♥ Ring of Fire Ministries

♥ Prison Ministry Outreach Newsletter - September 2025

May the **JOY** of the Lord be your strength!

It is my constant prayer to the Lord Jesus that He continually draw us all closer in His everlasting **LOVE**. The Bible tells us that... All who call upon His Name, shall be saved. Including YOU... Especially You!

When we read in **Mathew 18:12-13** we discover that Jesus rejoices more over that one sheep that had wandered away from Him and yet returned, than over all the 99 who remained under His steadfast care. Which I find truly amazing!

What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that *sheep* than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.

I whole-heartedly believe at some point and time each one of us have been that 1 sheep that wandered off the chosen path the Lord has laid before us. Only to find ourselves lost, wandering and floundering in darkness and desperately in need of a caring and loving Savior, a Shepherd Who loves and tends to us no matter the situation we've got ourselves into, willing to pull us back into His sheepfold of safety.

The Word tells us in Romans 10:13, that all who call upon Him shall be saved. This is a promise to every single living human being on Earth, including YOU, because when Jesus says, "All" – He means just that... All! So, the issue here is not whether Jesus will receive us as our own, but rather are we actually calling out to Him in our time of need for saving? I often say to people... "How low do you want to go? Because it is up to you if the Lord does a quick work or a long one in your life, dependent upon how quickly you surrender to Him in truth." The Bible promises Jesus will never lose one of His own. So, if you are marked as a child of His, rest assured, He shall bring you to a place of brokenness in which you recognize you are in desperate need of Him. For some, they call out to Him right away when the pressure comes and for others, it takes quite a long time with many trials until they finally call upon His Name for saving. In dealing with a diverse group of people through the ministry, I am often presented with those who's lives resemble a dumpster fire, by their own choosing, and I admit I smile... Knowing it is just a part of the process of Jesus embracing them in His eternal love.

Once we cry out to Him with our whole hearts... He most certainly meets us where we are, in His love and comfort, leading us out of all darkness into His glorious light. You are indeed loved with an everlasting love, one the World or anyone in it cannot offer you. His hand is outstretched to you today and every day, as He knocks on your heart, asking you to grant Him permission to enter inside you to dwell. When we have too many walls up around our hearts, due to past hurts and disappointments, we often push Jesus away instead of invite Him in, because we think He will end up rejecting us like everyone else in our lives have. But truthfully, nothing could be farther than the truth. Jesus wants you as His own, He loves you already and is just waiting for you to answer back to Him with a "Yes..."

No one loves like Jesus does. His love is void of conditions and expectations for you to perform in ways you cannot. It is simple. So simple even a little child is able to come to Him for the filling of the void of loneliness and depravation contained within all lost souls. Will you consider reaching out to Him today and invite Him to abide with you every moment of everyday, filling you up with Himself so you no longer possess that pang of emptiness inside? It is my prayer you experience a love like that today, as you experience Him, in that He rejoice over you too!

In His Love,

Angela

A Note From Mare \sim **A change of heart**... It was a typical day in our life. My husband woke up at the usual time and prepared for work in the usual way. I made coffee and went outside to water the lawn. Nothing was out of the ordinary. Everything seemed to be a typical normal workday. Little did I know that day would change my life forever and it would never be the same again. I was your typical military wife living on base, doing typical normal daily activities. Nothing could prepare me for what was about to happen. After starting a load of clothes, my mind was focused on what to prepare for my soldier for dinner. Undecided, I sat down in the spare room and turned on the computer. Logging into a new chatroom, with others who were on their computers and enjoying listening to praise and worship music, I tried to fit in. I was so broken inside and no one there knew my true pain. At least that's what I told myself. I thought I was very good at hiding the empty space in my heart that yearned to be filled. After all, I knew Jesus was Lord and He had come to offer salvation, but did He come for me? Would He accept me? My mind raced with questions and scenarios that played out in my head like a bad movie. Trying to guess how He would find something to say no to, that somehow would prevent me from being accepted, I had convinced myself I was unsavable. Tears began to flow as I thought about the times I felt rejected by family or friends was bad enough, but if Jesus rejected me, that would be the ultimate worst thing and it would validate all my fears that I was worthless! Tears flowed harder, the room became a blur, and then it happened! With praise and worship music streaming from the computer speakers, a thought hit my heart softly. Words, a sentence, an answer to all my questions. Yes! Mare, yes, I accept and forgive you! I love you. Will you accept My love and gift to you? My clothing now drenched with tears I fell to my knees off the chair I was seated on. Are you sure I questioned Him? But what about.? Yes! This too and this and this! All is forgiven. Now will you give Me your heart and follow Me? More tears! Hours went by as I lost all track of time. Suddenly my husband was in the doorway asking me what was wrong, and I had no words to say as if my voice was gone. Tears streamed down my face. What could I tell him? How do you explain this? He said Mare who died? Let me help you ok, talk to me, who died? I couldn't... I couldn't only tell him, "It was me, the old me," he wouldn't understand. I'm not sure what I said. I mumbled something and said, "I will get your lunch out of the fridge." It took me a couple years to finally tell him and even now I'm not sure he understands fully. That was the day Jesus changed my heart forever. He came and filled the empty space that was waiting all my life for Him to fill. If you don't know Him, would you consider asking Him to enter your heart today? There is healing and forgiveness in Jesus's arms and true acceptance, not like the world does things. This acceptance is eternal. He is waiting for you to open the door, inviting Him inside your heart to dwell. Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

CHOOSE YOU THIS DAY ~ A Message From A Fellow Inmate

God's wrath is coming upon the earth, just as He said it would in His Word. First, as in the times of Noah in his day. The earth was filled with sin and violence and God was grieved in His heart. God sent His judgment upon the earth to destroy it and it's generation by water. God in His righteousness cannot condone sin and must judge it.

In this generation in which we live with all this vice and lust for violence, greed and its desire to possess – is heaping up for itself the wrath of God. God's judgment will be upon all who transgress His Law. Whether against the world or a nation, or a person for sins committed; God's righteousness will not overlook willful sin.

We learn in 1 Peter 4:17 "For the time has come that judgment must begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us, what shall be the end of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

There is in the church today a tolerance of sin. Some use their positions in the church as a cloak to use their sins link wolves in sheep's clothing. They pursue their lusts in stealing, pornography, sexual misdeeds, drug use and trafficking. Their god is their belly and they use their gain upon their lusts. Then they go into the church and lift up their hands and say they are delivered. They are habitual in their sins and will not repent, and they deny they have a problem. We still need to remember that God will judge sin, theirs and ours.

God is also a God of mercy and repentance, love and second chances. But we need to be real with Him and ourselves. We need to walk with Him in Spirit and truth and integrity and up-righteousness of heart. Jesus is all about the truth in His church and is quite serious about sin. We are not to "play" church, but be sincere in practice of our faith. Jesus will purge His church of all the offends Him and those who will hurt it. We must remember that He died for her and He will do what it takes to keep it pure. If God did not spare Israel or Judah or the fallen angels, Jesus will spew out the lukewarm and false Christians out of His church that He loves. We must choose whom we will serve and what path we will take.

Dearest Brothers & Sisters... Today, I choose JOY and you can too! Many of you will relate to what the Holy Spirit has put on my heart to share with you today.

CHOICE, what a powerful word. The power or opportunity to make decisions, often moral or spiritual, affect every facet of our lives in ways we hardly comprehend. Father has given us the freewill of CHOICE, to choose **JOY** no matter what comes our way and today I choose **JOY**. I often hear some of the same negative thoughts in my mind that each one of you do. And chances are you might be thinking, this is easy for me to say because I am on the outside and you are in there... But now is the time to tell you my truth. I did 21 years of hard time, locked inside a prison of my own making, by choosing to go after what my flesh wanted, paying a heavy price. So you might say, "Why choose joy?" Because looking back, I can see Jesus was with me every step of the way. He never stopped loving me, even when I couldn't love myself. He taught me with mercy upon mercy and grace upon grace, through His Word. We can never know the depth of His love without opening our Bibles to discover who we actually are, once we find Him. Then you too will choose **JOY** walking with Jesus!

Children of God ~ John 1:12 A promise to all who believe.

Romans 8:16-17 Helps define what it means to be a child of God.

1 John 3:1-2 Speaks about our Father's love.

Chosen and Loved ~ *Ephesians 1:4* Shows how He chose us.

John 3:16 Explains why God gave us Jesus.

1 Peter 2:19 Gives us the promise of being chosen.

Forgiven and Redeemed ~ Romans 8:1 Promises there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ.

1 John 1:9 Encourages us to confess our sins and be totally forgiven.

Colossians 2:13-14 Reveals how we are forgiven through Jesus's sacrifice.

New Creation ~ 2 Corinthians 5:17 Promises us our old self is gone and we become a new creature in Christ.

This my brothers & sisters is my **JOY**! I pray you join with me and Jesus in choosing **JOY** too!

Your Sister In King Jesus ~ Darlene

Please Note... The Lord has appointed *Ring of Fire Ministries* to feed spiritual food to you and to help your grow spiritually in your walk with Jesus, in that you partake of Him and are content, in plenty and in want. If you desire a Bible and do not have one or a Bible Study, please write to us and we will provide you with the materials you need to spend more time with Jesus each day. In addition, should you know of an inmate who would benefit from our Pen Pal services or need a Bible or Bible Study, please have them write to us making that request at:

Ring of Fire Ministries, PO Box 5282, Grand Island, NE 68802 www.ringoffireministries.com

We are not a dating site or able to provide legal counsel, financial assistance or online interactions. Everything we do offer is to only assist you with your walk of faith in Jesus. When requesting a Pen Pal, be advised, you may be matched with a male or female of any age. We also, due to legal reasons, are unable to connect with friends and/or family members on your behalf. *Keep Shining for HIM!*

