

Beloved friends, I extend to you warm greetings in **JESUS** name & I pray that you are **REJOICING** in the **LORD** (Phil. 4:4). Embrace our **LORD'S** awesome **LOVE** daily & understand that **HE** is **ALWAYS** with you, 24/7 (Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5). This is a great encouragement to us **ALL** who have **HIM** in our hearts as **LORD** & **SAVIOR**. Our **FAITH** must grow & increase (Luke 17:5) & we must **NEVER** take **PRAYER** & **SPIRITUAL WARFARE** lightly. The war with the enemy satan is raging (II Cor. 10:3). When calamities (Ps. 57:1) blindside us, causing fear & uncertainties about what we can do or how we are to respond, **RUN TO JESUS**. When overwhelmed, **PRAISE HIM & PRAY** in expectation (Ps. 62:5). Remember, our **LORD** is never overwhelmed, no matter what we go through. **HE IS FAITHFUL** (Heb. 10:23).

The Bulk Mail U.S. Postal Service will **NOT** allow me to write scriptures or any type of personal message anymore. They pulled 178 newsletters & made me get 178 — 41¢ stamps, which was a big hit. I send out 370 newsletters plus 50 email newsletters each month, so I'll just add scriptures at the end of each month. I was very frustrated because the **HOLY SPIRIT** led scriptures were expected & ministered to so many.

April was an extremely busy month — 27 services, & over 450 invited **CHRIST** into their hearts or rededicated. The first quarter of this year has been very fruitful & the **HOLY SPIRIT**, as always, drew them in (John 6:44). There were 6 days with 2 services each, one day with 4 back-to-back services & 4 L.A. Co. Jail services along with 12 hours of counseling. I had 6 services in a 5 day period & 13 services in 8 days. Busy for me is always good.

The Skid Row Mission Services all had large crowds that embraced **GOD'S WORD**, as did the Chino Women's Prison service. We always have a packed chapel when I'm there once a month. Again this month, I went back to Delano Prison for Pastor-Chaplain Ben Lopez. It was such a blessing as many of the inmates there have heard me preach at the L.A. Co. Jail & other prisons. For 17 years, I've ministered at Donovan Penitentiary & even though it's a 5 1/2 hr. round trip drive, I'm always blessed seeing those walk from darkness into light, receiving **JESUS**, so it's worth it. Gas in CA is closing in on \$4 a gallon. :-(( I also ministered at Jacobs Well in Long Beach, for Pastor Bill Gibbons at his Burbank Church, & for the 1st time for Brother Cory's "Christians in the Arts" group in San Dimas. In the L.A. Co. Jail services, there were over 300 inmates at the services, & each service had a large harvest.

**Question:** In times of pain, troubles & afflictions, when you cry out to God (Ps, 34:6, 15, 17), do you instinctively cry out, "**FATHER!**" I do, in JESUS name. Have you ever stopped to think how astonishing it is that we have the right to address the **RULER** of the **UNIVERSE** in such an intimate & personal way? In the

Old Testament, however, the title "**FATHER**" was used just 15 times & usually in the formal sense of "Father of the Hebrew people." In the New Testament, however, everything changes. **GOD** is addressed as **FATHER** no less than 245 times!

**JESUS** referred to **GOD** as "**FATHER**" throughout **HIS** ministry — 14 times in the Sermon on the Mount alone! It is **ONLY** because of **CHRIST** that we have this great privilege. As **JESUS HIMSELF** declared in John 14:6, "no one comes to the **FATHER** but through **ME**." Because **CHRIST** paid the penalty for our sins, we are able to enter into a personal relationship with the **ALMIGHTY!** We have the right, totally unearned & only by **HIS** grace, to call **HIM**, "**FATHER**." What an awesome privilege it is! **GOD** expresses **HIS FATHERHOOD** much as an earthly father would to his child. In fact, there are **6 KEY ASPECTS** of **GOD'S FATHERHOOD** in our life!

1. As our **FATHER**, **GOD** desires an intimate relationship with us. **HE** wants us to approach **HIM** openly about everything, **INCLUDING** our weaknesses & failures.
2. **GOD** loves each of us unconditionally. It is **GOD'S** nature to **LOVE** both saint & sinner, simply because **HE IS LOVE** (I John 4:8). The unbeliever has positioned himself so that he cannot experience that **LOVE** — a situation easily remedied by **TRUSTING JESUS** as **SAVIOR**.
3. **HE** meets **ALL** our needs. Scripture assures us that **GOD** knows our needs, even before we ask **HIM**, & **HE** will supply them **ALL** "according to **HIS** riches in glory in **CHRIST JESUS**" (Phil 4:19)
4. He disciplines **HIS** children. **GOD** trains us **NOT** out of anger, but with loving corrections for our own good (Heb. 12:5-10). This training is, in fact, evidence that we are truly **HIS** children.
5. **HE** always guides us to do what is right. **JESUS** said the **HOLY SPIRIT** — our **COUNSELOR** would guide us into all truth (John 14:26, 16:13). **GOD** never leads us in the wrong direction. **HE** will "make our paths straight" IF we trust **HIM** instead of our own reasoning or feelings (Prov. 3:5, 6). We cannot trust our feelings!
6. Our Heavenly Father is **ALWAYS** with us & for us. (Deu. 31:6) & His **SPIRIT** is **ALWAYS** available to guide & prompt.

All of us who love the **LORD** should be praying **DAILY** that we remain **FAITHFUL**, that we do **NOT** grow weary in well doing & that we are hiding **GOD'S** truth in our hearts.

Until next month, may **GOD** bless you **ALL**, & to you who sent **LOVE** offerings, **I PRAISE HIM** & thank you.

In His Majesty's Service,

Scriptures: Eph. 1:11-14 (NIV); Acts 2:25-32; Ps. 37:3-5, 9-11; Dan. 7:13,14