



**But we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the Angels  
for the suffering of Death...  
Crowned with glory and honor... that He  
by the grace of God should taste death...for everyone...  
Hebrews 2:9**

December 24, 2011

Dear Friends In Christ,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a joyous and Christ centered Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!

For most, Christmas is by far the busiest time of the year. There is so much to do and not enough hours in the day to finish everything. The malls are packed, gifts to purchase and wrap, homes to clean and decorate, baking and cooking, Christmas cards to write, get togethers with family and friends, church activities etc... This special time of year with all its demands, can be exhausting and at times overwhelming...especially for the women who often carry the bulk of the load!

With all that is going on, it's so easy for us to forget "the reason for the season" and to lose sight of the real meaning of Christmas. God's love, the gift of His Son, **sending Him on a rescue mission** to a fallen world needing Salvation. **The birth of our Savior is the most important birth in all of history, and also...the most expensive gift ever given.** Salvation is 100% totally free, but it is not cheap. To save us it cost God His Son, it cost God's Son his life's blood as He underwent **the death penalty...** making payment for the awfulness of our sins. "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23) A close friend whom the Lord has greatly used gave me a wall plaque which states; "He paid a debt He did not owe, for I owed a debt I could not pay". That's love, grace and substitution! (1 Peter 2:24 & 3:18)

In a few short days we will exit 2011 and enter 2012. We are thankful to the Lord for his faithfulness over the past year...and the past 40 years! We would greatly value your prayers and financial assistance which will enable us to keep sharing the Good News of God's love. May we never forget...**that He who became flesh in Mary's womb...was made sin on the cross...so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.** (John 1:14 & 2 Corinthians 5:21)

In closing, "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor; that you through His poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

This Christmas, may our hearts overflow with praise and worship to God for the gift of his son!

Because He Lives

Phil Wagner





## TROPHIES OF GODS GRACE

### *Merry Christmas and Thank You*

**I Have No Greater Joy Than To Hear My Children Walk In Truth (III John 4)**

**I**n my Thanksgiving Newsletter I shared with you some of our humanitarian outreaches as we distributed warm clothes to the children born in prison and the orphanage we assist. The day we returned to the United States it began to snow in Kazakhstan. Currently they are experiencing a bitter cold winter. It is a good feeling to know the children have warm coats and clothes. The Lord's timing was again as always ...Perfect!



We also were greatly blessed to spend time with our Spiritual Freedom staff and the many believers who were saved in prison. Following their release, they lived in our discipleship center and were grounded in the word of God, and taught how to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord. Those who never had earthly fathers or a father's



love now have a loving heavenly Father, who will never leave or abandon them, like their biological fathers did. Those who were born into absolutely nothing that even resembled a family are now born into God's loving family with many caring brothers and sisters to assist them. Those whose lives were filled with pain and on the verge of suicide are now happily married with families. Those who were once slaves to sin, and lacking purpose in life, are now serving the Lord, sharing the gospel, and leading others to Christ. Some are attending Bible school, disciplining others, serving in church, youth leaders, fulltime workers and missionaries impacting their world for Christ!



Everyone in these two photos has an amazing story how the Lord used this ministry to change and bless their lives. They are so thankful to the Lord for His salvation and for "Spiritual Freedom" coming to Kazakhstan. How wonderful and encouraging to hear the words; "Thank you, God used you to change my life; we are the fruit of your labors". We respond by telling them; "It's all of the Lord, you thank Him! Your changed

life brings joy to both His heart and ours!" In some of my future newsletters, I will share their testimonies with you. None of these wonderful changes would have taken place without the prayers and financial support of the Lord's people. Everyone who prays for the ministry and assists financially had a very real part in what the Lord accomplished in their lives, and what He is currently doing in the hearts and lives of many hundreds of others who are now in prison and studying God's word. His word is truly powerful and life changing. (Hebrews 4:12)

In closing, this Christmas we too want to express our thankfulness and heartfelt appreciation to you for your friendship, prayers and gifts. They are being powerfully used to fulfill the great commission and to see precious lives wonderfully transformed for both time and eternity! (II Corinthians 5:17)





*He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly...but  
He who sows bountifully  
Will reap bountifully  
II Corinthians 9:6*

**B**usy, excited and a bit overwhelmed sums up the feeling of our Set Free staff! Since we received our shipment of 95,000 Bible courses we have really been able to sow bountifully! We have already distributed many thousands of Bible courses. In the past seven days we received almost 400 completed courses and 213 new enrollments. 97 of the completed courses were new students completing the first salvation course we send out. Many accepted the Lord as their Savior while completing the course!



The ministry is greatly expanding and is experiencing the snow ball affect...bigger and bigger! To keep up with the increased workload and capitalize on these golden opportunities to reach the lost for Christ, we need to add to our staff and recruit more volunteers. We have almost 3,000 active students currently studying God's word in over 30 states. These statistics may appear to be cold and boring to some, *but behind every course and new request we receive, is a precious eternal soul...created and loved by God...and one who Christ gave his life for.*



For most who live behind prison walls and chain link fences, their lives and families are literally in shambles. They are lonely, empty, hurting, feeling like dirt, losers and trash. Many come from the most terrible backgrounds imaginable. **They are beaten down by life and beaten up by sin and Satan.** Inwardly they feel like failures and the scum of the earth. All are reaching out for help in order to change the direction of their life.

To assist them, we need the assistance of the Lords loving people. Our expenses have greatly escalated in every area...postage is out of sight. **We need both your prayers and financial help so we can spread God's love to Satan's cruel captives and see them Set Free "By the Blood of the Lamb".** (Revelation 12:11) For this purpose was the Son of God manifest...that He might destroy the works of the Devil. (I John 3:8)

**Some consider prisons as "cesspools of iniquity" but, I consider them "gold mines of opportunity" !  
Where sin abounds... Grace also abounds! Romans 5:20**

