

Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry

RTJ NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 34
October 2011

Dear RTJ Partner,

I received an article from an inmate from Albuquerque, New Mexico or someone that receives our Newsletter, with a \$1.00 bill tucked inside. The article is from REPORTER which is a United Methodist Newspaper. We minister and share what God is doing in prisons in many Methodist Churches. They are a great supporter of this Ministry and have been since the Ministry began. I would like to share the article with you. Thank you so much for your support of R. T. S. Right now we are gearing up so to speak with many donated cases of Candy and Capri Sun. See articles (inside Newsletter) for men and women in prison for Christmas. Approximate 2500.

Jim Helton

Grace is with us

Wesley preached that one dimension of the Image of God is our conscience. George Hunter's books were my teacher that showed me John Wesley's goal in preaching was very different from revival meeting theology. Hunter documented that Wesley preached to the "awakening of the soul."

Aha! That is prevenient grace at work. Each of us is like Simba in Disney's THE LION KING, when

Rafiki found the little lion living among the warthogs. He took Simba back through the dark hyena country to a promontory overlooking the jungle over which he is the rightful heir, lifted him up and said "Simba, you are more than you have become."

This is what Paul Scherer enunciates in his powerful book THE WORD GOD SENT. That is the word God sent: Each of us is more than your behavior, more than your attitude, more than your addiction, more than the sum of your sin. You are a daughter or son of the highest God—stamped indelibly with a "made by the Lord God Almighty" imprimatur. We have seen a distorted version of who we are. With God's grace we see our real face—forgiven, replanted, restored.

Recently, I went to visit a man in prison whose name is Jerry. I met his daughter's a table server in our local rural restaurant. She comes to church every Sunday and is filling a prew sith others, but she wanted me to see her daddy in prison.

After some pleasantries in getting acquainted, my first words to him were, "Jerry, do you really believe in your heart that God loves you?" He responded, "Don't you know why I am in here?" I said that I did know, but we needed to go beneath what he did to who he

was. God is love and God loves us, warts and all! We become God's children at birth, not with straight A behavior. That is prevenient grace, the "grace that will not let us go." Society was right in making him spend time in the Penitentiary for his crime, but God never stopped loving him when the jail door clanged shut.

"Remember the Prisoners as if chained with them--those who are mistreated-- since you yourselves are in the body also"

Hebrews 13:3

NEWS:

- Visit our website for online giving, to sign up for the electronic version of the newsletter and submit prayer requests.
- RTJ is now on Facebook. Pay us a visit for news and pictures.

Juice from Kraft

The ministry has been very blessed to receive help from Jake Hinterser. He is with the Granite City Community Homeless Breakfast. They provide meals for the people in Granite City. Jake works with the warehouse manager Scott Frick. These men have a heart for the community to reach out from and show the love of Christ. Through these men the ministry has received 2 pallets of caprisun for the Christmas bags we are putting together for the men this year. We would like to thank Jake for his hard work and his giving heart.

Blessings in Christ
Steve Wright

Big Muddy CC

We recently awarded certificates for Bait of Satan by John Bever, to Big Muddy River and Centralia Correctional Centers. We are blessed in that there were over 75 men to receive certificates. The series are desired by many. There are always new men signing up for class.

The second Saturday morning Chapel service was well attended, at Big Muddy River Correctional Center. As a result of the mornings message from the Word of GOD, thirty seven prayed a prayer of faith to receive Christ Jesus as savior and LORD. A joyful time of praise and worship was experienced by everyone.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY
THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
Rev Jerry F Van Houtin, Sr

*"...God shall wipe every tear
from their eyes."*

Revelations 7:17



Capri Sun Warehouse in Granite City

GOD HAS A PLAN

Isaiah 40:31 but they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not grow weary; and they shall walk, and not be faint. We are nearing to close another class soon at Decatur women's Correctional center. God has been faithful to give these ladies increase, we are learning to let go of things we can't change and plug into the plans GOD has for our lives. We said goodbye to Margaret last week a lady close to my heart because she bears my mom's name. She came to class so bitter, angry and confused. She went home renewed with peace, love and purpose that only GOD can give. After we prayed for her she said she never felt like this before. I quote "I feel GOD moving on the inside of me, I feel his warm love on fire in my soul" God holds our destiny in his hands; it is not time to turn around Give in Or retreat It is time to wait upon the LORD.... to walk with him and not grow weary To faint not but move forward. It is all about GOD or nothing ... to be carnal minded is death ...

God Has a Plan continued...

... being spiritually weary is a slow fade ... impatience brings mistakes ... there is change in the air ... can you hear the cry of the spirit Jon 15: 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

May his peace be upon you,
Scott Root



Jim with Past Jack Wieland at Bethany Cumberland Presbyterian church on September 4th



New monthly supporters of RTJ
Joe Scribner and his wife Gail at their business, Scribner Repair in Sullivan, Illinois.

Re- Lease Store

Giving Good Items A New Lease On Life

Help us in the Prison Missions

We are looking for items that are left over from rummage sales. Things you are going to throw away, clothes, furniture, nicknack's, ect.. These items will be sold or given away at our ReSale shop 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.

Matt 25:36 - I was in prison and ye came unto me

PH Number 217-728-8775 217-855-7799

Your donation of merchandise to Re-Lease Store is tax deductible, according to state and federal guidelines. Please consult your tax advisor for more information. It is the responsibility of the donor to provide proof of the donation and its fair market value at the time of the provision to this organization. Re-Lease Store, part of Release Through Jesus Prison Ministry in Illinois is a 501 (c)(3).

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 wormalen 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.

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 _____

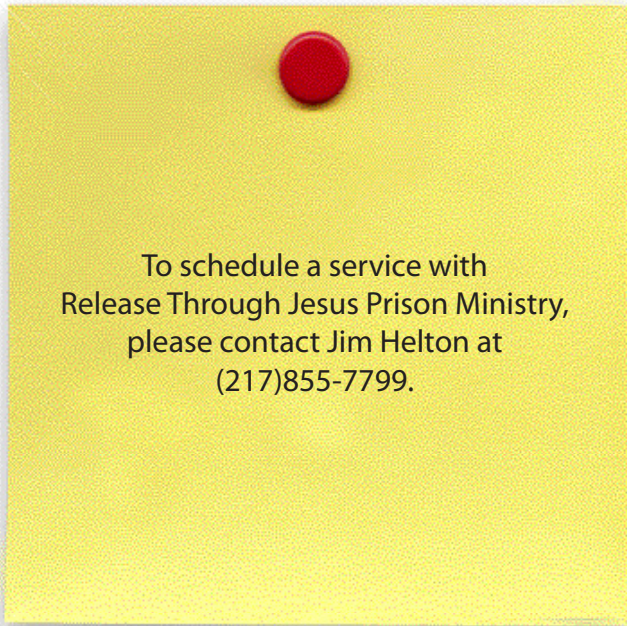
PRAYER REQUESTS

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



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e-mail: rtjprisonministry@yahoo.com
Web: www.releasethroughjesus.org

The Lord is near to the
brokenhearted, and
saves those who are
crushed in spirit.

Psalms 34:18

PRISON SERVICES

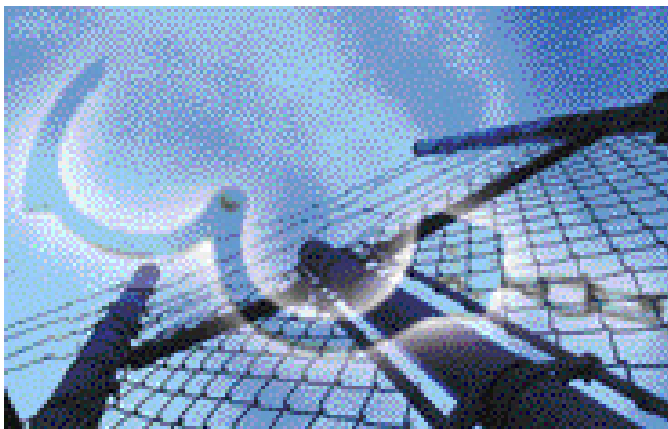
- 1st Sunday
 - Vandalia
 - Taylorville
 - Centralia NEW!
- 2nd Saturday
 - Big Muddy
- 2nd Sunday
 - Graham
- Every Monday
 - Lawrence
- 4th Sunday
 - Decatur
 - Taylorville
- Friday Evenings
 - Big Muddy

PRISON BIBLE STUDIES

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

RTJ - Taking Prisoners for Christ!

ReleaseThroughJesusPrisonMinistryentersalllevelsofconfinementfacilitiesto helpmen



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