



# Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Newsletter

## Prison Changing lives from the inside out !!

Nov / Dec 2015

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After Care  
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Mentoring  
Family Ministry  
Youth Ministry  
Restoration House  
Ministry training seminars available for local churches.

## Loaded With Thanksgiving

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah." Ps. 68:19.

Since God loads us with blessings every day, then we should return thanks to Him every day. We should not take for granted the things God gives us as a matter of course - that we will eat, sleep, have clothes, and the many spiritual blessings as well, even Salvation and hearts to follow God, which are also blessings that are free gifts from God Eph.2:8 "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."

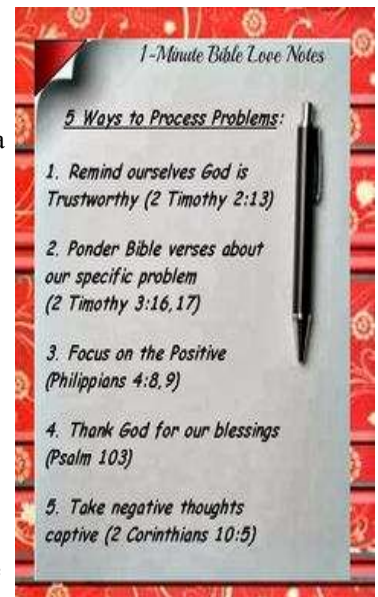
All of the blessings we have come from God. What if all we had for the day were only those things which we had thanked Him for yesterday? Let us take time to think care-

fully of all the blessings we do have and give thanks for them often.

Thanksgiving Day is a good day, not only to give God special thanks for all His blessings this past year since last Thanksgiving, but a good day to jot down a list of all the things to be grateful for. Such a list can be added to and prayed over regularly during the year, and serve as a reminder next Thanksgiving of all the many blessings received throughout the year. When a list of blessings is kept and added to, it can be amazing how many blessings God truly does load upon us. So many blessings can be easy to forget if we save our all prayers of thanksgiving up for just one day, leading to a struggle to figure out what more to say as we try to give God "extra" thanks during the

holiday.

So, let us give thanks often, remembering how much God gives to us at all times, even when we aren't aware of it, lest it is we, rather than God, who are found lacking.



## I Thank Thee

O Thou whose bounty fills my cup,  
With every blessing meet!  
I give Thee thanks for every drop—  
The bitter and the sweet.

I praise Thee for the desert road,  
And for the riverside;  
For all Thy goodness hath bestowed,

And all Thy grace denied.  
I thank Thee for both smile and frown,  
And for the gain and loss;  
I praise Thee for the future crown  
And for the present cross.

I thank Thee for both wings of love  
Which stirred my worldly

nest;  
And for the stormy clouds which drove  
Me, trembling, to Thy breast.

I bless Thee for the glad increase,  
And for the waning joy;  
And for this strange, this settled peace  
Which nothing can destroy.  
(Jane Crewdson, 1860)

**THERE IS NEVER A BAD TIME TO COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.**

## The Price of Obedience

The Scriptures regarding the birth of Jesus give an extraordinary account of many humble people who are very deeply devoted to the Lord, in sharp contrast to their leaders in Jerusalem. Among them we can find many examples for our own lives.

Mary who said, " Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word."

Joseph who was instantly obedient to each of the four dreams God gave him, rising up immediately to do what he was told and take whatever steps were necessary to protect Mary and Jesus no matter how difficult.

Elizabeth who suffered being called barren, not a complimentary term at that time, all her life, and then was called to bear

a child when she was getting on in years rather than having a restful old age.

Zacharias who struggled with his faith and was punished for it, and yet his prayers were answered and he was given the important task of raising John the Baptist.

Simeon who waited all his life to see the Consolation of Israel, another name for the Messiah.

Anna devoted herself continually to prayer in her old age, was respected as a prophetess and became a witness to Jesus as the Messiah to all those who came to the temple in faith and were willing to listen.

The Magi traveled hundreds of miles seeking the newborn King so that they might deliver their gifts. They were

probably in Bethlehem less than twenty-four hours, just long enough to warn Joseph and Mary that one of them had had a dream regarding Herod.

The Shepherds who gladly left their precious flocks alone in the night to fend for themselves, trusting God to care for the sheep in their absence, and hastened into Bethlehem to see the Babe in the manger.

These people and this story are so familiar that we often take them for granted. But when we examine the accounts closely we begin to realize the difficulties they faced, the risks they took, the hardships they endured, the patience with which they waited, their obedience and the extraordinary things which happened to each one of them.



## 12 Christmas Prayers

1. Faith: Father God, it is by Your grace we have been saved, and through our faith - this is not from ourselves, but a gift from You - not by our works. Ephesians 2:8-9

2. Hope: May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:4

3. Love: Help us to love because You first loved us. 1 John 4:19

4. Forgiveness: Thank You for being faithful and just to forgive us our sins and thus purifying us from all un-

righteousness. 1 John 1:9

5. Mercy: Let us be merciful, just as our Father is merciful. Luke 6:36

6. Kindness: Let us be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as through Jesus, You forgave us. Ephesians 4:32

7. Generosity: Let us be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, and to give the glory and thanks to You Lord! 2 Corinthians 9:11

8. Compassion: Let us live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic and compassionate, love as brothers, and be humble. 1 Peter 3:8

9. Joy: Let us be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Romans 12:12

10 Salvation Thank you for providing Jesus who is the way, the truth, the life and the only way to You. John 14:16

11 Obedience Help us to not merely listen to Your Word, and so deceive ourselves. Help us to do what it says. James 1:22 - 25

12 Life Thank You for coming that we may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10





# How Quickly We Forget



The many recorded events about Jesus tell us not only about Him, but about ourselves also.

Both Mary and Joseph had angelic visitations in which each were individually assured that the Child Mary was carrying was indeed the long awaited Messiah. Both of them too were also able to recall the visit of the shepherds and their story of more angels on the hills outside of Bethlehem proclaiming the infant to be the Messiah. And yet here at the temple a mere eight days after they had heard the shepherds' story, they marveled at the things that Simeon prophesied about the baby Jesus. They already knew he was the Messiah, and had had it confirmed by the shepherds and yet they marveled at this further confirmation.



Later on Jesus was visited by three Magi and given very rich presents, and Joseph had three additional dreams regarding the care of the Child and his mother, telling him when to flee to Egypt, when to return, and where to settle. More confirmations of how important Jesus was.

In time however, as Mary and Joseph had additional children and became concerned with raising them as well as Jesus and with the usual busyness of life, it must have occasionally seemed easy to forget at times just how special Jesus was.

Nine years or so after Joseph's last dream, when Jesus was twelve, they lost track of Him on the way home after Passover and had to search for three days, only to realize that he had been at the temple the whole time. They were so frus-

trated and worried by the time they found Jesus! But he said to them, "How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" They surely must still know that he was the Messiah and therefore would be protected by God until his mission on earth was complete. But in their frustration at the time they forgot, and didn't really think about what he meant until later (Luke 2:51).

How easy it is for us to forget what God has shown us when we are busy with our lives and with the cares of this world. Thank God that our temporary forgetfulness does not prevent God from still using us to do all that He has planned for us to do. Philippians 1:6 - "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

## Joshua A Prophetic Type of Jesus

Both were loved by the Father. (Gen. 37:3, John 10:17)

Both were hated by their brothers. (Gen. 47:4, John 8:40)

Both were sent to their brothers. (Gen. 37:13, John 3:17)

Both went into the earth and came back out. (Gen. 37:24-28, Matthew 27:57-28:7)

Both were stripped of their tunics. (Gen. 37:23, John 19:23)

Both were taken to Egypt. (Gen. 37:25, Matthew 2:14-15)

Both were sold for silver. (Gen. 37:28, Matthew 26:15)

Both were servants. (Gen. 39:4, Philippians 2:7)

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Both overcame temptation. (Gen. 39:7-12, Matthew 4:1-10)

Both were falsely accused. (Gen. 39:17-18, Matthew 26:59-61)

Both were punished with two others. (Gen. 40, Luke 23:32-43)

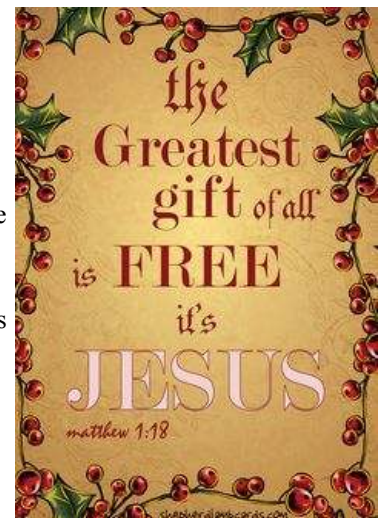
Both were exalted to sit at the right hand. (Gen. 41:41, Matthew 26:64)

Both had important transitions at age 30. (Gen. 41:46, Luke 3:23)

Both were providers of life-saving bread. (Gen. 47:12, John 6:35-58)

Both went unrecognized. (Gen. 42:8, John 1:10-11)

Both provided salvation. (Gen. 45:7, John 3:16-17)



## NOV 2015

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

## DEC 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Red numbers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Sunday are evenings I ministry Dillwyn and Buckingham prisons. The red numbers in the 8th of Nov and the 13 of Dec I will preach twice that day once at a local church and that evening at Dillwyn. The green numbers are the days we have the (MOM) Monthly Outreach Meal at Living Word Christian Fellowship.

### 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 body of Christ

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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](http://www.jailandprisonministries.org)

## 28th Annual Day of Jubilee

On Sept 26th we held our annual Day of Jubilee. It was rainy and overcast and looked like we might not have the turnout we had the previous year when the sun was shining and it was neither too hot or too cool. I had not heard back from many people about the covered dishes they might bring and I was concerned there might not be enough food as well. I would hate for anyone to leave this event hungry, either spiritually or physically. Of course, this did not happen as we were all blessed with the songs of praise with the help of Kathy Allen and the wonderful testimonies from some of the ex-offenders and others guest who



shared how God is working in their lives. We had an abundance of food and no one seem to even mind that it was rainy. Some of the children still played outside since it did not rain all that hard anyway.

We had around 62 guests at one count and that was actually more than last year. We had many new guests and we had a translator to translate what was being shared with our Spanish brothers and sister who joined us for the first time this year. Some of the regulars did not make it but many there were new guests who joined us for the first time. Once again being able to hold



the celebration in a building paid off. This way we do not have to postpone or cancel the celebration. Tim Miller, the Bridgewater family, and a friend named Jason did much work to clean up the building and get it ready for the day of praising and worshiping God, thanking Him for yet another year of serving God in the jails and prisons. Here it is before all of the guests arrive. When



every-one arrives it looks a little more like the next picture. I always praise God for the testimonies and how we can listen and learn how God is blessing men and women within the prison system in spite of what society

thinks of them.

We are happy to share the news that we have been praying about since before this



ministry was formed. We have purchased a house which is in need of a lot of work. When we close on the house, we plan on getting some volunteers to help with many major and minor repairs and get it ready to assist people in need of a place to get back on their feet. Please pray for support for this endeavor.