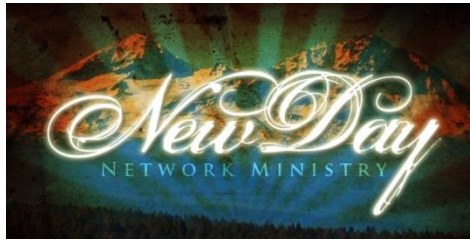


*But let the  
righteous be glad,  
let them rejoice  
before God: yea, let  
them exceedingly  
rejoice.  
Psalm 68:3*



*From  
Alan & Sarah  
Damron  
August 2023*

## Rejoice Evermore!

We are not even joking! That is what our LORD wants for us, no matter the circumstance. Seems outrageous perhaps, but not impossible when we are *"in the Lord"*.

**Acts 16:16-34** is a perfect example of one whose life was spent rejoicing evermore. Paul and Silas delivered a young woman from the spirit of divination. She was so grateful to be free, however, her masters who made a lot of money on her soothsaying were not too thrilled. Paul and Silas ended up in jail--beaten and thrown into the deepest part of the prison, fastened in the stocks. It doesn't sound like a really good situation, right? But do you know what happened?

Look at this astounding response in **verse 25**: *"And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them."* How amazing is that?

Do we ever feel completely beaten down, exhausted, and perhaps fearful from our own journey? Do you and I respond with honest prayer and sincere praise, as Paul and Silas did? Maybe not always, but we certainly CAN! As **Philippians 4:13 clearly states**, *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."*

Yes, We can. You can. I can. Obviously not in our own strength, but *"through Christ Who strengthens me."*





## Better... Together!

Just four months ago we had 8 to 10 people gathering to worship, but not the same ones any Sunday! Then the Lord brought several families by the end of March and we saw as many as 41 people on one given Sunday! There was no need for children's ministry, but now we have 2 to 6 children on any given Sunday! Some wonderful, spiritually hungry families are pretty regular now. We have 2 babies right now, but 3 more are on the way! God is abundantly blessing and surprising us almost every Sunday, without a doubt!

We believe we are all learning that fighting the darkness around us is not a solo act, but we are much better together--to encourage, pray for, and lift up one another! This is an honor and a privilege as a faith community.



## Please join us in Prayer:

- For so many broken, **hurting families** all around us
- For **Fire Fighters** in this Fire Season and families affected by evacuations and horrific air quality
- For **Teachers, students, and families** as school begins
- For **Terra Nova Schools** in Uganda and families
- Against Human Trafficking in our nation and around the world--this is a **cancerous blight** on our society
- **FREE Fly-Fishing Clinic**, Saturday, Aug 12th @ 10 a.m.
- Fall **Weekly Bible Study** Tuesday, Aug 22nd @ 6:30 p.m.
- For **open doors** to touch those around us with the **Love of Christ**
- For **Repentance, Mercy, and Healing** in each of our hearts



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