

Set Free Prison Ministries

Rehabilitation by Regeneration

Since 1971

If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36



Dear Friends,

As 2025 rapidly comes to a close and we enter a new year, we want to wish you a blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year!

Thank you for your prayers, your loving generosity, and your partnership with us in the furtherance of the gospel. This past September we entered our 55th year of sharing the very same message that the angel of the Lord first proclaimed to the frightened shepherds guarding their flock. "Do not be afraid, for behold I bring you good news of great joy, which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:8-20).

"He bequeaths us His manger, from which to learn how God came down to man, and His cross to teach us how man may go up to God."

– Charles Spurgeon –

The message of Christmas is that God is a God of love who sent His only Son into the world on a rescue mission.

The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23). "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone" (Hebrew 2:9).

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"

– 2 Corinthians 9:15 –

May we never forget that the sinless One who was made flesh in Mary's womb, thirty-three years later was made sin on Calvary's cross. Salvation is completely free and is the gift of God to all who respond to the gospel. But it is not cheap; it is the most costly gift ever given. It cost God His Son, and it cost God's Son His life's blood. May our hearts overflow with praise and thanksgiving to God for His great love and the priceless gift of His Son. We who know the Lord are so greatly blessed.

December 2025

We are forgiven, pardoned, cleansed from all unrighteousness, adopted into His family, and are now children of God. He has taken up residence in our hearts and lives, and He promises never to leave us or forsake us. We have His peace, His presence, and the Holy Spirit to guide us as we navigate through life's troubled waters. His strength is made perfect in our weakness, and He is an ever-present help in times of need. What a bright future awaits us (Romans 8:18, 31-39; Revelation 21:1-5).

As we rejoice in our own salvation—out of love for the Savior and for the lost—may we also be blessed with the joy of sharing the gospel with our daily contacts, with those who don't know the Lord at this point in their lives. Thankfully God sent a Savior to forgive us, not a Judge to condemn us (John 3:17-18). Nothing and no one is too hard for the Lord. Eternity is at stake; heaven or hell hangs in the balance.

We at Set Free are so blessed to have so many golden opportunities to share the greatest message in the universe—the gospel! The prison mission field is not only white unto harvest and costly to operate, but also abundantly fruitful. **To date, 1,403 inmates have responded to the gospel and opened their hearts to the Savior. To God be all the glory!**

Every month, we continue to minister to 6,000 inmates and mail thousands of Bible courses, books, devotionals, pamphlets, tracts, etc. Everything is provided totally free of charge including mailing and return postage, as most are destitute.

Every day that Set Free continues to operate is a miracle and a testimony of God's faithfulness and blessing over the past 54+ years. He continues to wonderfully provide through the prayers and generosity of His loving people. Our ongoing commitment to the Lord—and to you—is to make every dollar count for His glory. In our previous newsletter, I requested your prayers and shared that it would take a miracle for us to finish 2025 in the black. Thankfully, miracles are His specialty. I'm very happy to report that there has been wonderful progress toward reaching that goal! We still have a way to go before we get there, but our hearts are filled with gratitude for

each of you who recently responded. You are a wonderful encouragement and blessing.

In closing, we greatly value your continued prayers for our ongoing and escalating ministry needs. Postage costs have risen dramatically, and everything we purchase has significantly increased in price. Thankfully, we have a wealthy Heavenly Father who owns everything and continues to provide through His incredible, loving people. *We are thankful for each of you and for your partnership in the Great Commission. Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and New Year!*

Because He Lives,



Phil Wagner
John 3:16-18



Christmas Card **OUTREACH** Project
I was in prison and you came to Me.
Matthew 25:36

THANK YOU LETTER FROM AN INMATE

I want to give thanks and express my appreciation to Set Free and to the instructor. Thank you for reading through my coursework. Your kind words mean the world to me and keep me motivated on this newfound journey. I truly appreciate your time and assistance. I received my work on "Lessons on Assurance" along with the certificate of completion. I am very thankful for the verses you shared.

My relationship with my family has become stronger than ever, as they tell me they see a real change in me for the better. I am deeply grateful for what Set Free Prison Ministries and the Word of God have done in my life, and I look forward to continuing my studies and growing in my relationship with Christ. Thank you also for the Set Free Study New Testament you sent me. I love the translation—it allows me not only to read it easily but also to grasp and understand the meaning of the verses. I truly appreciate the Bible. Thank you and God bless you all.

John from Delano, California

Christmas is by far, the hardest, most depressing, and loneliest time of year to be incarcerated. Nearly 85% of inmates never receive a letter or a visit from the outside world throughout their entire time of incarceration. But, Christmas provides a wonderful opportunity for us to reach inmates with the Good News. In November, we began sending out more than 6,000 blank Christmas cards—each containing the Gospel message—to our students so they could write to their families, friends, and loved ones. We also encourage our students to share the gospel with their contacts and invite them to enroll in our Bible study program.

Receiving a personalized Christmas card filled with encouragement means more to them than words can express. We are deeply grateful for our 121 Set Free volunteers and mentors, Magnolia Church, and the Bible study groups in Orange County and Northern California. Together, they wrote over 2,000 Christmas cards filled with the Good News of the Gospel and the true meaning of Christmas.

A special "thank you" to David and Helen Haidle of The Heart Gifts Inc. for providing 6,000 Christmas cards completely free of charge. We truly appreciate everyone who participated. Thousands of inmates in hundreds of jails and prisons have been reached through your loving efforts this Christmas.

