



Director's Corner



“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life . . .” John 6:68.

The disciple, Simon Peter, said these words in John and they still ring true today . . . Jesus has the words of eternal life. In this passage, some things transpired early on in chapter 6 and you see just a couple verses before this one that many of Jesus' disciples turned back and no longer walked with Him. Are we seeing that today? Our world is in a mess and we see chaos all around us. It can get downright discouraging, right? Feel like giving up?

During this pandemic, we have been kept out of the prisons and it has been downright discouraging. I have felt, at times, and asked myself, “Is it worth it?” Some volunteers have given up and turned away and are not going back in even if the Institutions are open for us. Jesus is asking us, just like He asked the disciples, “Do you want to go away, as well?” That is when the words of Simon Peter have to ring loud and clear in our ears, our minds, and our hearts . . . “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” We are not giving up! I am not giving up! There is nowhere else to turn but to Jesus . . . no matter what our circumstances may be! Be encouraged! God is still on His throne and now is the time to be ready!

The Lord granted an incredibly unique opportunity the first weekend of November, allowing me to participate in a four-day journey with a great ministry that is near and dear to my heart, Stabilizing Life Prison Ministry. These men do what is called the WOW Journey that you have heard me talk about before. We were able to go into a prison for four days and have a 2-hour worship service in the morning and in the afternoon. They gave each and every dorm an opportunity to come out onto the yard and hear and see what was going on. God is so awesome! He blessed us with an outstanding weekend! The weather was fantastic as we had no rain. The men were excited to see us and very receptive to what we were saying. The Holy Spirit moved in and among us and over the course of the four days had **39 men come forward and make a decision** to either give their lives to Jesus for the very first time, rededicate their lives to Christ, or want to get baptized! Hallelujah, praise be to God!

Whether or not you go inside a prison or you walk into Wal-Mart, we are to share the love of Jesus with whomever we meet and give out His words of

eternal life. The prisons are starting to slowly re-open and we are excited to get back at it. But, even if we get locked back out due to a rise in this coronavirus, we are to still be about the Father's business of helping people find and follow Jesus. We have the answer to whatever the question or problem may be, and His name is Jesus.

So, what can you do? I pray you ask yourself what you can be doing to make a difference in the lives of others. You can continue to pray for us as we seek more opportunities to bless others. You can give financially as we have needs that arise and also there is an increase in requests for Bibles from the men in blue during the holiday months that we would like to meet those requests. Each one of us can be a blessing to someone. Thank you for your prayers and financial support! We are so grateful for you! You are a huge blessing to us, and we want you to know that we are praying for you. You are a vital part of this ministry! May God continue to meet all your needs and bless you abundantly!

I just wanted to say, “Thank You” to all those who signed up for the Amazon Smile program! We have already seen a difference. This past quarter, we had Amazon send us more (\$39) than we had been sent in the previous nine months of their donations (\$36) combined! Thank YOU! There is more information about this specifically in this newsletter, but basically as you do your online shopping on Amazon as normal, Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to a non-profit of your choice and I'm praying you choose us. This is at no extra cost to you, so I pray you take advantage of this opportunity, especially since we are in the holiday shopping season!



Many of us have changed our shopping to online purchases. You can help Harvest of Life Ministry through this venue - Amazon Smile. AmazonSmile is a way for customers to support their favorite charitable organization every time they shop with Amazon.

Shoppers who start at smile.amazon.com will find the same Amazon they know and love, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. Go on the link provided here to sign up and continue your regular online shopping and support Harvest of Life ministry too.

We are listed as Harvest of Life Inc

Location: Tallahassee, FL

Mission: Promulgation Of The Gospel

HARVEST OF LIFE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

December 2020

www.harvestoflife.org

Missionary Report



"When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you."
Isiah 43:2

Currently the Department of Corrections has no plans to reopen anytime soon. Fortunately inmates do have access to correspondence Bible Studies. We continue to receive completed studies from the Gadsden Correctional Facility for Women.

Once they are graded, we return them to the inmate along with a certificate of completion and a Sarah Young, "Jesus Calling" devotional.

During this lockdown Hispanic inmates incarcerated in ICE detention centers and Federal Prisons across the U.S. continue to write to us asking for Spanish Bibles. In addition to sending them God's Word in their own language, we also enclose a Spanish Bible correspondence course to get them grounded in the faith.

We continue to pray for the prison residents daily asking God to give them peace and patience and the mind of Christ while they endure lockdown 24/7 which has to be stressful.

Since the first of the year we have shipped 1,381 Spanish Bibles and Bible studies at a cost of \$18.00 per package. We praise God for our many ministry supporters who provide the funds and prayers for the Spanish Bible Project.

Because He Lives, *Dan and Marilyn*

Encouragement Letter

Greet'ns once again from Tennessee! This story I hope will be an encouragement to you during these days of uncertainty.

In the darkness of the night, the wind whispered gently through the tall pines as the crackle of the campfire brought tranquility and peace. The smell of burning wood and the glow of the flame became an ointment of comfort from the busy week. While the crickets crooned their midnight melodies of contentment, the sparks danced to their rhythm toward the sky, and then slowly disappeared. As the evening developed, the desire for sleep followed but then something began to change.

Instead of whispering, the wind began to murmur louder as it began to rush through the needles of the trees. The flames of the fire took a new direction and started to flicker sideways then dancing madly, burning faster than before. Suddenly a flash of lightening pealed through the evening sky followed by the harsh reverberation of thunder. A strong wind started charging though the once peaceful pines and then that which was so beautiful and surreal was interrupted by sprinkles, followed by a deluge of rain.

The storm was intense but only lasting for a few minutes, then was over. The fire was decimated by the moisture and smoke wafted slowly from the ashes. For a time, silence filled the air except for the dripping water from the trees. The wind began to whisper through the pines while the crickets began crooning their midnight melodies of contentment once again. The storm had changed the background of the evening but only the fire was gone. In less than half an hour, a new one cracked in its place and once again, the smell of burning wood and the glow of the flame flickered in the darkness of the night.

Many are the nights I have sat around a campfire and enjoyed the peacefulness it shares. Although a hot cup of coffee intensifies my enjoyment, I can enjoy the time without it because of the serenity I feel. Be it pine needles or leaves, I love to hear the music they make when the wind joins them in their serenade of sound. If I am by a creek or some slow movement of water, the satisfaction increases. When the crickets and frogs join in, country music never sounded so good.

However, a sudden unexpected storm can change the enjoyment. As I scurry to find shelter from the rain, I watch from

my protected cover to see what happens to the fire. At first, it burns bravely but depending on the intensity of the storm, it will only last a little while. If the rain persists, the fire fails to exist and sometimes only smoke and ashes are left. A new one can be remade after the storm passes if I have dry wood but the old one is but a memory.

In the darkness of the night in my life, I can experience both serenity and severity at times. The feelings of faith and the knowledge of God's working on my behalf bring tranquility and peace. The ointment of comfort and the melody of contentment allow me to know that even though I can't see what is going on, I can find comfort from God's Word as it gives me new life and hope (Psalm 119:50, Romans 15:4). He is the God of all comfort that comforts me so that in return I can comfort others later (2 Corinthians 1:3, 4). I can live in peace knowing that as He comforts my heart, He also strengthens me (2 Corinthians 13:11, 2 Thessalonians 2:17).

Sometimes the whispering doubts of the enemy murmur louder and I start listening to them. Doubt rushes through my mind and fear seizes my soul. Lack of assurance dances in the shadows of my heart and my thoughts take on a new direction. It cries out in fear wondering where God is, the One who gives songs in the night. (Job 35:10). Has He forsaken me? Why can't I sense His presence? The reverberation of thunderous misconceptions charges my being and that which was once surreal is saturated with sadness.

How grateful I am that God never gives up on me. He is my hiding place and shall preserve me in the times of trouble; He surrounds me with His songs of deliverance (Psalm 32:7). Though my heart feels decimated with the moisture from my tears, He sifts through the ashes, removing the unnecessary things from my life and then restores joy that was lost. Weeping may still endure through the night, but I know joy will come in the morning (Psalm 39:5). The soft whisper of His love reassures me all is well. I can arise at midnight to give Him thanks because of His righteousness (Psalm 119:62). It is then I feel the glow of His presence in the darkness of the night.

— Larry Cole Prov. 3:5,6

Your support through prayer and financial giving is more important than ever during these times to reach the men and women in our correctional institutions. Contact us if you would like to donate toward the needs of this ministry.

Email us at evans@harvestoflife.org or visit our web page <https://www.harvestoflife.org>

"...Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!" Jn. 4:35