# Loaves & Fishes Report October 2009



Publishing Loaves & Fishes, the free discipleship magazine for prisoners.

# Tough Times. Who Can Afford the Pearl of Great Price?

## Dear Friend,

Have you paid the price to enter the kingdom of heaven? Are you a serious disciple of Jesus Christ?

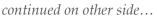
In Matthew 13, Jesus compared a person entering the kingdom of heaven to a merchant buying *one beautiful pearl*. This pearl was so valuable the merchant had to sell everything to afford this one pearl.

It takes nothing less than *everything* you have to follow Jesus Christ. He said, "Whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple" (Luke 14:33). And "if anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me" (Matthew 16:24).

This then is the cost of following Jesus – *everything*. The money you have in the bank and in your pocket, your time, your house, your garage, your car, your wife, your children, and even yourself. When you become a disciple of Jesus Christ, everything becomes His!

This does not necessarily mean that you can't use and enjoy material things here on the earth, but it means that Jesus is now the owner. You have no right to control your life any longer. It's up to Him to say how your money is used and what kind of house you live in and what kind of truck you drive. *Everything* is His, and Jesus always makes decisions in the light of eternity.

So who can afford to purchase the pearl of great price and become a true disciple of Jesus Christ? The person who is willing to forsake everything. It is not how much we have that counts, but how much we give up for the kingdom of God.









Volunteers Help Prepare Loaves & Fishes for Mailing

Below: Some of the Single Subscriptions Tubs Ready for the Mail Truck



"I tried to kill myself more than once, but when I came [upon the story of] Pastor Chen, it gave me strength in my faith to let go of worldly things and move forward to spiritual things."



Volunteers Help Prepare Loaves & Fishes for Mailing

#### ... continued from other side

Let us forsake everything as the poor widow who gave all her money to God and not as the religious folks who gave their extras to God (Mark 12:41–44). Jesus sits nearby watching. Will you forsake everything for Him? He invites you to an eternal inheritance that begins today and will only become more precious in the ages to come.

#### An Answer to Prayer

The Lord has supplied our need for postage to mail another printing of *Loaves & Fishes*! Thank you, friends, for all your help. The postage to mail all the subscriptions this time was nearly \$14,000. Some have left already (October 13), and the rest are leaving within the next week or so, Lord willing. The postage is paid, and we have money left for ongoing expenses. Praise the Lord!

## **Our Burden**

We truly desire to see Jesus Christ exalted in the prisons of the United States. The Lord has shown us hungry hearts in prison and an open door to speak into their lives through printed literature. We have a burden to publish another issue of *Loaves & Fishes* soon. Please pray for God's leading and the finances to make it happen.

There are many obstacles in this ministry, so let's all partner together in prayer for God's kingdom to be built in the prisons. Pray for Satan's power to be bound at Lighthouse, for finances to publish *Loaves & Fishes* four times a year, and for God's presence with each booklet that goes forth.

> For Christ, Lavern Gingerich

# If Only 350 People Gave \$1/Day

If donations would increase by \$350 a day, this would give us \$10,000 more every month or \$30,000 every quarter — enough to print *Loaves & Fishes* four times a year!

We see an urgent need to publish *Loaves & Fishes* at least four times per year. With the support we have now, we can print one issue a year. Would you prayerfully consider helping us achieve this goal with a monthly sponsorship of \$30 or more?

Return the enclosed contribution card to set up your monthly donations or call us at 423-447-3567 to get started.



**GOAL:** 4 Loaves & Fishes Issues Per Year

"This is a very informative, uplifting, and helpful book and I'd love to have one sent to me if at all possible.... Thank you so much, because I really got alot out of this one issue that covers anger."

Kim R. Brown • OCCC • Wheelwright, KY

#### **News Updates**

**Blog:** For more photos and frequent news updates, read our blog at www.lighthousepublishing.org/blog.

**eNews:** To subscribe to e-mail updates and prayer requests, send your request to the following address: enews@lighthousepublishing.org.

#### **Lighthouse Publishing**

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