

January 2010

Harvest Newsletter

SHEKINAH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Volume 9 , Issue 1

Offering an Opportunity for Transformation Since 1979...



2010 May your days be filled with prosperity, peace and good health.

As we at Shekinah look back at 2009, we remember with appreciation our faithful volunteers and supporters. We pray that your 2009 was a blessed year for you and that 2010 will be even better. May all the blessings of this happy season shine on you and your families.

We are in need of table sponsors for our 2010 fundraising banquet. This year the tables will seat eight people and the cost will be \$280.00. The banquet will be held on Saturday, May 15th at the Moose Lodge in Longmont, Colorado. Please pray fully consider sponsoring a table this year.

It is going to be an evening of envisioning and gathering in new friends and supporters as we raise funds for our organization. You have a vital role, choosing the guest who will attend. You will help us to bring fresh new faces into the circle of supporters and volunteers of Shekinah. Without you, we could never reach our fundraising goal and continue to serve the men/women/youth/homeless and elderly in our area.

This year's theme is "Fishermen of Jesus." As we reflect on what has been accomplished with the funds for last year, we can say that great things have been happening at Shekinah! The theme "Fishermen of Jesus" this year, is about how God wants us to reel them in and He will clean them up! Praise God! This is addressing our Mission Statement: "To share the gospel with prisoners so they can find real freedom through knowledge, redirecting them from destructive patterns and encouraging them to find true purpose."



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.

God Rocks—Fremont Facility

Article by Loui Nielsen

To say the weekend in prison was PHENOMENAL doesn't do justice to what God did, not just the inmates lives and hearts but in the teams hearts as well!! Amazing!!

Friday was just a blur...We did some music, had testimony from Gordon on how God has just transformed his life in the past year. He talked about how God really wrecked him last time we were in Fremont prison, which is where the momentum of his transformation in the spirit began.

The men remembered seeing him standing up front just crying and crying as we sang, "Oh no, you never let go"...they came to him after his testimony to tell him how much it blessed them to see him so transparent that day and how it helped them to open up to God.

Then I had an inmate come up and give testimony about how he did what I told him to do last year and his life and sentence have been turned upside down!! He had to break off some old soul ties and release some people and things. He did it...he GLOWS!! He cried as he spoke...absolutely beautiful to watch and listen to him. He had a life sentence...now...he is getting out in 3 months!! God ROCKS our world!!!

Saturday morning I gave testimony...

I explained how some people can use those situations as an EXCUSE to never live up to and walk in the calling placed on their life by God before they were even born...some people hang onto those hurts and violations, they stay angry which can become a habit, and allow them to keep them in the victim mentality, never experiencing freedom in the forgiveness each one of us has been given...

I told them the reason I was able to stand before them and speak of all this with out any anger or emotion is because I let God take it from me and heal my emotions as well as my body...if you truly forgive, then you can speak of things in a matter of fact way...if I weep...its because of the overwhelming peace I have and how THAT amazes me and makes me cry.

I told them they could stay a victim or they could use their personal past experience to become strong, to become the warrior they were born to be, and go take the world for Christ!!

I finished with reminding them how when Jesus sent out the disciples he told them that if a town didn't want to receive the message, then wipe the dust from your feet as you leave...it was symbolic...to let go and move on!!

Some men were weeping...some said they felt cleansed at that moment. Some you could tell were just going through the motions...God knows and will continue what he started that morning!!

At one point, one of my team members came up to us, rolled up his sleeves and said, "I need you to wash MY hands!!" I lost it and began to cry!! Very moving!!

In the last service we did some worship...Pastor Matt tied everything up in a brief message and then he had us break off into 6 groups where we had some one on one with the men...time to do some question and answering...was a great intimate time! We ended it with prayer, each in our own little group. Just an incredible time!!

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

Loui, Jacob & Brandon Nielsen, Matt Deeds, Gordon Johnson, Jason Cassinova, Jonathan Ozell Taylor & Arturo Alejandro Galindo-Ramirez held a Seminar at the Fremont Facility on Oct 30th & 31st of 2009

Comments from the inmates that attended the Fremont seminar:

- I loved the fellowshiping with my brothers and sister in Christ Jesus. All of what Shekinah brings to us is blessed by the Lord. May your ministry be blessed by Christ Jesus.
- The message and the love that you show is powerful and uplifting it shows how the love of the Lord can make you feel, when you have Him in your life and heart. Keep coming back and lifting us up and keeping our Spirits high in a place where times can be so low. God bless you all!
- In my two years in prison I have not felt the power of the Holy Spirit for as long as I have this weekend. Thank you for choosing to share the love of Jesus with us. All the volunteers showed us the genuine love of Christ. Thank you for the strong personalized prayers and testimonies.
- Thanks to God for your willingness to spend time with us. Come back more frequently, please!
- I just want to thank you for opening up my heart more, so I could get a closer picture of Jesus.
- Honestly, just having you come here and set the tone with praise and worship and to see your sincerity was incredible. Thank you for praying with each one of us individually it makes it so real. We feel we are not alone in this place. God bless each of you.
- The powerful worship encouraged me and strengthened me. Thank you for your commitment and time that you spent with us. God Bless you,
- The time each of the volunteers took to listen and pray with me was encouraging. Thank you for your time & encouragement. We love you so much! You really did brighten up our day!
- The message on forgiveness and the prayers by the volunteers! What a great display of love and faith. You guys are wonderful and I look forward to seeing you again.
- Thanks for the great one on one prayer time. Keep doing what you are doing cause "The Glory of God" is reflected in it and in you. May the Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless each and everyone of you. Love you all!
- Thank you, you were heaven sent. The individual prayer time was a blessing.
- The encouragement you all gave us and to take time out of your lives' to come here with a genuine meek spirit of compassion, to tell us men that you care about us. That God forgives us despite our fall from His grace. Please come by more often. God Bless you all and run that race!

Just a quick note to give testimony, of the awesome time that I had ministering with brother Pablo Sanchez and Pastor Lanny and the crew at Sterling this past week, prior to Thanksgiving. I really felt the anointing of the Lord to preach and teach and the ministry time surpassed my expectations. The love of Jesus for the inmates was overwhelming and I was truly blessed and honored to have been involved in this exciting weekend of "destroying the works of the enemy". It is awesome to visit with brother Pablo, a seasoned brother and witness his anointing and the heart he has for the inmates.

It is with humility I ask to be involved in the next Sterling visit, which is the weekend of January 9th.

Thanks again Shekinah for this opportunity. People were saved, and one chap got filled with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues, as I witnessed it.

Thanks.

Carl G. Joseph/Shekinah Volunteer



Shekinah Christian Ministries

2040 TERRY STREET, SUITE 106
LONGMONT, CO 80501
OFFICE: (303)682-9593
FAX: (303)682-8918
EMAIL: scm@injail.org (NEW)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROF STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LONGMONT, CO
PERMIT NO. 377

We're on the Web!
www.injail.org



FRIDAYS WITH MEREDITH

I am blessed to be a volunteer at Cinnamon Park, an assisted living home in Longmont, Colorado. I have always had a very special place in my heart for the elderly. They are very special to God, too. An elderly woman who lives at Cinnamon Park remarked to the staff there that she really wanted someone to spend some time with, preferable a woman. Shekinah Ministries was contacted and I eagerly volunteered to be her friend.

My new friend is Meredith. She is 95 years old, soon to be 96. She has lived a long and healthy life. She has a deep husky voice, likes to wear a hound's-tooth wool jacket, and likes word search puzzles. Here are some interesting facts about Meredith:

- She was born in 1914 in Ravenswood, Missouri In 1914
- ✦ average price of a new home was around \$800.00 - \$1000.00
- ✦ the Panama Canal was finally opened after 10 years of construction
- ✦ Woodrow Wilson was president
- ✦ She is five of seven children
- ✦ She never married
- ✦ Her father was a farmer and the postmaster
- ✦ Her mother was a 'domestic engineer' of the day and worked in the post office
- ✦ She never learned to drive a car
- ✦ She graduated from high school in 1932
- ✦ She then entered business school to become a secretary
- ✦ She worked all of her life in an office environment, mostly in the banking industry in Missouri and Iowa

She has lived through 17 presidents, Meredith has always been a very independent woman; when independent women were not the norm. She was a trailblazer for modern women today. When she was 20 years old our country was embroiled in the quagmire of the Great Depression. Meredith had the hand of God on her through this time as she maintained steady employment. When she was in her 30's our country was at war with a regime bent on destroying anyone that would not bend to their rules and singled out specific people because of their religious beliefs.

During the 1950's and 1960's she survived the birth of rock and roll, (she likes Elvis), two more wars, the 'Summer of Love', and witnessed man walking on the moon. During the next 30 years, Meredith retired and moved to Colorado to be near a sister. While speaking to Meredith about her experiences through the years, I am aware of the similarities of events and I have come to the conclusion that the more things change, the more they stay the same.

I do know that there is one thing that never changes: God, our Heavenly Father. His love for us is the same today, as it was in 1914, or as it will be in 2010 and beyond. He is always faithful. On Fridays, Meredith and I talk about what's going on in society today. I am a jewelry designer and beader so one Friday, I took my beads and Meredith made a memory wire bracelet for herself. She was very pleased! We are currently making garland out of beads for the Christmas tree at Cinnamon Park. I related to her that we are like a bunch of loose beads. Then God (who sees the beauty in all things) comes along and says, "Wow! I know what you can be! Let Me show you how beautiful you really are." He then rearranges our lives with His love and we become beautiful! We end our time together with a prayer.

Article by Leslyn Sundberg, Shekinah Ministries Volunteer

