

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry

RTJ NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 37

January 2012



Dear RTJ Partner,

Another year has gone by and we are even busier than we were last year. New bible studies, new partners. Change and flexibility, that is what RTJ is about. We never know from one week till the next what door God is going to close or what new door He is going to open. We just want to be ready.

We have and still are teaching curriculum's by the author John Bevere. He has books and study courses that I believe are for the times in which we are living. He has written a book called Undercover, Bait of Satan and many more. We have great response from not only inmates but also churches that teach John's work. However, to make a long story short I am reading one of his latest books and we are teaching it called The Fear of the Lord. I am so engulfed with this book and believe we are right where the book is that for the next few months I will be sharing certain chapters. Again thank you and may God Bless You and all within your house.

Jim Helton
Founder RTJ

DELAYED JUDGMENT

For we must all stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in our bodies.

2Corinthians 5:10,nlt

AS I WRITE, we are nearing the close of two thousand years since the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. We live on the threshold

of the final weeks, days, and moments before His return. Jesus said we would know the season, but not the day or hour. (See Matthew 24:32-36.). We are living in that season.

The Former and Latter Rain

Prophetic scriptures foretold how God would reveal His glory in a mighty way at the onset of the church age and again at the close of the church age just prior to His Second Coming. James described it: Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. -JAMES 5:7

Notice James refers to both an early and latter rain. In Israel the early rain fell and moistened the dry ground at the beginning of the planting season. The rain-softened ground could receive the grain, which could firmly take root. The latter rain came right before harvest and was more appreciated because it ripened and prospered the fruit.

James used physical rain as a comparison to explain the outpouring of God's glory. The early rain fell on the Day of Pentecost, as Peter confirmed: But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:'

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming

of the great and awesome day of the LORD." ACTS 2:16-20

Peter used the term "pour Out." The terminology for heavy rain is "downpour." Peter could have said "drop down," but he was using terms that suited the release of rainwater. Who better than Peter to describe the outpouring of God's glory experienced on the Day of Pentecost? But this description is not limited to what he had just experienced, for with the same breath he described the outpouring of God's glory prior to the great and awesome day of the Lord. The great and awesome day of the Lord did not refer to the time period in which Peter lived, but to the Second Coming of Christ. The Spirit of God did through Peter what He had done so many times before: He linked two distinct time periods in the same prophetic message or scripture. Yes, a great out pouring of God's Spirit began on the Day of Pentecost. James called it the early rain. God's glory manifested and spread wherever the Lord sent His disciples with the gospel. No known portion of the world remained unaffected. Yet this great outpouring did not increase in momentum. It gradually waned. It diminished, as men lost their passion for His presence and glory. In place of the love and fear that once burned hot stood the cold, lifeless altar of selfish desires. Drawn away, many became busy with religious activities and doctrines that once again obscured the purpose for which God created us-to walk with Him.



Southern District Ministry Report

My name is Reverend Stephen Wright and I have been Director over the Southern District for about 4 years. I have been with Pastor Jim Helton for about the last 9 years. So having introduced myself this is what's going on in the Southern District prisons we go into.

Jerry VanHoutin is our minister in **Big Muddy**, he is going through the "Honors Reward" series and the attendance is great with about 60 men coming each week. There are two services each month with a steady showing of about 30 men. Jerry also does the **Centralia** services, they recently completed the "Bait of Satan" series on Thursday evening and there is one Sunday service a month with about 60 men in service. Andy Ritchie, Bill Percell and Lila Chaplin are our ministers at the **Graham** prison. They just completed the teaching series on "Biblical Fasting and Prayer" with 28 men in the class. The Sunday service this month will be the last one with Chaplin Wiseman, She will be retiring the end of December and as the baton passes to the next Chaplin we pray blessing and mercy on her as she goes.

Taylorville prison has a great deal going on with 3 Sunday services and 3 weekly bible studies. The morning study was just moved from Monday to Friday morning. The "Purpose Driven Life" on Monday evening with George Burns, Mark, and Bob Walker. The Thursday evening study with Lila Chaplin and Scott root leading. The Sunday services with John Cook and Tim DeSherlia. We will also be doing a special service on Christmas evening.

At **Vandalia** there are about 150 men coming to the Thursday evening Bible study each week with Tim DeSherlia and myself leading the study. The men are starting the "Under Cover"

series. There is a Sunday service with about 100 men in service each week. Tim DeSherlia and I do the **Fayette County jail** service on the first Monday evening of each month. The number of men and women we see varies due to the turnover rate at the jail. The number is from 50 to 80 men and women. They don't have a chapel to do services in so we go to each cell block and get to minister to the in their rooms. We will also be doing a special service with Pastor Carl Rhodes of the South side Christian Church. We have a lot going on in the Southern District so please keep all of our ministers in your prayers. We believe the prayers of people like you are heard and answered and without this we can't do what we do. Thank you for your support.

Blessings in Christ,
Reverend Stephen Wright
Southern District Director



Reverend Stephen Wright
RTJ Southern District Director

Re-lease Store

Things are going great in the store. We are almost finished with the construction. I will begin the interior work. So many have helped in this work and will be there as we continue. Thank you for the donations and prayers.

Sarah

Ministry Needs

Baby clothes (for women in Prison)
Plastic hangers
Plastic baby hangers

Re-Release Sale

Giving Good Items A New Lease On Life

We are looking for items that are left over from rummage sales or things you are going to throw away, clothes, furniture, nicknack's, ect.. These items will be sold or given away at our Re-Release Sale in Mattoon. Proceeds will be used to help support Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry. Areas of ministry are bibles, bible studies, tracts and much more. Call us. We will pick up your items either at your home or your church. Also the children's items will be wrapped at Christmas time and we will find children of inmates in prison in our area. We will also give you a tax receipt if you wish.

Decatur Area Call:
Kim 217-423-0271
John 217-855-3010

Pana Area Call:
Lila 217-823-3214

Sullivan Area Call:
Jim 217-728-8775
Cell 217-855-7799

Mattoon Area Call:
Sarah 217-235-3058
Scott 217-246-0492

These pictures are of some of the RTJ Volunteers. Some go into the Prisons with us and some pray for us "behind the scenes". We gathered together to assemble 2200 gift bags for the inmates at a couple of local prisons. I wish I could tell you everyone that made this possible but it would be impossible to list all the donations, from over 600 lbs of gummy worms (which we had to seperate) to the candy bars, candy canes, capri sun, and ziploc bags to put it all in. A BIG thank you to all the churches, businesses and individuals that helped make this all possible.



PLEASE CUT ALONG LINE AND MAIL TO RTJ

AREAS OF INTEREST:

- JAIL/PRISON OUTREACH
- ADD TO MAILING LIST
- OFFICE VOLUNTEER
- TRANSITIONAL HOME
- OTHER _____

LOVE OFFERING:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE & ZIP _____

PRAYER REQUESTS

You can also e-mail your prayer requests to tamibanchy@yahoo.com

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry
P.O. Box 103
Sullivan, IL 61951-1348

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Decatur, IL
Permit No. 30

Return Service Requested



Office: 217.728.8775
Mobile: 217.855.7799
e-mail: rtjprisonministry@yahoo.com
Web: www.releasethroughjesus.org

Remember the prisoners
as if chained with
them. Those who are
mistreated- since you
yourselves are in the
body also

Hebrews 13:13

PRISON SERVICES

1st Sunday	Vandalia Taylorville Centralia NEW!
2nd Saturday	Big Muddy
2nd Sunday	Graham
4th Sunday	Decatur Taylorville
Friday Evenings	Big Muddy

PRISON BIBLE STUDIES

Monday	Decatur Graham Taylorville Big Muddy
Tuesday	Big Muddy
Thursday	Centralia Taylorville
Saturday	Decatur Work Release

RTJ - Taking Prisoners for Christ!

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry enters all levels of confinement facilities to help men and women to know Jesus and lead them to salvation, to teach the



men and women to hide the Word of God in their hearts so that they might sin no more, and to regularly visit churches of all Christian denominations to spread the good news of God's work with the incarcerated.