

Warm greetings to you in the **NAME** of our **BLESSED LORD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**. In this New Year of 2010, it is my prayer that during these challenging days that "it is **WELL** with your soul." As you read this newsletter, I challenge you to make a **DAILY** fresh encounter with our **LORD JESUS** your highest priority. The devil's time is short & as his assaults increase, we must spend more time in **PRAYER, GOD'S WORD & PRAISE**, pressing on for **GOD'S GLORY**. **PRAY** to know **HIM** better!!! **MEDITATE** on **GOD'S WORD** to discover more about **HIS PROMISES** (II Cor. 1:20), **LOVE, COMPASSION, MERCY & GRACE**. I constantly learn & grow in my relationship with **JESUS**, who prays for us **DAILY** (Rom. 8:27) & **NEVER** leaves us nor forsakes us (Heb. 13:6). What an **AWESOME** savior we have in **JESUS**.

I was blessed to end 2009 with a New Year's Eve service at L.A. Co. Jail. The **HOLY SPIRIT** drew in over 50 (John 6:44). There have been over 80 services cancelled this month because of racial tension & riots. There were many days of lockdown there. I lost 2 services & tier walking because of it. Chino Woman's Service, as always, had a packed chapel & a wonderful harvest. The **WORD** I brought forth was well received. There are over 70 inmates there who pray for me daily, **P.T.L.** & over 300 who pray the Arsenal Prayer **DAILY**. They also send them home.

The last Sunday, I went to Donovan Penitentiary, a level III maximum security facility where I've ministered for over 20 years. The 3 services were well attended with new & regular inmates. A good harvest in all 3 services. Chaplain Brown does a wonderful job. This month only had 19 services with over 300 praying the Sinner's Prayer. It was a down month for souls. The enemy, satan's time is short & the war rages for men & women's souls. **PLEASE PRAY!**

The Skid Row Mission services all went well with packed chapels. We had some nasty rainstorms which mean more opportunity for souls. **JESUS** has to be our anchor in every storm of life. **SWEET JESUS!** My home Bible Studies has been a blessed 2 hours in **HIS** Word that we all enjoy. My daily phone calls for prayer & counseling show an alarming number of Christians who have been under the "devil's grip" of **DISCOURAGEMENT**. There are several examples of the "devil's grip" such as anxiety, worry, fretting, stress, tension, fear & doubt, but discouragement can grab hold of us just as fiercely — & refuse to let go.

Discouragement tends to be a widespread problem this time of the year when many people experience an emotional letdown after **CHRIST**-mas & New Years. I want to show you from **GOD'S WORD** how you can deal with discouragement, because my deepest desire is that you would experience **GOD'S** very best for your life. But if you allow yourself to get into the "devil's

grip," he will set up camp & keep you discouraged as long as he can. **PRAISING** the **LORD** anyhow always works, but I have to distinguish between disappointment & discouragement. A disappointment is an emotional response to some **FAILED** expectation or desire. Maybe your holidays did not go as planned & you were disappointed. Or maybe you had a desire for something that did **NOT** come your way, & you felt disappointed.

Disappointments in life are inevitable, & there is nothing we can do to prevent them. I say change the **D** in disappointment to an **H** & make it **HIS**-appointment. **THEN PRAY!!!** In many of my sermons, I talk about the Deadly **D**'s...disappointment, discouragement, doubt, discontent, despair, despondent, demoralization, dejection & depression. You can add denial. But discouragement is different because discouragement is a choice.

Here's a simple definition — Discouragement is losing motivation for something in life that brings us fulfillment & purpose. The key difference is that while disappointments come to **ALL** of us, we can **CHOOSE** whether we are going to let those setbacks plunge us into discouragement. Now the truth is that all of us go through those situations in life where we find ourselves discouraged.

Discouragement is a powerful tool of satan's. If he can get you discouraged in your relationship with **GOD**, in a marriage, on your job, in your finances, in just about anything, you can't be your best, you won't do your best & you won't achieve your maximum potential. So I want to give you 3 simple but important steps from **GOD'S WORD** that will help you guard against discouragement when disappointments arise, & lift you out of discouragement when it does set in.

1st step: Confess your trust in **GOD** & praise **HIM** for being with you when difficult times come. (Matt. 28:20) See Ps. 42:5, where the psalmist was in distress & battling discouragement. He looked within, then looked to **GOD** in trust. Deut. 31:6 tells us **HE** is **ALWAYS** there!

2nd step: Acknowledge **GOD'S** total control of **ALL** things. Again read Ps. 42:5. Since **GOD** is ever-present, you can put your hope in **HIS** awesome power to control the circumstances of your life.

3rd step: Believe that **GOD** will turn challenging circumstances to your good (Rom. 8:28). In Ps. 42:8, "the **LORD** will command **HIS** loving kindness in the daytime; & **HIS** song will be with me at night."

GOD can turn any difficult situation into a testimony of **HIS** unfailing love, & put a song in your heart. Take **GOD** at **HIS** word & give **HIM** the privilege of demonstrating **HIS** awesome power to free you. **P.T.L.**

Until next month, may **GOD** bless you & a 100-fold blessing to those who sent **LOVE** offerings. **THANK YOU!!!**

In His Majesty's Service,