

June 2013



# New Name Ministries

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## Welcome Back

It has been way too long since we have published our newsletter. Staffing changes, regrouping, and transition caused us to have to take a break from publishing. You have never been far from our heart. Before we decided to begin again we wanted to be sure we were in position to maintain a dependable publication schedule. At this time we believe we can publish during the last month of each quarter. We are glad to be back serving you with words of encouragement, instruction, and other relational material.

## Please join us welcoming our new arrivals:

Paul Shelton April 5, 2013  
Johnny Moody May 20, 2013  
Don Tally May 29, 2013  
Robert M. White June 6, 2013

## Pray that our recent graduates will walk in their God-given talents for His glory:

Jeff Hunsaker April 27, 2013  
Robert Cox May 2, 2013



## Current Events

From the beginning, God has given Pastor Jon (PJ) a vision of how He wants to transform the lives of the men at New Name Home. Over the years, the Father has added to this vision to further this process for His beloved. Sometimes when working with visionaries, the download gets hung up in the "fuzzysphere". So, the Lord brought Chuck to us to bring feet to PJ's vision. With his talent for administration, Chuck is developing a curriculum model based on five overlapping circles: Culture of Honor, Healing Encounter, The Prophetic, Our Identity In Christ, and Prison Culture vs. Kingdom Culture. Each quarter we will expand on one of these principles.

## From the Father's Heart

(by Jon Cordeiro)

### Give It A Rest

New Name Ministries' is now in its ninth year as a residential reentry ministry. Over the years, I have learned a lot of hard lessons and sorrowed on the impact that it has had on others. Fortunately, my shortcomings haven't kept God from using me to move forward personally or as a ministry. I'm fairly confident my short comings haven't slowed Him down; I'm usually the one getting out ahead of God! This flaw in my character has allowed me to make a lot of valuable mistakes. I've heard it said that the best mistakes to learn from are somebody else's! This being the case, I feel that I must be approaching invaluable as a pioneer in residential reentry for former sex offenders.



That being said, I'm fairly confident that our Heavenly Father is pure love, He is the essence of patience and remains eternally in first place as #1 Dad.

Many years ago I had a vision of the old tale of the tortoise and the hare. In the dream God told me to be the tortoise and not the hare. In other words, slow

down. While I was incarcerated I recall a guy in our pod always saying "He's an on time God!" There have been countless times that He has shown me that my ways (timing) are not His. I've joked in the past that if I could take one thing to Heaven with me I'd bring a watch... for my Heavenly Father! Now though, I find that God is still on time - He's not in a hurry because He's in control. And if I give Him control of my life, everyday in every way, I always get what I need and it's always better than I hope for. Essentially, I can give it a rest and trust Him.

I encourage you to submit your whole life and future plans to Him, right now. Why wait or prolong receiving the best God has for you? Another way to look at this is to realize that what God wants to do for us is not for us alone. It's not all about you; it's about all of us! God wishes for none to perish. As you change, others are changed, communities are changed and states, and someday a nation! I believe in a God who can change a nation in a day. But I know He is going to use the likes of you and me to do it... in His time. So what do you say, ready to give it a rest?

## Culture of Honor

There is no dishonor in the Kingdom of God. When the disobedient angels rebelled in heaven, they were not only removed from their God-ordained positions, but also expelled permanently from God's presence. God allowed these fallen beings to have a season on earth. Even with humans, all the tares growing among the wheat will be exposed and then disposed. God never wanted to see His creation removed from His grace and glory. Spoiled by self-righteousness and arrogant (errant) thinking, those that chose to believe the lie of being equal to or knowing better than God, essentially cast themselves out of the Kingdom of God and into unfathomable deprivation forever.

Prior to salvation, we too suffered from our own self-righteousness and arrogant thinking - finding ourselves in a prison of our own making, unable to pay the cost of our chosen sin. Thank God for His Son, our Savior, our redeemer and hope of glory. Christ came from heaven to earth to show the way through dying to self and loving (honoring) others. Not because the others honored Him first, but because He chose to honor (love) others just as He saw His Heavenly Father do. In a culture of honor, we love (honor) first because that's how our Heavenly Father does it. Jesus lived an honorable life out of love for His, our, Father. He did this through obedience to the Father; we do it out of obedience (honor - love) to Christ. Jesus is the hope of Glory in us that needs to come out, honorably.

One dynamic, that is important to understand about those coming out of prison, is that they've been institutionalized and exposed to prison culture, which can be thought of as a perverted form of Kingdom culture. There is an honor code and order to the chaos behind those walls - but it is cloaked in darkness and full of the flesh. Fear of man is the primary motivating factor. Inside prison, the closest thing you'll find to someone being your brother's keeper could be a snitch. Wardens are considered judgmental and hard to please "gods" and the guards their ears and eyes. No one is to be trusted.

### Good News!

**There is no perversion without first having the right version to pervert!**

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## Strategies From the Dugout

(by John Leonardson)

C'mon man you can do it! Get up there and swing - forget all the rules - just look at the ball comin' at you! See yourself on base waiting to steal the next base. You're fast and strong! Wooh! My man is battin' - can't wait to see what happens.

We probably don't get a chance to play baseball very often, but we do go to bat every day. You've heard of going into a slump where sometimes a good performer can't produce any more. It can happen in baseball, sales or just life in general.

Years ago my job was selling door-to-door. It was going great and I got promoted to manager. The all of a sudden I got no sales. So my boss took me to a large apartment complex to observe me in action. Just before we walked in the door, he said, "I'll make a deal with you. I'll put a dollar bill on every door. All you have to do is knock and, even if they're not home, you

keep the dollar. Or you get the commissions on the sales. If you take the dollar, I keep the commission." Suddenly all my training and experience flooded me. Of course, my boss was no idiot, so I told him I'd take the commission. In my mind, I already knew they wouldn't be interested, didn't have the money and no deal was to be had. I had sold myself in advance, so naturally I couldn't sell. So with renewed confidence I made several sales and made way more than the dollar bills. I was out of the slump!

As a man in his heart, so is he. (Proverbs 23:7) In many things, our internal makeup determines the way we treat the world and how it treats us. What goes on in our heart comes directly from our relationship with Jesus. If we are in close fellowship with God, then our heart has peace and life. If sin and disobedience get in our way, we need to seek forgiveness and get back on track.

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The working out of our salvation is a life time process involving more than we can imagine or comprehend without help from others and the Holy Spirit. The biggest issues usually involve trust, unforgiveness, bitter root judgments and often generational curses. By creating a safe environment for men to risk failing and making mistakes, they can explore the application of what they know about the Word of God and see how it fits in to their new life. In a culture of honor people are not honored so much for whom they are, but for whom they're becoming and called to be. They are challenged to let their greatness out and to stop believing any lies that have held them back. The truth sets people free so that they can truly delight themselves in the Lord, and so He can in turn give them the desires of their (right) heart.

The following scriptures are from the NIV and representative of the reflections above:

### 1 John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

### John 15:11-13

<sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

### Romans 7:23

But I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me.

### Psalms 37:4

Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

### As always...

We appreciate your continued prayers and financial encouragement for this ministry. Our current needs include twin mattresses, a new van, and financial support for administrative staff and an additional home for the many men we are expecting to receive in the next 8 months.