

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

March / April
2013

Changing Lives From the Inside Out.

What do you know about the God you are serving?

Have you ever heard or read about the attributes of God? Some of the men who'll read this will know what I'm speaking of since I've taught the attributes of God in several prisons.

A. There are two classes of God's attributes:

1. **His natural attributes** relate to God inwardly as He is in Himself. These natural attributes are as follows: Omniscient, Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Eternal, Immutability, Incomprehensible, Self-existent, Self-sufficient, Infinite, Transcendent, Sovereign.

Omniscient- God knows all. He has a perfect knowledge of everything that is past, present, and future.

Omnipotent- God possesses all power. He is able to bring about anything that He has decided to do, with or without the use of any source beyond Himself.

Omnipresent- God is present everywhere, in all the universe, at all times, in the totality of His character.

Eternal - God has no beginning, and He has no end. He is not confined to the finiteness of time or to man's reckoning of time. He is, in fact, the cause of time.

Immutable - God is always the same in His nature, His character, and His will. He never changes, and can never be made to change.

Incomprehensible - Because God is God, He is beyond the understanding of man. His ways, character, and acts are higher than man's. Man only understands God as He chooses to reveal Himself, His ways, or His purpose.

Self-existent - God depends upon nothing for His existence beyond Himself. The whole basis of His existence is within Himself. At one time nothing but God existed.

He added nothing to Himself by creation.

Self-sufficient - By Himself, God is able to act, that is, to bring about His will without any assistance. Although He may choose to use assistance, it is His pleasure, not His need, that governs that choice.

Infinite - God has no limits or bounds whatsoever on His person or dominion.

Transcendent - God is above His creation, and He would exist if there were no creation. His existence is totally apart from His creatures or creation.

Sovereign - God is totally, supremely, and preeminently over all His creation. There is not a person or thing that has escaped His control and foreknown plan!

2. **His moral attributes** reveal God outwardly in His relation to His creation. These moral attributes are: Holy, Righteous, Just, Merciful, Long-suffering, Wise, Loving, Good, Wrathful, Truthful, Faithful, Jealous.

Holy - God is a morally excellent, perfect being. He is totally different from man! His is purity of being in every aspect.

Righteous - God is always good. It is essential to His character. He always does the right thing. Ultimately, since He is God, whatever He does is right..... He is absolute. His actions are always consistent with His character, which is love.

Just - God is fair in all His actions. Whether He deals with man, angels, or demons, He acts in total equity by rewarding righteousness and punishing sin. Since He knows all, every decree is absolutely just.

Merciful - God is an actively compassionate being. He responds compassionately toward those who have opposed His will in their pursuit of their own way.

Longsuffering - God's righteous anger is slow to be kindled against those who failed to listen to His warnings or obey His instructions. His eternal longing for the highest good for His creatures holds back His holy justice.

Wise - God's actions are based on His character. His wisdom causes Him to choose righteous ends and to make the most fitting plans to achieve those ends.

Loving - God's love moves Him to give Himself for another, even to the laying down of His own life. His love causes him to desire His creatures' highest good. This is not based upon the worth, response, or merit of the object being loved.

Good - In His goodness God gives to others, not what they deserve, but according to His goodwill and kindness toward them.

Wrathful - There is within God a hatred for all that is unrighteous and an unquenchable desire to punish all unrighteousness. Whatever is inconsistent with His holy standards must ultimately be consumed.

Truthful - All that God says is reality. Whether believed by man or not, whether seen as reality or not, what God has spoken is reality. Whatever He speaks is truth.

Faithful - God is always true to His promises. He can never draw back from His promises of blessing or judgment.

Jealous - God is unwilling to share what is rightfully and morally His with any other creature.

How can you worship a God you do not know, or how can you develop an intimate relationship not knowing all you can about Jehovah?

Board Members:

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Gary Mules

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Tim Miller

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Lisa Miller

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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.



Jesus is the only Way

March is our 26th Anniversary

When I got out of prison 26 years ago I never thought of all the changes that would take place in my life after my release. I knew I felt a call from God to minister to inmates and their families, but I never knew how rewarding it would be to me and my personal walk with the Lord. I tell the men all the time that people think of me as generous for going into the jails and prisons to share Bible studies and worship services; however, I look at it as a chance to make myself study and to create a more intimate relationship with the Lord. Where I could have not spent as much time in the Word, I have to study when I have to preach or teach and this has created better habits in me. So I get

as much or more out of this ministry as I give.

Then there are what I call the open Bible studies where the men come prepared to share their understanding of the Scriptures we are studying. Since many of these men are Bible scholars themselves, no matter how much time I put into a study I cannot cover everything there is to cover, and as these men share their understanding it makes for a very interesting discussion. I go away much more knowledgeable than I came. Of course, with this kind of study there is also the chance someone gets upset when his understanding of God's Word and mine differ. In that case, I always suggest we both go back to our

Bible and look deeper into the Word.

I have many lifetime friends who keep in touch with me after their release from prison. Some of these men, and some inmates still incarcerated, even send financial gifts to the ministry (not to me personally), and some send stamps because they know how many letters go out each week. Unfortunately, there are some who, because of differing understanding of Scripture, no longer attend the Bible studies. This of course makes me sad, but I cannot pretend to agree and mislead someone to think they are right when I believe Scripture states otherwise. There is certainly a lot of that going on today. So I am growing in the Lord by His grace and through the men I serve in the jails and prisons. Praise God!

Needs of the Ministry

Thought for:

Jan. 13, 2002 I love you my God. Let not my love be for the blessing alone; let my love be as strong through the good times as through the bad. When men reproach me for my service for you, let my heart be glad for the privilege to come under persecution for the service of Lord. My only strength in those days must come from you. Oh Lord, make me strong in my times of weakness, restore my joy. Do not allow me to submit it to the evil one.

The greatest need of any ministry is lots of earnest prayer: prayer for the men I minister to, for my travel, the message or teachings, for my family and me daily. When I bring a prayer request to you, I know you are going to pray fervently and effectually. **James 5: 16** "Confess [your] faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Many of the men praying ask me each week about certain prayer requests, such as two babies they were praying for. They do not just say a quick prayer and then forget about that need. This is the kind of prayer that this ministry needs, (and others like it) that depend totally on the generous support of others in order to function.

In the beginning I supported this ministry with a full-time job, and that worked fine for a while; however, as the ministry grew and my position was more demanding, and more time was required of me, I made a decision to trust in the Lord for all our needs, and He has not once let us down. **Phil. 4:19** "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." This verse promises He will meet your needs and He has proven it. I have many times mentioned projects this ministry wanted to do which we did not have funds to undertake. Those needs were not met. So after a while God finally got it into my head He is the one who needs to determine what our needs are and to separate them from our wants. Knowing the economy in the future

and when Jesus will return, God makes all of His decisions with full knowledge of past, present, and future. So when we pray for something and wait for 26 years and we still do not have it, I am assured by God's Holy Word that if God deems this a need and we do not have it yet, then we need to wait on the Lord's perfect time and not be discouraged. **Pro. 3:5,6** "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." If my understanding says something is a need and I don't get it, I need to trust in the Lord. So our greatest need in the ministry is for your prayers that we continue to trust only in the Lord and not what we think about a situation. **So pray!**



We would like to have two new board members.

I have an excellent prison ministry board and I am very grateful for each of them and for their hard work. We continue to seek an attorney to work pro bono from time to time to give us legal advice, such as buying property and other matters that might go smoother with someone qualified in legal matters. When we got our 501 (c) (3) we hired an attorney and he gave us a great discount for his hard work, but it was

still a large expense for this ministry. If we had an attorney to advise us, it would not take a lot of his or her time. This attorney could be a board member or not. The meetings are every-other month and we sometimes have a meal before the meeting, but it rarely takes over three hours total, even including the meal.

We could also use a board member with experience in raising funds from businesses, and other sources.

Brother Gary could use some help in that area, just as we sought help for Artis and found it in the associate editors we have added to help with the editing.

If you have any of these skills or if you would just like to join the board please contact us with why you would like to join the board.

We alternating between holding board meetings in the Stuarts Draft area and in Schulyer.

Thought for:

Jan. 11, 2002

Help me today to make the decisions I need to make to step even closer to you, oh Lord my strength and my power. Each day let my relationship with you become more intimate each moment I am blessed with life, my God and Redeemer. Let your love fill me to overflowing that it might pour out to all mankind who I am blessed to come in contact with. Thank you Lord for placing your will in the depth of my heart. May it remain until your return.

The wood ministry needs some youthful help.

Although the cutting of firewood is not new to this ministry, we just put out a brochure explaining what it is about. We only cut for needy people who do not have funds to buy wood, or do not have an alternative heating source. We need some healthy volunteers to help with this strenuous activity. Or, we could use someone to help load and unload, someone who has a

truck and who would be willing to donate their time and fuel to this good cause. We do not sell the wood and all we do, we do unto the Lord. Gary Mules is thinking about starting a branch (get it—branch—cutting wood! haha) over in the Staunton area if anyone is interested in helping over that way. In the Schulyer area I have three volunteers, but all of them work full-

time jobs, so they are not always available. So if you are in the Schulyer area and can help, give us a call. Also, if you have good hardwood trees down and want us to cut this up and give the wood to a needy family, please let us know. Like all of these outreaches, we need help from others or they cannot be successful. So come and join us!



Watch and Pray!

Matt. 26:41 “Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed [is] willing, but the flesh [is] weak.” **Mark 13 :33-37** ³³“Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. ³⁴[For the Son of man is] as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants,

and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. ³⁵Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning: ³⁶Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. ³⁷And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.”

Matt. 24: 42 “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.” **2 Pet. 3:9,10** ⁹“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” I pray at the Lord’s coming we are ready like the five wise virgins and won’t have to get ready like the five foolish ones. **(Mt. 25:1-12)**

MARCH 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					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 31	25 BCC/ RJPM	26	27 DCC/ RJPM CBS	28	29	30

Prayer Corner

1. Please pray for my board members who work so hard to keep this ministry credible and me accountable.
2. Pray for all of the families and churches who bless us with the support we need just to keep our meager budget.
3. Pray for the prisons we visit and for the ones who might not have any volunteers coming in yet.
4. Pray for other prison ministries which are struggling and have financial difficulties.
5. Pray for people who have been discouraged by ministries who have misused funds, that these people find legitimate ministries to support and not lose heart because of ones that have done wrong.
6. Always pray that God will anoint the speakers and that only the truth will be preached and taught by ministries calling themselves Christian.
7. Pray that any cults will fail to blind people of God's true Gospel.

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 the Jail & Prison Ministry.

Ministry Address:
 Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry
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 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.

APRIL 2013

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