

## March Newsletter

The first two months of the new year have brought us all nearer the Lord's return. We all see what is happening, not just in the world, but in God's remnant church. It is truly exciting to be living in these times, on the one hand, but having received so much light as a people, it is very solemn and serious, on the other.

In regard to BWP Foundation, Mary and I have experienced a tightening, or slowing down of donations to our prison ministry, since the year began. Based on what is being reported, other ministries are going through a similar situation. God seems to be speaking to His people, that we need to be decoupling from the world, and be preparing by greater self-denial, prayer and sharing our faith, for the time is not far distant when we will not be able to buy or sell at any price. He is longing to increase our faith, by relying more on Him and His resources, and less on our attachments to the world.

However, those in ministry know that through the times of trial when financial tightening is occurring, we also have evidence of God's sustaining presence. We also have come to realize that we need to do more in our power to improve the situation. We have been writing more sources for funding, I've been working on another grant, and we have come up with some creative ways to obtain funds to alleviate immediate needs, not only of the ministry, but our own personal financial condition. All the while, continuing to implore heaven for guidance, direction, wisdom and working on hearts and minds of those we've contacted. There is a Bible verse that has come to mind again and again over these weeks in this process, it is found in Ecclesiastes 11 verse 1: "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days." The Lord expects us to do all in our power to put the need before others, and with some even asking for counsel.

This approach is not comforting, nor is it convenient, but it requires persistence, drive, self-denial, and determination to see God do more despite our weakness and frailty, which is beyond the comfort zone—a perspective that we want to honor God through the process, no matter the growing pain. We need to remember brothers and sisters, that our stay in this world is short and that with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, we are sojourners in this world of sin, it is not our home in its present state. We need to keep in mind that we too "look for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God."

In closing, I want to share part of a recent letter we received from an inmate. A brother by the name of Richard wrote this:

*"I just want to say thank you for sending me the Bible and the book, I sincerely appreciate it. It means more to me than you will ever know. I plan to keep it forever. It is the first time anyone has ever given me a Bible, so it is very special to me." Then he said something, I don't recall ever hearing from an inmate, "to be completely honest, this is the first time I have ever actually accepted the fact that a Bible can and will help me through tough times." I had to read it two or three times before it clicked. That which most of us know, being connected to God and church family that—a Bible is necessary to help us through tough times—was an 'ah ha' moment that we take so much for granted. There is a world out there that has not had the blessings and opportunities many of us have been raised with or privileged to enjoy.*

We praise God that He has seen fit to give us this prison ministry. As Matthew 25:36 states "For I was...in prison, and ye came unto me." To know that we are not just ministering to prisoners, but to Jesus Himself, is satisfying enough to continue for His glory.

It is our hope that this month's newsletter will encourage some readers to not become discouraged in your labor of love for the Lord, whatever it may be. Let us not cast away our confidence, for we will reap in due season.

If you feel impressed and encouraged by this newsletter, we covet your prayers. If you can, any financial support to this ministry would be much appreciated. <https://www.briannacassidy.com/bwp-donations>.

Thank you for your prayers. Until next time, be of good courage, and may your spiritual pulse be quickened as we see the day approaching.

Brother Rod & Sister Mary