better understand where I came from and what the ministry represents. So if you want someone to fill in while you are on vacation, give me a call, and if I am not preaching already, I will be happy to come and enjoy the fellowship of your congregation. Praise the Lord.

JANUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Happy New Year	2 DCC/ PF CBS	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 DCC/ RJPM CBS	10	11	12
13 DCC/ RJPM	14 DCC/ RJPM	15	16 DCC/ PF CBS	17 Food Bank	18	19
20	21	22	23 DCC/ RJPM CBS	24	25	26
27	28 BCC/ RJPM	29	30 DCC/ PF CBS	31		

Prayer Corner

1. We are praying for the many men in the various prisons who are very ill and cannot get the proper medical care.
2. We pray for the correctional staff and the hard work some of them do, and for the others who just get by- to take their job more seriously.
3. We pray for God to touch the hearts of the parole board and through the direction of the Holy Spirit direct them to release men worthy to be released who are under the old law.
4. We pray for all of the various true Christian volunteers who go in with the gospel truth of Jesus. For God to bless them and let His light shine in the darkness of lies being taught by many cults.
5. We lift up places for men to be released to who do not have a family to return to or to help them; places where God is exalted and the Word is being taught.
6. We pay for the families of men who should have been released many years ago, but continue to be rejected by the parole board for "the serious nature of the crime."

The initials BCC stands for Buckingham Correctional Center; all services are held between 6:30 and 7:45 PM.

DCC stands for Dillwyn Corrections Center; all services are held between 6:00 and 7:30 PM.

RJPM stands for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry.

PF stands for Prison Fellowship.

CBS stands for Community Bible Study; 10:00 to 12:00 AM; Held by Chaplain Ron Baker, RJPM.

The Food Bank is held every third Thursday in the Schuyler community at a local church; from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

Offerings & Donations

are tax deductible since Rehoboth is a non-profit organization. They can be sent to the address below and will be used to further of the Jail & Prison Ministry.

Ministry Address:

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

Ronald R. Baker, Chaplain

6166 Helens Way

Schuyler, VA 22969-9607

E-mail: rrbak@juno.com

Phone: (434) 831-2593

Web site: www.jailandprisonministries.org

Mission Statement:

To establish and strengthen the Christian life of inmates and their families by providing opportunities for worship, instruction, nurturing of children, fellowship, service, mutual aid, brotherly counsel, and to establish and strengthen the Christian life of evangelism. To bring the Gospel to the unsaved and to lead them to faith in Christ followed by membership in the local body of Christ.

FEBRUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6 DCC/ PF CBS	7	8	9
10 DCC/ RJPM	11 BCC/ RJPM	12	13 DCC/ RJPM CBS	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 DCC/ PF CBS.	21 Food Bank	22	23
24	25 BCC/ RJPM	26	27 DCC/ RJPM CBS	28		