



Missionary Evangelism to Corrections

Sharing the gospel & Christ's love with those in corrections since 1982
I was in prison and you came to me Matt. 25:36cESV

Happy April!

Here is a short excerpt from a Bible Study on April Fools - Real Fools, which helps identify thoughts and leads to learning wisdom.



Pranks like shortsheetsing a bed, a frog in a cup, putting jello in the tub or toilet, using candy wrappers for pieces of carrots, switching clocks when schedules are not important, children saying "Your shoelaces are untied when they are not, or other ways of having fun are

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April 2021 MEC News

Spotlight Jesse

My name is **Jesse**. I have been to Bible studies in a few different counties and in Stillwater Prison. Now I'm an active member of Substance Church.



I'm also a Certified Peer Recovery Coach helping other addicts find their pathway to recovery. This is what I am about today!

Grief and Death and Resurrection

Grief is a reestablishment of our identity. Words cannot fully describe it, and can do so only in portions, one part at a time. It is an experience that consumes your whole being. Feelings that I am bereft, isolated, the only one so strongly affected, and totally unique plague you. Even though grief is universal, it is, yet mine alone, and yours alone.

Jesus grieved Lazarus. He wept. He was more than angry; His soul was deeply disturbed within Him. He was angry and sternly indignant. This was death. This It brought out and brings out, the need for belief.

He wanted the stone removed. Does this represent the stones or blocks we have in our hearts? Do unbelief, doubt, fear, unforgiveness, unresolved emotions, stiff necks or hardening of our hearts keep us from reaching out or caring. What keeps us from loving God, loving one another, and letting ourselves be loved?

Jesus' family, friends, and disciples had seen the results of Jesus going through several legal and priestly trials, lies, unbelief, misjudgments, persecution and murder. Yes He was murdered. Just the physical and emotional violence against Him would make this complicated grief. On top of that, the underlying source of all of this was from their own community. Believing in and identifying with Jesus already threatened their place (s) in that community. The place where their identity was strong within itself and strong against threatening outsiders.

Grief carries with it an aspect of numbness and wanting to push everything away. No wonder then, that when Mary came to tell them, of the resurrection, they did not want to believe her. Mark 16:9-11 "Early on the first day of the week, after Jesus had risen, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had driven out seven demons. She went and told those who had been with Him, who were mourning and weeping. And when they heard that Jesus was alive and she had seen Him, they

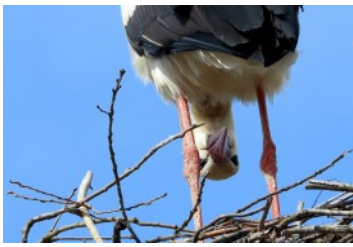
did not believe it..."

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gentle teasing and even put humor into our relationships. A joyful/cheery/merry heart does good - like a medicine, but a crushed and broken spirit dries up the bone/saps a person's strength. (Proverbs 17:22)

The first part of this verse brings joy. The second results when people are foolish. The Bible has two different words for fool. One denotes the diaphragm or center of a person's breath/spirit/strength and indicates both the seat of our passions and the mind and mental facilities. The other is false understanding, mind, intellect, thoughts and reasoning. (A Word for the Day, J.D. Watson) So, one who is not thinking correctly or who cannot control their thoughts and actions is acting foolishly.

Here is a partial list of characteristics of a fool....(listed in the Bible Study). The ultimate definition of a fool is one who says in His heart there is no God. (Prov. 14: 1) (GotQuestions.com)

Wisdom can be learned. Knowing God and giving Him glory as God are the strongest ways. Learning the fear of God - which is high respect and intimate closeness - is the beginning of wisdom. (See Proverbs 9:10 & Romans 1:21). A study in Proverbs.....

This is an expert—If you would like a copy of this entire Bible Study, reply to the e-mail change the topic to requesting Fools/Wisdom Bible

Grief, Death & Resurrection from pg. 1

When the disciples walked with the LORD on the road to Emmaus, they did not recognize Him at first. It was not until they strongly urged Him to stay with them. Luke 24:30-32 "He was reclining at the table with them, He took bread, spoke a blessing and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Jesus— and He disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us as He spoke with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

The disciples had been with Jesus before and recognized Him as He blessed them in a way He had in the past.

Questions:

1. What are you grieving?
2. Will you recognize that God grieves with you?
3. Will you let Him into your heart to help you with this?
4. Will you accept the forgiveness for yourself and for others that He bought with His life?
5. Will you invite Him to be with you and talk to Him and listen to Him and His words (recorded in the Bible and those He will speak to your thoughts and heart)?
6. Will you stay with Him and will you let Him stay with you and heal you and bring the resurrection?

This is a Bible Studies that went along with the Good-Friday Easter Sunday lessons for the inmates

Please Pray for them to ask for them, to take in God's Word and have Life in Him!!! Your prayers really do make a difference.



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www.mecjailministry.com, mec@usfamily.net 651-408-1300 PO 542, Wyoming MN 55092.
 Saul Selby Director, Karen Associate Dir. Nadine Behrens Office Admin. & Karen Kennedy volunteer