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Founders:
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Dear Friends of IPM,

When a person becomes a Christian, an entirely new life is made available through faith in Jesus Christ. For every born-again believer in Jesus Christ, the old self-centered way of thinking can be rejected in order to embrace a new Christ-centered perspective on life. The old, self-reliant attitude can be exchanged for a new dependency upon the Lord. The old self-serving quest after money and pleasure can be replaced by a new Christ-serving purpose in life.

This new life is anchored in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For all who believe that Christ died for their sins and that He rose victorious over sin and death, newness of life can be increasingly experienced: *"that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life"* (Romans 6:4).

In our appreciation book this month, "The Secret of Spiritual Strength," Andrew Murray could have been speaking directly to prisoners: "I am aware of the many struggles, difficulties, and failures of which many Christians complain, and I know that many are trying to make a new effort to begin a holy life. I know that their hearts are continually afraid that they will fail again, because they experience so many difficulties and temptations, and because of the natural weakness of their characters."

So many prisoners write to IPM to express their failures and need of spiritual strength. Andrew Murray goes on to

(over please)

say: "The secret of the Christian's strength and joy is simply the presence of the Lord Jesus. To know His presence, begin by believing, with presenting yourself before God in an attitude of silent worship and asking Him to let a sense of His greatness and His presence come upon you. You must ask Him to let your heart be covered over with His holy presence. You must seek to know in your heart the presence of an almighty and all-loving God, an unspeakably loving God. Take time to worship Him as the Omnipotent God, to feel that the very power that created the world, the very power that raised Jesus from the dead, is working in your heart at this moment."

Prisoners know more about the world than about Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God. Prisoners who seek the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ receive spiritual strength.

May the Lord continue to pour out His Spirit upon our partnership in seeing prisoners strengthened as they struggle to believe while in a place where evil abounds, but God's Glory abounds even more.

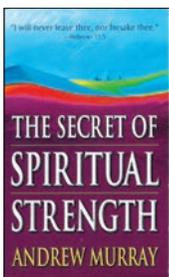
Proclaiming Together the Joy of the Presence of Christ,

Dini Hoekstra

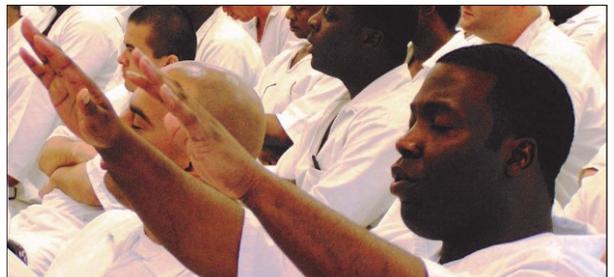
Dini Hoekstra

(for all of our "Chaplain Ray Family and the IPM team)

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is "The Secret of Spiritual Strength" by Andrew Murray.



The secret of the Christian's strength and joy is simply the presence of the Lord Jesus in their lives.

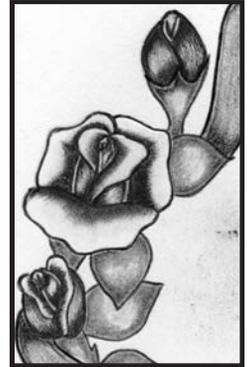


LETTERS FROM PRISONERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED BIBLES, EDIFICATION BOOKS, OR INMATE TESTIMONIALS FROM IPM.

(See reverse side where a sample book is highlighted.
The book is available to you as a free appreciation gift upon request.)

The Rose

*It is only a tiny rosebud, flower of God's design.
But I cannot unfold the rose with these clumsy hands of mine.
The secret to unfolding the rose is not known to such as I, For the flower that
God opens up so sweet, in my hands would fade and die.
Now if I cannot unfold the rose, this flower of God's design. Then how can I
think I have wisdom enough to unfold this life of mine.
For the pathways which lie before me, my Heavenly Father knows. So I will
trust in Him to unfold the moment just as He unfolds the rose!*



Prisoner Art

First Time in Jail

My name is John C. I am a 27 year old male currently in maximum security in a Texas prison. This is actually the first time I have been in real trouble in my life. I was about to start my Junior year in college, but I have struggled a long time with alcohol and it finally caught up to me. I have lost everything; my job; truck; apartment; school; employability and my freedom. However for the first time in my life, I have gotten into the Bible and it has brought me comfort. I came to jail lonely and afraid, but I am starting to understand more. There is a Bible study group here nightly. It has helped me grow up spiritually (finally). I think this is what I have been missing in my life. One of my friends in the study group said I should write you to receive a Bible dictionary and concordance. Any material that would help me study the Bible would be greatly appreciated. I feel blessed to grow spiritually rich, though I am now indigent in the world. But I believe spiritually rich is what means the most now, at the end of the day. Thank you, again. (IPM sent John's request and a letter.)

Your Book Moved Me

I respectfully ask for a Bible study book. I just read "Poems from Prison Cells" and it moved me and showed me I am not alone behind these walls. These walls have a way of trying to break my faith and spirit at times, but our Lord saves me when I get to my final point.

Sean D.,
Texas Prison

Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail

God has a loving and gracious heart for prisoners (Isaiah 61:1).

At the request of many, contributions to IPM can also be made online at www.chaplainray.com

It is the policy of I.P.M. to use each gift as it is designated by the donor. If any project is completed, any surplus will be used where it is needed most.

Dear Dini Hoekstra, My gift to help prisoners learn that the presence of Jesus Christ is spiritual strength.

- Use this gift for *Bibles For Prisoners*.....\$ _____
- "Library of LifeChanging Books" for Prisoners.... \$ _____
- Support for Prison Ministry in Russia & India.....\$ _____
- Use My Offering *Where Needed Most*.....\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

**HERE IS ANOTHER OF THE OUTSTANDING BOOKS THAT OUR
MINISTRY PARTNERS HELP US DISTRIBUTE TO PRISONERS.**

(A copy of this book is available to you as a gift by requesting it in the box below.)

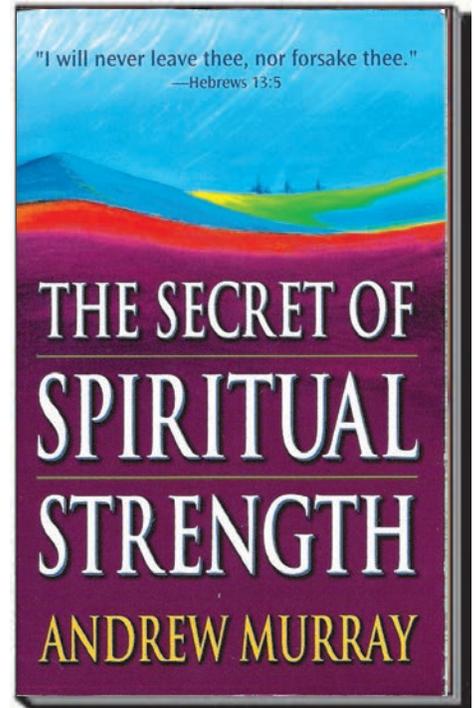
Seek the Presence of the Lord!

Knowing Jesus should be top priority on a Christian or prisoner's list. Prisoners usually have a lot of time on their hands. One of the ways to fight the evil atmosphere of prison is to draw near to God and shut out what is going on around them. Seeking to spend time with Jesus is drawing near to God and resisting the devil who will flee.

Andrew Murray said: "If you were to ask me what great blessing we should seek from God, my answer would be this: Not only should we think about Jesus Himself and speak about Him and believe in Him, but we should come to the point at which the disciples arrived: *They knew Him*. Everything is to be found in that."

"Christ is God and because Christ, after having been made a human being, went up into the throne and life of God. And now that blessed Christ Jesus, with His loving, pierced heart; that blessed Christ Jesus who lived on earth; that same Christ who was glorified into the glory of God, can be in me and can be with me every day."

Prisoners come from a life of darkness and sin. Most never realize or have an inkling of the glorified Christ. They must be taught and then they must actually do what they have been taught as Jesus gives them desire and strength. The Holy Spirit convicts inmates of their total weakness in sin and draws them to Jesus Christ, who is their strength. Thank you for praying for prisoners.



**Our Appreciation
Gift Book for You!**

Andrew Murray is teaching the basics of a Christian life for all Christians. Now it is up to the Christian prisoner to ask Christ to help him know the presence of Jesus and for the Lord to give him strength and perseverance to continue to seek Him.

Cut Along Dotted Line & Mail

Yes, Please Send Gift Book

