



*"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Proverbs 14:12
"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." John 10:10b (Jesus)*

PRISON MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

August, 2018

When I lived in North Carolina for six years, I attended a prison chaplains meeting in Wilmington. Being new to the area, I was not familiar with going through New Bern, and I missed the right turn over Pamlico Sound bridge. I drove for about 20 minutes in the wrong direction until I realized the area was not familiar. I did get turned around to the right direction, but I wasted time. I know I have wasted time when I did not listen to God's direction in my life. Thankfully He is a gracious heavenly Father, Who will forgive!

After a Thursday evening church service I talked with Danny (not his name). I asked Danny if he knew Jesus or if he just knew about Jesus. He said, "I know I am lost and need God. Years ago I used to go to church regularly but now I can't remember the last time I was in church." The next day he was in the office and I went over the plan of salvation. Danny said he understood what it involved, but he was not ready to commit his life to Christ. I visited with him another time after that, and again he said he had past issues with God. During the five weeks he was in Jameson Annex he attended church & Bible studies. He told me the day before he was being transferred, "I am ready and I realize only Jesus can change my life." I had the opportunity to pray with him. Danny transferred out to another prison the next day. I contacted the chaplain at the next prison where he was going as he requested.

Another young man who has been in prison previously said it was vital that he visit with me. It was very obvious that he was distraught with himself for being back in prison. I mentioned that a person cannot live by their feelings. Most of the time our feelings will get us in trouble because we have a sinful heart. As Proverbs 28:26 says, "He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, but whoever walks wisely will be delivered." When our heart is not right with God we will make wrong choices. God tells us we need to filter everything that comes our way through His Word (Rom. 12:2). A half hour into our visit he said, "I have been thinking about what you said about feelings, and that is so true. I have been living by my feelings!" I reminded him that each new day is a day to start over.

The other day when I arrived at the prison parking lot an inmate who was on work release stopped me. He said, "Pastor Harlan, I am slipping, please pray for me." Many of these men have grown up letting their emotions control their lives and never had stable support. Only Jesus Christ can deliver these men from their old habits that lead to destruction. Please keep these men in your prayers.

I thank each of you for your prayers and financial support! If you need pulpit supply I am willing to do that as well. I pray you all have a blessed August!

In Christ,

Harlan Moss

Your gifts are appreciated and tax deductible. The checks can be made out to and sent to: South Dakota Prison Chaplain's Association (SDPCA), 601 W 57th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57108. **Please designate my name in the memo section of your check.** My phone: 605-940-4220 email address: hpmoss1@yahoo.com