

Harvest Newsletter

SHEKINAH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Volume 8 , Issue 12

Offering an Opportunity for Transformation Since 1979...



GOD'S FIELD By Cathy Sweeney

I love going to the Weld County Jail every Monday night to meet with the women. God's faithfulness to bring His Word in due season is amazing. What a joy it is to be a surrendered servant bringing His message of love, forgiveness, mercy, grace, hope, purpose, and power. The results are nothing more than astounding. I stand in awe of God's divine orchestration and timing. Last week, one of the women began to get a migraine and thought she may need to leave the Bible study early to lie down. I blessed her to leave whenever she felt it necessary, and asked if she would allow us to pray for her right there and then. She agreed, so the rest of us gathered around her and prayed. The prayer was nothing spectacular; simple, short, to the point, humble, reaching into Heaven to bring healing to her on earth. Afterward, when the women returned to their seats, the one with the headache exclaimed, "Wow! I actually feel much better!" and remained for the rest of the teaching. This was no small thing as it tangibly communicated how much God cares about every detail of their life. Even when we mess up and make bad choices, God still moves on our behalf. Why? Because His love for us is so great and it never changes. It solidified belief that God still had promises, blessings, and restoration in store for them and their families. They are learning that nothing is hidden from God. They are learning that Jesus loves them far too much to pacify them with what they want. Rather, His love requires provision of what they need. They are accepting that His ways are not our ways - His ways are better. It blows my mind that God would choose me to be a vehicle by which He demonstrates His goodness and kindness. Without pressing in to what God is saying and doing each week, I have nothing of life changing value to offer these women. Most people know what is wrong with them, but they are unaware of the greatness that God has placed in them. Only God can take our knowledge of Him and fill it with the substance of Him.

I Corinthians 3:5 "...Why, we're only servants. Through us God caused you to believe. Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. My job was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God, not we, Who made it grow. The ones who do the planting or the watering are not important, but God is important because He is the One Who makes the seed grow. The one who plants and the one who waters work as a team with the same purpose."

Thank you to all who plant and water the seed to bring the reality of Christ to those who are struggling to hold on to hope and purpose while serving time in the judicial system.



Our Vision: By the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ we instill a sense of self-worth and hope to a misdirected society. **Our Mission:** To share the Gospel with prisoners so they can find real freedom through that knowledge; redirecting them from destructive patterns and encouraging them to find true purpose.

Insights from the prisons/jails where you, our volunteers, go weekly and monthly

Milton & Brenda Uribe held a Seminar at Wyoming Honor Camp on August 21st & 22nd

Comments from the inmates that attended the seminar:

- "Learning that there are others around me that are like me and learning how to walk the right path. My prayers are with all of you all the time."
- "I really enjoyed having you here, keep doing what the Lord guides you to do."
- "You helped me learn that I have been appointed as Christ's representative! Can't wait until next time. Thanks so much for all you do in His name. May He continue to bless you, as you seek His face."
- "Thank you for the love you showed in fellowship and the wonderful praise and worship. Stay strong in faith and may the Lord bless you."
- "The message and teaching of the word was encouraging. Everything was wonderful and hope to see you again."
- "I've gained a deeper understanding of how to walk with the Lord in a restful state. I have also increased in knowledge and understanding of the scriptures. Thanks for being soldiers of Christ and for blessing us with your gifts."

Merry Christmas



God Bless Your New Year

I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a very blessed new year. This year has been a year of change for our ministry. In May we started with the loss of Jessica Hunter our secretary of over five years. Thankfully the Lord had it under control with Ruby Johnson and Debbie Hudspeth stepping in and continuing on without any problems.

Last year at this time, we as a ministry found our self in some very difficult circumstances as we were well below budget with only weeks remaining in the year. Thankfully after much prayer the Lord responded through you to bringing us, almost even for 2008. Thankfully He continues to provide in 2009. I thank the Lord for his goodness and I want to thank each you for your prayers and gifts, I hope that you know what a abundant blessing you are to Shekinah and how truly thankful we are for your response and support. May God bless you and your family this Holiday season. *Larry Haag*

Insights from the prisons/jails where you, our volunteers, go weekly and monthly.

Bob and Wanda Brannan held a Seminar at C.C.C. In Golden, Colorado

Comments from the inmates that attended the seminar:

- "The message and teaching of Bob and Wanda was such a blessing and so informative. I hope to praise and worship with Shekinah Ministries upon my release."
- "Thank you so much for bringing the seminars to us. God Bless you."
- "God bless you and your ministry! Continue to share your love with all of God's people in every facility."
- "Thank you for sharing openly and honestly with an open heart." C.C.C. needs more seminars like this!"
- "How do we get more prisoners to these seminars? This week-end has been the Best!! Everyone enjoyed and received a blessing form this week-end. Praise God!"
- "Knowing that we inmates have people that are willing to take the time out of their life's, to volunteer and come to see and preach the Word to us...it's a blessing. Hearing people like the Shekinah volunteers, has helped me to better understand the word and to lean on God's grace. It has also taught me to have faith and trust in the Lord."
- "I was at a point in my life where I was about to give up praying, but since the seminar I now will continue my walk with God. I really needed to hear what Bob had to say. Thank you for coming and may God Bless you even more."
- "Bob and Wanda asked me what question I would ask Jesus? I know that Jesus worked through them to get the answer to my question. I heard it in the message."
- "The message they brought and the subjects we talked about, let me know that I am headed in the right direction."
- "I would like to thank God and Shekinah Ministries for Bob and Wanda and all volunteers."

The Lord's presence was very evident from the time we arrived. The men waiting for the gate to be unlocked so they could go to chapel. Even the Officer at the gate when he called in our arrival said, "I know these two people they're ok". This was encouraging to us because the Camp had been on lock down until Friday morning. Saturday afternoon was a time of questions and answers. Everyone was very open and honest about their situation. I would sum up the week-end by saying "we were blessed by going and the men were blessed by our being there. The surveys expressed their feelings".

Article by Wanda Brannan



God never rejects a weak heart that seeks Him. No matter how broken-down and overwhelmed we are, God welcomes us and is willing and able to help us.

Shekinah Christian Ministries

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Benevolence Fund

If the Lord places this ministry on your heart please donate money to help purchase:

- Birth Certificates
- Bus tokens
- Back packs filled with bibles, hygiene items, snacks, food etc.

(We get 3-5 requests per month. Birth certificates run us an average of \$18.50 each)

Here is a statement from an inmate at Fort Lyons Correctional Facility:

I've heard such wonderful things pertaining to your ministry. I pray you could assist me in acquiring my birth certificate and Social Security card. I have no identification which I so desperately need before my release. Could you please help me in this matter. God bless you.



VOLUNTEER INMATE PROGRAM (V.I.P)

The V.I.P. is a fund that helps our volunteers and ministers defray the cost of food, hotel stay, gasoline and supplies.

How can you help? Prayerfully consider making a donation designating your check V.I.P., this contributes to send our volunteers and ministers into the state prisons.



We average 30 new born Christians per week.

Psalm 72:12 For he will deliver the **needy** who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to **help**.

We have been having requests for bikes recently. Men and women who are released from a jail/prison facility, are usually in need of some form of transportation. If you have an old bike that is collecting dust, we would be happy to take it off your hands! Pick up is available by request.

