

Snyder County Prison Chaplaincy
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Snyder County Prison Chaplaincy
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On a cold, icy Sunday evening in December, we met inside the prison walls. Walls of thick concrete and strong steel with locks on the doors and bars on the windows; we were there to worship. To praise the One spoken about in John 1: 3-5—*“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”*

In that small, dank room with only enough space for about 15 men, a resounding song of male voices bounced off the impermeable walls and echoed from the elevated ceiling:

“Wealth can be an idol built of gleaming gold, bringing dreams of paradise, of futures bought and sold. Some will choose to gather it, all that they can hoard, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Pleasure is a siren, promising the flesh, brief relief from emptiness, a hiding place from death. Some will choose to chase it, until it leaves them bored, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Power is a hunger, burning in the breast, to walk among the mighty and trample on the rest. Some will choose to gain it, by lie or guile or sword, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Father of all mercy, giver of all life, here we speak our covenant above the noisy strife. Hear us shout in glory, above the pagan horde, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

As you are enjoying your Christmas, please remember the incarcerated in your prayers. Thank you for your prayer and financial support of this ministry. Thank you for opportunity given to me to be a part of this wonderful ministry. I am grateful for experiences, such as the one I described above, in which God has blessed me. May the blessing be returned to you. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Chaplain Michele Walter

**If the Son sets
You free,
You will be
Free indeed!**

John 8:36



*Snyder County
Prison
Chaplaincy*

Newsletter

December 2016

Dear Friends,
Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This past Sunday, I preached on freedom versus slavery to sin. In addressing this topic, I referred to John 8:31-36: "To the Jews who believed him, Jesus said, 'If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free.' They answered him, 'We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say we shall be set free'" (John 8:31-33)?

At this point we paused and had a good discussion on slavery and freedom in biblical terms. Next we returned to our text: "Jesus replied, 'I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed'" (John 8:34-36).

Here, I asked my listeners to share the specific matters that kept them in spiritual captivity. Many of the inmates joined in the discussion. I also sensed the Holy Spirit moving in our midst. I recognized the Spirit was present to forgive sins and to break chains.

As I closed in prayer, I asked for a show of hands from everyone who desired to be set free from sin. I am pleased to report over half of the inmates raised their hands. I can also share that tears were shed at the confessing of sins during prayer. Indeed, God is good!

My friends, I am very grateful for you. Your prayers and financial support enable me to continue this vital ministry. May God richly bless you in every way!

In the love and grace of Jesus Christ,
Chaplain Dan Eyster