

## MY HOUR WITH LADIES AT LINCOLN CO. JAIL

I had the sweetest time of fellowship around the person of Christ with four ladies at the Lincoln County Jail this morning. They love seeing me come, and I love seeing them, talking with them, and sharing the powerful, life-giving, life-changing Word of God with them. I cherish every minute with them. They know I truly love them, and one of them, a newbie, wrapped her arms around me as I was heading to the door; she thanked me for coming with a message that gives them hope, and challenges them to let God help them "rise from the ashes".

When I entered the room, I asked them, as I always do, "Is there anything we need to talk about today?" Elizabeth said, "Let's talk about God's grace." People, these ladies are growing. Three of them had their Bibles out and ready. For one hour we read and discussed the Word of God. I told them to crucify themselves every morning before they get off their cot by stretching out their arms and quoting <u>Gal. 2: 20</u>, the 220 circuit we should all plug into each morning. Then we started in <u>Eph. 2: 8-10</u>, and read many passages from the Word. I read <u>Romans 5: 1-2</u> to them and explained to them that "justification" is a courtroom term meaning, "Not Guilty." They loved that. We read from <u>Psalm 103: 11-14:</u>

"For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him;
As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our transgressions from us.
As a father pities his children,
So the Lord pities those who fear Him.
For He knows our frame;
He remembers that we are dust."

They were so excited when I explained to them that when they except Christ as their Lord and Savior, God marks their sins "Paid in Full." I told them God is never surprised when we sin because we are made from dirt and we are attracted to the things of this world, but that He made provision for our daily sin with 1 John 1: 9. They were so excited when I explained to them that they don't have to let Satan keep defeating them with sins of their past. In Christ, they are justified (just-as-if-they-never-sinned), because in Christ, they are "new creations with new desires" (2 Cor. 5: 17), and that when they are "in Christ," God sees them clothed in the righteousness of Christ. (2 Cor. 5: 21). Their sins are no longer visible to God.

We covered a lot more in the hour we had. I am certain that one of them received Christ last month, and one of them today. Two of them, I truly believe, are saved, but defeated. When I was walking out, I turned to them and said, "You are Daughters of the King, and I want you to live like it." There were smiles all around, including me. I stress to them every time I go to quit thinking about themselves, their problems, what

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is going to happen when they go before the judge, how long they will be sentenced to spend in prison, etc., and instead think about the awesome power of God, and give their lives completely to Him, ask Him to take charge, and see what He will do in a life totally committed to Him. As always, I tell them, "If you don't have a problem bigger than the one God had when He had to get Jesus out of that tomb after He had been dead three days, YOU DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM HE CAN'T HANDLE."

I left that dreary room with the glory of God upon me, and I truly believe I left four women in that room with the glory of God on them. I thank God for the awesome privilege of meeting with those women."

## ASKING GOD FOR SALVATION....A SINNER'S PRAYER

Pray the prayer below, FROM YOUR HEART, and you will be saved.

Heavenly Father, I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, and that He died on the cross to save me from my sin· I believe that He rose again to life, and that He invites me to live forever with Him in heaven as part of Your family· Because of what Jesus has done, I ask You to forgive me of my sin and give me eternal life· I invite You to come into my heart and life· I want to trust Jesus as my Savior and follow Him as my Lord· Help me to live in a way that pleases and honors You· Amen·

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