



The Sharing Organization

PO Box 73
Armada, MI 48005

586-305-5167

DECEMBER 2018

Ministry Moment...

Earlier this year I found myself getting agitated with a few of the people and I knew that I was being foolish because I know darn well that sick people can't help it, but still I was agitated; and with one woman in particular.

Emma would come each week and tell me how she just knew that Jesus had spit her out of His mouth and that she was afraid that she was going to spend eternity in hell. Each week I assured her to have faith in Christ because God has forgiven her through His shed blood. Each week was the same discussion and each discussion ended by her telling me that she still believed that God has rejected her. I admit that I was not just irritated but I was showing my irritation and not at all responding to her as someone who has any Christian charity at all.

One day God put it on my heart to put her on my daily prayer list because getting through to her would require a great amount of prayer (Matt. 17:21) and a direct intervention of the Holy Spirit. After specifically praying for her for a few days, God then told me to put myself on that list just after her name. I got it: my bad and impatient attitude needed just as much healing as her sickness and doubt. So for the next few months I prayed for us both and went into my weekly meetings with her aware of how I wanted to respond and treat her. I am happy to report that God was faithful to us both in this situation.

Just a couple of weeks ago I had a discussion with her again, but this time she told me that she had talked to one of the other people of faith in her home and she was now convinced that God indeed had given her another chance; she was no longer afraid that God had spat her out and condemned her to hell. We prayed together and thanked God for his mercy and grace to us, and she went away happy for the first time in months.

As I left that day I was reminded again how little I have to do with what happens around here. All I really have to do is be faithful and show up, because God really does have everything under control.

~John

Prayer Letter...

Dear Prayer Partner,

This month has been a little abnormal... On Monday I got the mail and in it was a large donation. Then a couple of days later I got the mail again, and there was another significant gift, and then at the end of the week we were approached by someone volunteering to serve on the board of directors. I was overwhelmed by so much answer to prayer in so little time! I know that God is always able; I just am not used to such expediency. As I considered it all, I realized that I was thankful that you trust us. You trust us and our ministry so much that you are willing to give your time to pray for us, and you're willing to share with us the financial blessings God has entrusted to you. You trust us, and that makes me extremely happy, because I highly value being trusted. Thank you!

One specific prayer I would ask of you. God has put on my heart a desire to challenge our local churches to put an emphasis on evangelistic efforts; specifically developing an evangelism class in their congregations. I'm not yet sure what this is to look like, but my heart is that churches will seriously consider their missional goals of evangelizing and making disciples in our communities. Please pray with me as I seek some clarification from God about what this looks like as a whole, and how to communicate it.

Thank you for responding to the call and helping us raise the money for new songbooks. We've raised the required amount and will be having the new books printed during the Christmas season, retiring the old books as we ring in the new year!

I hope that you and your families have a very merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year!

Have a Merry Christmas all season through!



John R. Rock

**...show that they can be fully trusted,
so that in every way they will make the teaching
about God our Savior attractive.**

Titus 2:10b