

With great enthusiasm I greet you in the MIGHTY NAME OF JESUS CHRIST, our blessed LORD & SAVIOR. I pray that HIS LOVE & GRACE pours out all over you this New Year & the years after. GOD LOVES those who seek HIS face DAILY & HIS LOVE is EVERLASTING (Jeremiah 31:3). We can bathe ourselves in HIS LOVE today & every day, knowing HE is ALWAYS with us (Matt. 28:20 & Heb. 13:5; Deuteronomy 31: 6)

January of 2007 was another blessed & fruitful month of ministry as over 350 gave their hearts to JESUS or rededicated their life in 23 services. There were also 12 hrs. of counseling at the L.A. Co. Jail along with 3 services. On January 2nd, there were 79 inmates at the service & 61 prayed the sinner's prayer. Great way to start the year, P.T.L! The next night was a packed house at the Long Beach Rescue Mission that had another large harvest, as was the Sunday church service there 3 weeks later. I had 8 services at the Fred Jordan Mission that were Holy Spirit led & blessed.

As always, the Chino Women's Prison had over 100 attending the service. Some of them have the Arsenal Prayer memorized. The WORD of GOD was embraced as evidenced by a fine harvest of souls & tears.(Ps.56:8) I was back at the Burbank Chapter of the Full Gospel Christian Businessman's breakfast & am always blessed to be there. It's the same at Jacobs Well in Long Beach. They are always hungry for God's Word there.

The Union Rescue Mission Men's & Women's Services were full & sadly, too many women with children are homeless. When I look into a child's eyes that are full of confusion & fear, it really tugs at me. The L.A. Mission service had over 90 in attending & again there was a nice harvest. At every service, I handed out the Arsenal Prayer. I've given over 54,000 all over the country. It is a powerful spiritual warfare prayer that DAILY dresses us for the battle with our adversary satan , the defeated one..

The last Sunday of January took me to Donovan Penitentiary, where I've been preaching for 17 years. It is a level III maximum-security facility south of San Diego, a mile from the Mexican border. I've been blessed to minister there & it's always a good time in the LORD. Those in the chapel services sure do love the WORD of GOD. Speaking of LOVE, whatever happened to that word? There is so much hate & prejudice in some of the places I minister, yet, GOD IS LOVE (I John 4:8). LOVE sent JESUS to the cross & LOVE kept HIM there, NOT the spikes.

As I ask inmates that I counsel, or if I were to ask you today, "Do you really love GOD?" Most probably answer, "Yes." If I were to ask how you show GOD that you love HIM, what would you answer? There are multitudes who profess to love GOD, yet know very little about how the Bible tells us to love HIM. They NEED HIM. They FEAR HIM. They ENJOY the blessings of being a Christian. But when it comes to really truly loving HIM, they substitute other feelings for genuine love. In other words, they appreciate GOD when it is convenient, but when called to make a commitment or sacrifice, they become GOD'S fair-weather friends. Some Christians profess to love HIM, yet they refuse to forsake the sin in their lives. They claim to love HIM, yet they are ashamed to share the Gospel with others. Why not? We need GOD'S approval, not man's (Acts 8:23). I could care less what someone thinks or says about me when I talk to them about JESUS.

What is it about your life that demonstrates to others that you love GOD? What do you do or not do because you love HIM? When asked what is the greatest commandment in the Law, JESUS replied, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART; AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." The 2nd is like it! "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." (MATT. 22:37, 39). In this statement, JESUS covers the whole Mosaic Law in 2 simple commandments that even a child could understand. The 1st tells us to love GOD, & the 2nd tells us to love our neighbor. The 2nd one depends upon the 1st. We must understand what it means to love GOD before we can express genuine love toward others. In I John 4:20, it says, "if you say you love GOD & hate your brother, you are a liar." I use that scripture in prison sermons.

When JESUS CHRIST is your personal SAVIOR, & your life is completely surrendered to GOD, being controlled by HIM, HE will express HIMSELF through your character, your conduct, & your countenance. HIS love will be written all over you & the HOLY SPIRIT who indwells in every believer will urge you to serve, reach out to others in a spirit of giving, to pray & to praise. When we love GOD, HE will cause us to love others. Let the world know that you are a Christian by demonstrating your love. That's how someone will say, "you must be a Christian. There is something different about you." Love is an action, NOT lip service. In Isa. 29:13, GOD says, "My people give me lip service, their heart is far from ME." GOD knows our heart (Luke 16:15). GOD looks at our hearts (I Sam. 16:7). Let your heart be full of love for GOD.

Until next month, the LORD BLESS you & keep you, & to you who BLESSED me with LOVE offerings, I praise HIM & thank you.

In His Majesty's Service,

Mel Novak