



Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

Sharing the gospel & Christ's love

with those in corrections since 1982

Save the Date!!
MEC's Fall Event
 Saturday, October 1st
 6 pm—8:30 pm
 This year the event will be at
Serenity Village
Community Church
 4100 Douglas Dr N
 Crystal, MN 55422
 Reuben David will speak on
“World Events,
Spiritual Warfare and
Evangelism”
 See our Facebook page for
 more information

July 31, 2016 Newsletter

MEC Spotlight

Gary Binns has been a volunteer with MEC for a year now. He has been walking with the Lord since 1989 when he became totally sold out, committed to the Lord. It was a



“total change for him and awesomely beautiful, ever since [then] my walk has been going up and up”. He got married to the girlfriend who had persistently asked him to church in 1993. They have 6 kids together and have also been foster parents. At one time they had a total of 10 kids in their 3 bedroom home. They became foster parents “to give other children a home and new hope.

God helped him to get his computer business up and running. He has lived on the words “with God all things are possible.” He and his wife are ministers and provide spiritual direction to young couples. They also do street evangelism and pray for folks wherever they go. That’s where his joy comes from. That’s why he wanted to go into the jails through MEC.

He has seen the power of the Holy Spirit move in the jails. It has been tremendously awesome. He’s seen changes in the men. He goes in humbly and God shows up mightily. He keeps all the new converts on a prayer list so they are covered as they go on to the next steps in their lives.

Gary ministers and shares highlights of inmate’s needs, Spotlight Gary Cont pg 2

Problem Thinking and the Lord’s Healing
Religion: Defiled or Pure?
Hindrance or Healing

Last month we looked at how good feelings of sentimentality without follow up positive actions can hinder our growth. This month we will address how impure religion can become a hindrance to development and relationships and how pure religion helps them.

Jailhouse religion is a term indicating a person talks PTLH Religion Cont. pg 2

PT&TLH is a series which we are looking for feedback for. My hope is that eventually it can be printed to give to inmates and others to help with spiritual growth and transformation which God’s Word

July Highlights

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about God, may read the Bible and participate in services - but when they leave the correctional facility, they leave these behind. The same attitude can be present in churchgoers who do not practice their expressions of belief once they leave services. A hypocrite is, one who pretends to have admirable principles, beliefs, virtues or feelings but doesn't love others. Actor, pretense or pretending are descriptive of hypocrites. No one wants to be one. To these individuals, religion is external. True spirituality is internal and shows changes in thinking and in heart attitudes.



Many avoid God, church or others because they do not want to be judged. Scripture says that we are not to judge our neighbor (James 4) and that we should not judge anything before it's time (I Cor. 4). We and no one wants to feel judged without understanding.

Look closely

However, people do judge and when we look more closely, we often discover that we are the ones who are judging ourselves or others. Pharisee's judged Jesus when he cared for sinners. (Jn 3) Satan is the accuser of Christians (I Tim. 4). We need not heed thoughts of accusation which are not from God, but which put distance or division between us.

Our desire to justify ourselves when we act selfishly is strong. Doing wrong involves ignoring or not paying attention to a thought or prompting that would stop the erring activity. Once someone does not pay attention to their conscience, it becomes less sensitive and hardens. (2Chron. 36, Ps95&119, Mk 16, Rom 2) Confrontation, or even perceived confrontation, triggers defensiveness. Bitterness causes trouble and defiling. (Heb. & 12 3) In the Documentary "(Dis)honesty, the Truth about Lie's" directed by Yael Melmade, Dan Ariely and researchers demonstrated that if one person is dishonest, others who witness that, will be less honest. The same documentary describes a similar study reflecting motivation for honesty. Even when people did not know the most of the 10, After people were asked to list the 10 commandments, they did not cheat. This even included even those who did not know most of them and

struggles and victories each week. Among others, he has shared such reports as the joy of those coming to salvation and encountering the Holy Spirit. There was who renounced Satan and was delivered from witchcraft. He is growing in his understanding of the Bible and being embraced by other believers. There has been prayer for one who blamed and resented God for his mother's death at age 12, difficult transporting situations, inmates families who have encountered death, those going to prison or treatment, and those being released.

His pastor, Daryl Barnett, says "Gary has an undeniable and genuine love for the Lord and a down to earth teaching and ministry style, can discern a need ... and effectively attend to ...[it]. His wife lists several gifts, including communicating with people where they are.

It is a joy to talk with Gary and to sense his excitement about God, the Spirits work, his family and the jail ministry.

By Sandy Hanson

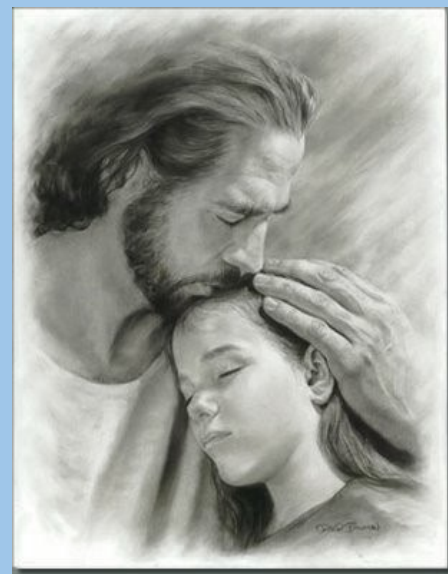


Image from clip art

those who would otherwise have cheated.

Learning, recognizing and paying attention to the truth moves us to confess and heal. In the world's system, admitting our wrongs, sins, and cover-ups (and the pain that accompanies it) - brings shame, accusations, division and separation. In God's kingdom, His love brings forgiveness, power to change and restoration. This makes it possible to uncover what is wrong, get rid of it, be cleansed and replace it with His good. We might not desire this because we know who we are. This sort of change is something we do not know as good or trust that we could maintain. It is as we receive and trust God, His Holy Spirit does this. This is really refreshing. To not have to cover things up, to know He does the cleansing and to trust in a way we have not done before, makes us free (Romans 5& 8, Gal 5, II Cor. 3, and John 8).

As we grow in the new way of life that God gifts us (Romans 6, Eph. 2&4, Col. 3) deepening our understanding of what the old and the new includes increases our motivation and satisfaction. Drawing a hall of shame, -knowing

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For this is the Love of God, that we keep His commandments, and His commands

it is what we are forgiven for -, and a hall of fame -what God makes us to be – can make us grateful and be a great reminder of grace and growth. Ephesians 1 tells us that we are adopted by God. As his children if we receive His love and want to return it. We look to the letters He wrote to us through His followers and the Holy Spirit. James 1:26-27 – J 2

(CV) tells us that “If anyone thinks he is religious without controlling his tongue, then his religion is useless and he deceives himself. Pure and undefiled religion before our God and Father is this, to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep yourself unstained or unspotted by the world. My brothers do not show favoritism as you hold onto the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. John 4:24 says that God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth. (HCSV).

May God's blessings abound as you practice the greatest and second commandments of loving Him and others (Matt. 22) which

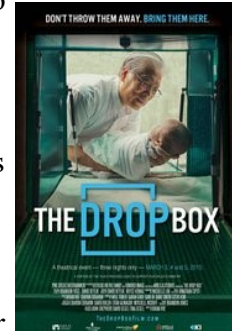


Image from the internet to reflect James 1:27 The Drop box is about a family that takes in babies that are not cared for.

Ministry Friends Shout Out

We know that we are not alone in ministry, this month's shout out is to

Mentor Corps™

PROVIDES A BROAD SPECTRUM OF MENTORING SERVICES AND THE POWER TO HELP CHANGE LIVES!

"Since 2007 we have initiated innovative mentor equipping to form bold new partnerships in changing lives, building social capital, and growing lasting sustainable life skills for men and women who choose to follow our mentoring mission and methods."

~Jim Hale, Founder and Leader <http://www.thementorcorps.org/>



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