

Larry McNeal's Ministry Update

June 2008

Grace, Mercy and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Exciting news from the prison ministry! I'm so amazed at what God has been doing in the ministry He has entrusted to me of reconciliation to men behind prison bars. I have been frequently ministering in the Shelby County Jail to men who have been hungry for the Word of God. My trip last month was very fruitful. Many men made professions of faith in Christ. They were excited to hear about the things of God. One of them asked me, "When you return next month, would you tell me about all the names of God in the Bible?" I don't know how I am going to be able to do that in one day because He has many names/titles, but I will share the ones that I know.

I've been visiting St. Clair Prison and the ministry there has been very rich with responses to the Gospel of God's marvelous grace. It's very discouraging to the men that are incarcerated if I am not able to visit them. Over 700 men are serving life without parole, so it is very encouraging when the Word of God continues to be proclaimed.

Last month, I preached from Romans 6 at Bibb County Correctional Facility about identification with Christ. As I explained how the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ can set one free from slavery to sin, many of the men were excited that God's grace is greater than the power of sin and the grace of God through our Kinsman-Redeemer (the Word that became flesh) can set them free from the power of sin. I explained that it has been 19 years since my conversion and how God has changed my life and is continually remaking me all over again. He will continue to do that until I step out of time and enter eternity with all the ransomed.

I was invited to Montgomery to hear a message from Governor Riley. He was asking the Church to come alongside the State to help with 'aftercare'. (We would call this 'discipleship'.) He is convinced that those that have an affiliation with Jesus Christ will (statistically) not return to prison. He closed by saying that he knew a doctor in Clay County who had treated a lot of people with various illnesses (addictions) who told him that he had never seen, in all of his time of being a doctor, people changing their lives unless they had a religious conversion with Jesus Christ. And I said, "Hallelujah!" Paul said in II Corinthians 5:17, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creation. Old things have passed away and all things have become new." And in verse 18 of that same chapter it says that all these things are done by God.

So, be praying for me. I have an 'Evangelism Training' mission trip to Kenya in 2009. I will also be visiting a Kenyan prison to take medicine, soap, bread and Bibles. They will be expecting it. I need your prayers. And remember, we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, rulers of darkness and spiritual wickedness in heavenly places. Satan has tried to stop me in my own personal life from getting the Gospel out. He won't be able to because "greater is He that is in me than He that is in the world" and I have a great High Priest that sits at the right hand of God with *Larry* over His heart.

May all of us love our Lord with a love that's incorruptible.

Love,

Larry