

I'm having a rather difficult time starting this Newsletter, and it's not so much as the lack of something to share... (like I would have a problem with that) but it's more as to the magnitude of the subject matter.

Recently I have run into, and seen first hand a **Cultural Problem that is so rampant**, that I have to confess... Scares me! You see, there is a **deep seated PASSION that Christ has born inside of me**, and that is to be an Educator of those who lack understanding, and I believe that we all have been called to "Teach the World" as to who this Jesus is that has so loved the world, that He gave His life for us. I have given my life to the Service of the Kingdom of God in a way that offers opportunities to Young



People who would not have any other chance to know who the **REAL JESUS** is except through daily interaction in this life that I live. Through the tools of a Construction Company, a Teen Coffee Shop and various Discipleship Groups, I present Jesus in a manner that infiltrates areas of the Community **where Jesus is not commonly seen nor known**. But what I have experienced in a recent turn of events, is a harsh and stubborn reaction to this life that God has called me to.

You see I have this student that is willing to give himself to the **process of Mentor/Disciple**. He has stepped up and is making a genuine effort to grow as God has presented opportunities, and wouldn't you know it, that as he is seriously starting to take some noticeable, life changing steps in fulfilling God's Plan for his life, but that he has come under attack and has been accused of ... being a pawn, and that I am a Puppet Master (like I am somehow that smart... LOL). Words that not only pertain to him, but others that attend our various Group meetings have been referred to as drones. And I'm sure that there is more.

And then as I processed these vicious attacks, the Lord has shown me... that we live in a world that is not familiar or even comfortable with Biblical Relationships... (told you I was slow) We live in a Culture that rejects and fights against the notion that there are people who would have a **sincere compassion to HELP OTHERS** and expend their lives to actually better someone else's future. We have become a Nation that runs our young people through a Public Education System rejecting an absolute TRUTH that defines and holds up a standard of Right and Wrong.

Check this out... recent polls have shown that about **80% of High School Students DO NOT ATTEND any type of Church Service on any given week**, and in the 4 County area in which I live this is roughly 4,400 out of 5,500 students. Within those 1,000 that do, it is estimated that 200 have a viable Personal relationship with the Living Christ... now if you still don't see the bigger picture here... we are **turning loose on Society, here in our land... about 5,300 Teens that have no first hand knowledge of what it is to follow anyone but themselves. They have learned and put into practice a FEELINGS BASED TRUTH that caters to a Self Serving god called FLESH.**

Now I don't have time to go into all of the statistics on the Moral Depravity that has escalated over the last 100 years... but this much is evident and I have seen to be true... there is a **MASSIVE VOICE OF DARKNESS in our Culture that is ignorantly screaming and fighting against a Sovereign God that is determined to LOVE those who reject Him.** And regardless of the noise... I will stand my Ground, covered in the Protective Blood of the Crucified Christ... and continue to reach out to those who are willing to accept THE Truth... **That TRUTH which will in fact... set them FREE!!!**

ROCK'S LEDGE

Teen Support Group:

We have started a Tuesday Night Teen Support Group that meets from 7-8 pm. And thus far we have had some EXCELLENT success with this **NEW MINISTRY OUTREACH**. You see, this is a time that Young People come and share the trials and struggles in their daily lives, and we as Leaders are there to listen and seek opportunities to encourage them. What we have found is that we are connecting with a specific group of teens who lack the support structure needed in this dark period of their lives. It is interesting that this Group has created situations where we are able to share, on a very intimate level, the care and concern that JESUS has for each of them... not to mention that this will create opportunities to Pray Specifically and very detailed about individual lives.



For those who would like to **be put on a PRAYER CHAIN**, to help us in this Battle For Souls, just drop us an E-mail... that information can be found at the end of this letter.

For those who didn't know, we are in the middle of a FUND RAISER for a New Roof on the Building. We have a **MATCHING FUND CHALLENGE of a \$1,000.00**. For every dollar that is Donated, there will be a matching dollar contributed up to \$1,000.00, and we are only about \$400.00 dollars away from utilizing the full amount of Challenging Funds...

MINISTRY HOUSE- Casey, Ia

A 2 Story House in Casey has been Donated to our Organization, and this would be an ideal location for a **WOMEN'S TRANSITIONAL HOME**. But there are MUCH NEEDED REPAIRS required to prepare this Structure to serve these under-privileged Young Women. If we were able to remodel the Interior with Paint, Doors, Flooring, Windows, Central Heat and Air... we would be able to move forward in our **Vision to MENTOR these Women** by equipping them with the proper Tools to not only survive, but to THRIVE in the Challenges of being a Productive Adult. The targeted Group for impact is **Young Women- ages 18-25**. Within this **targeted Group of young women**, statistics have shown that over 45% are sexually active, which in turn increases their potential of Un-Wed Pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, critical emotional depression and low self esteem.

We live in a culture that at many levels, does not adequately prepare them for the Real World. I have personally listened to numerous young women explain as to how they get kicked out of their homes shortly after turning 18, and have had to choose between being homeless or resort to moving in with their boyfriends. This type of situation forces them to be exposed to sexual exploitation.



These Teens are in a **Critical Transitional Period of life**. As they grow through High School, there is a continual changing process of growth (*Physically, Emotionally, Mentally and Spiritually*). Once Graduated from High School they are caught between being a Kid and an Adult, they are working out and developing who they are as an Individual. It is within this turbulent time frame that most choices and decisions are made that permanently affect the rest of a Young Persons life. This is where we step-in and develop **PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS**, and offer the chance for a HOPE FUL FUTURE.

In our research we have had personal experience in opening our home to Troubled Teens in the past. We have also contacted an Organization in Des Moines (Freedom For Youth) that has been running this type of program for 5 years with a Boys Home and is in the process of constructing a Girls Home. This Youth Ministry has been instrumental in outlining a comprehensive Program as well as offering continued Counsel and advice.

Our **HEARTS PASSION** is to come along side and help Young People prepare for the difficulties that lie ahead in Adulthood. We have found that **consistent interaction, Education and proper moral, emotional and physical support are vital KEYS TO SUCCESS**. In working with young people for over 25 years, we have discovered that this type of programming is the most EFFECTIVE way in transforming lives, and developing a permanent Healthy Lifestyle change.

We see ourselves as **giving opportunities to those** who would not normally be afforded the chance to excel. We see that this Program: **Real Life HOME OF HOPE...** is just that. An opportunity of Hope when other resources have failed. We have been, and will continue to do EVERYTHING that we can... given the resources availed to us... to Serving the Youth in our Community. We see this as the **NEXT STEP NEEDED** in our Long Term Goals of meeting the needs within the Community and are excited at the possibility of partnering with other people who are as concerned as we are about the Future of our Youth.

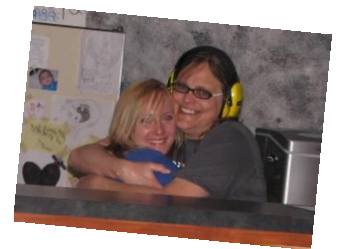
DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS: (DANG... running out of space)

Currently we have our Monday Nite Girls Discipleship Group and our Thursday Night Guy's Bible Study Group. Both are doing well and we are excited to see the change and transformation taking place with-in the lives of those who come to learn.

WOW FINANCE CLUB:

We also have a Ministry Service to Young People in the form of helping them prepare for their families futures... this is done through education, guest speakers and actual Real Life hands on experience.

We **SERIOUSLY BELIEVE in the POWER OF PRAYER...** and ask that you would continue to lift us up in this GREAT ADVENTURE that God has set before us... Praying for the **Staff**, the **Teens** and the **Open Roads** ahead... and if you could... please give extra attention to the **NEED FOR A YOUNG MAN STAFF LEADER**... Marisa does a wonderful job serving the young ladies, but we have a **MAJOR VOID** for the Young Men that grace our door steps.



Be FAVORED by God's Hand THIS DAY, and may we all LABOR for the Building Up of the Body,

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